

WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?

Jas 4:12-17

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Life started with God: union of body & soul Gen 2:7
- B. Two kinds: spiritual & physical life 1Tim 4:8
- C. James reminds us of brevity of life Jas 4:14
- D. Job eagerly looked for future life Job 14:14
- E. Jesus shows the value of spiritual contrasted with physical life Matt 10:28
- F. Let's study life from standpoint of its use here on earth. We will give account 2Cor 5:10,11
- G. **(TITLE) SO, WHAT IS YOUR LIFE? (IT IS A:)**

DISCUSSION:

I. TIME FOR LEARNING Matt 11:28-30; Jhn 6:45

- A. School children study to prepare for future life – what about us? Heaven, prepared for prepared people
- B. Children must be TRAINED while young Eph 6:4
 - 1. Parents ask, "should I force my child to attend services?" You force school, bath, doctor, etc. etc.
 - 2. "I'll wait and let him decide" Do you do the same in selecting a doctor, medicine, school, etc. etc.
- C. Likewise babes in Christ must be TRAINED while young to discern good and evil Heb 5:12,13; 1Pet 2:2
- D. Christians must study God's word - at home and at assemblies
 - 1. For spiritual nutrition Matt 4:4; Job 23:12
 - 2. To learn how to walk Psa 119:105
 - 3. Church must spread the truth Eph 3:10; 1Tim 3:15
- E. Bible is only authorized textbook 2Tim 3:16,17; Jas 1:25
 - 1. It is the standard of judgment Jhn 12:48
 - 2. We must study it for our final exam

II. TIME FOR SOWING Gal 6:7,8

- A. Two ways a man sows:
 - 1. By word Matt 12:36,37
 - 2. By deeds Eccl 12:14; 2Cor 5:10
 - 3. Song: "What'er you do in word or deed...."
- B. When should we sow? All our lives Eccl 11:6; 12:1 Jhn 4:35,36
- C. What should we sow?
 - 1. Not to the flesh Gal 6:7
 - 2. Not discord or strife Prov 6:16-19
 - 3. We must sow the word of God Lk 8:11-15
- D. Why should we sow?
 - 1. To reap Gal 6:7
 - 2. To rejoice Jhn 4:36

E. God's word will not return void Isa 55:11

F. God's law of sowing and reaping cannot be broken Gal 6:7

III. TIME FOR ADORNMENT Eph 6:13-17

- A. Professional people dress to correspond to their work
- B. We must dress according to God's code (instructions) Eph 6:11-18
- C. We must keep our garments unspotted by sin Jas 1:27; Eph 5:27
- D. We must always have on a wedding garment Matt 22:11
- E. Dress with good works, so world may see and glorify God Matt 5:16
- F. Walk with him in robes of white Rev 3:4,5

IV. TIME FOR RUNNING 1Cor 9:24-27

- A. Lay aside every weight; sin Heb 12:1
- B. We must run the race not "crawl"
- C. Must be run with patience - we stumble sometime
- D. Don't "beat the air" know where you are going and what you are doing
 - 1. WE have a reason for our hope to win
 - 2. Some say "I won't make it"
 - 3. Hope is the anchor of the soul Heb 6:19
- E. Must comply with the rules to obtain the prize 2Tim 2:5; Rev 2:10
- F. And of course, one must enter a race before it can be run so as to obtain the prize

V. TIME FOR "DYING" Heb 9:27

- A. Physical death is separation of the soul from the body Jas 2:26 - gateway to eternity
- B. Spiritual death is separation of the soul from God Matt 25:41 - gateway to eternal destruction
- C. Make preparation for physical death so we do not have to suffer spiritual death!

CONCLUSION:

- A. Your life is short Jas 4:14; Job 14:1,2
- B. Life and light and immortality were brought to light through the Gospel 2Tim 1:10
- C. "I am the way the truth and the life." Jhn 14:6
- D. "He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son hath not life." 1Jhn 5:12
- E. "For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God." Col 3:3
- F. Consider your life in regard to it being a time for learning; sowing; adornment; running; and "dying" and see how you stand in relation to God!