

Mt. Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church

Teaching Ministry

12.7.2025

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

Pursuit of Eternal Life

John 17: 3

Living forever is something that mankind has desired and pursued after since the beginning of time, and the reasoning for which mankind seeks after this immortality has always remained the same, and that is because mankind seeks immortality in the world, which has nothing to do with quality of life, but it has everything to do with worldly wisdom and knowledge, for we feel that worldly wisdom and knowledge will gain us material wealth and great power. Now, this kind of thinking comes by worldly deception and the choices which we make.

This is because Satan's goal has and always will be to convince mankind to disobey God, and he brings this unto us with the promise of knowledge of all things. Satan would have us to believe that God does not want us to experience true power, which comes from having the wisdom and knowledge of fully understanding all things. For this reason, his deception will bring about doubt and distrust, which he inspires through worldly philosophies that distort the truth of God's word by promoting sinfulness and then proclaiming it to be good. So, instead of allowing ourselves to be drawn into a commitment of worldly deception and lies, as believers, we should stay focused on the truth of the knowledge of God and his word. So, how do we do this.

James 4: 7,....submit yourselves therefore to God....resist the devil and he will flee from you....

So, what does it mean to submit ourselves unto God. It is our willingness to serve by humbly yielding to Gods authority and will and actively standing firm against the temptations of the world. It involves making right choices in our life while saying no to the worldly sinful desires that present themselves unto us and yielding ourselves in obedience to the promises and commandments of Gods word. This gives unto us awareness in our life, helping us to comprehend the reality of the struggles that we are going through, so that we might stand fast in the righteousness of Christ with our faith secured firmly in the hope of our eternal life in him.

Now, does this mean that eternal life is living forever, sure it does, but that is not what eternal life is all about. Everyone is going to live forever, either in heaven or in hell. But, for the believer, let us understand that everlasting life is an eternal blessing that we possess now in our life in Christ.

So, here is what happens when we do not submit, it keeps many believers from beginning a life of spiritual maturity, and it causes us to mistakenly believe that the only goal of our salvation is to provide forgiveness of sin so that we might avoid hell, but salvation is so much more than that, and if this is the way which we believe, than we are missing out on the blessings of our eternal life in Christ, because when we begin to understand what our eternal life is all about then we are starting to know who God is.

John 17: 3,....and this is eternal life, that they may know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent....

Yes, there are many who believe by faith that Christ died to pay their sin debt, and that he was resurrected to ensure that sin would no longer need to be a burden on our life, but even with this, often time, we still do not have a personal relationship with God. Our relationship with God is not something that is reserved and will only begin when we get to heaven, therefore, we should not be waiting on heaven to start living our eternal life with God, that would be missing the whole point of our salvation. True eternal life begins with our personal relationship with God, which comes through his Son Christ Jesus.

1 John 5: 11 – 12,....this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son....he that hath the Son hath life....

So, this means that our eternal life begins when we received the permanent presence of Gods Holy Spirit indwelling within us. For our eternal life, which is a free gift, is not a reward, and it is not compensation for works which we have done, because our eternal life is not just from God, our eternal life is in God.

So, for this reason mankind will search in many places and by many different ways for eternal life, but it can never be found in a worldly attempt to attain perfection, for it can only be found in the manner that God declared it, which is by faith believing in his Son Christ Jesus, and believing that it comes unto us by his grace, through his finished work on the cross. But for those who do not believe, those who have rejected Christ, are already themselves condemned.

John 3: 36,....he that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth in him....

So, the pursuit of eternal life is very simple, and there are only two options for immortality and eternal life. There are those who trust in Christ by faith, they will find eternal life with God, and then there are those who do not put their faith and trust in him and therefore, will face the judgement of God and find themselves eternally condemned in hell. No one will be exempt, for all of mankind will find immortality through the choices which we make. Now, let us never forget that just because some believe in the existence of God and Christ, this does not result in eternal life. Eternal life is only received by faith believing that Christ came into the world, that he faced a cruel sacrificial death on the cross to pay our sin debt, and received a glorious resurrection, so that when we were yet sinners, we might receive the free gift of Gods plan of salvation. For this reason, God has given unto us the power and authority of his Son Jesus Christ, who will bestow everlasting life upon all who put their faith and trust in him.

John 5: 24,....he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life....

Those who put their faith and trust in Christ have eternal life with God, and this eternal life is not something that we have to wait to get to heaven to experience, for our relationship with God began the moment that we started our new life in Christ. Our faith comes by hearing, and hearing comes by the word of God and the more that we study, meditate, and receive the promises and commandments of Gods word the more that it becomes a part of us, and the more that we put our faith and trust in it, we will begin to experience our eternal life with God, a life that includes the riches both of the wisdom and of the knowledge of God, which is a life that many people strive for in the world, but will never truly find it, because it can only come from God himself.

Romans 11: 33 – 36,....O the depth of the riches both of wisdom and knowledge of God....how unsearchable are his judgements, and his ways past finding out....for who hath known the mind of the Lord....or who hath first given to him....for of him, and through him, and to him, are all things to whom be glory forever, amen....

Mankind's desire for eternal life will one day become a reality, but for many, the reality will not be a desirable one, but it will be one that will be unchangeable. True immortality and eternal life can only come from God, which we can experience now in our life in Christ, if we will only desire to do so. For the believer, if we will humbly, and fervently seek after the riches of our relationship with God, we will find out that his wisdom is unsurpassed, his judgements are righteous, his knowledge is unsearchable, his strength is invincible, and his love is never ending. God willingly makes known his ways to those, who have by faith believed in him through his only begotten Son, for it is by his grace that we have the mind of Christ.

Proverbs 2: 1 – 6,....my son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee....incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding....if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding....if thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hidden treasures....then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God....for God giveth wisdom, out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding....

So, do we as believers have the desire that our eyes will be opened, so that we might have the wisdom and knowledge of God, so that our desires will be desires that have spiritual value and not of worldly wealth and fame. Yes, our desire for eternal life must begin and end with the wisdom and knowledge that only comes from God. We must learn to put God first in our life, so that we are not merely trying to gain his knowledge for the sake of immortality, but we are to acquire the wisdom and knowledge that glorifies God, and then will we fully understand what it truly means to pursue after our desire for eternal life. Do you have that desire in your life today.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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