

WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?

Jas 4:14

INTRODUCTION:

- > A. Life is defined as the opposite of death
- > B. But is more significant than just mere existence
- > C. Human life should be defined in terms of preparation and service rather than by the ticking of the clock
- > D. A man could live to be 100 years old and never live in the real sense
- > E. Swift once said "May you live all the days of your life."
- F. Let's distinguish between existing and living.

DISCUSSION:

I. LIFE - A GIFT TO US FROM GOD

- A. God created man and gave him life Gen 2:7
 - 1. We must remember we are the creature not creator
 - 2. Remember thy creator in days of thy youth Eccl 12:1
- B. Man is the creation of an eternal God
 - 1. Not the product of blind chance
 - 2. Ingersoll (infidel) looking at a globe said that is good who made it, the reply: no one, it just happened
- C. Since God gave us life Job 1:21
 - 1. Isn't it reasonable that we be held responsible
 - 2. Solomon stated the whole duty of man Eccl 12:13
 - 3. Life must be to the glory of God Matt 5:16

II. LIFE - A TIME TO PREPARE AND BUILD

- A. A period of time to prepare to meet God
 - 1. From O. T. "prepare to meet thy God" Amos 4:12
 - 2. From N. T. "all appear before Christ" 2Cor 5:10
- B. Only one way to prepare to meet God Jhn 14:6
- C. All are building on the rock or sand Matt 7:24-27
 - 1. Foundation of building or institution very important
 - 2. Let every man take heed how he buildeth 1Cor 3:10

III. LIFE - A TIME OF CONFLICT OR WAR

- A. No neutrality in this struggle Matt 6:24
- B. Constant war within man Rom 7:14-25
 - 1. Spirit is willing but flesh is weak Matt 26:41
 - 2. Paul had to keep under his body 1Cor 9:27
 - 3. Put on the whole armor of God Eph 6:11-17
 - 4. Endure hardness as good soldier 2Tim 2:3
- C. Sword of Spirit is offensive and defensive weapon
 - 1. Was given to cut not spread butter Heb 4:12
 - 2. We must learn to use it right 2Tim 2:15

IV. LIFE - A MULTIPLICITY OF CHOICES

- A. Man is different from other creatures
 - 1. Has the ability to reason and make decisions
 - 2. Decisions vital to temporal and eternal welfare

- B. Napoleon said: "In every battle there is a crisis, ten or fifteen minutes only, on which the outcome depends, to make proper use of this short space of time means victory; its neglect, defeat."
- C. Our most important choices concern right and wrong; truth and error; God and Satan Josh 24:15
 - 1. Example of Moses Heb 11:24,25
 - 2. Seek first kingdom of God Matt 6:33

V. LIFE - LIVED A LITTLE AT A TIME

- A. Matt 6:34 (Amplified) "Sufficient for each day is it's own trouble."
 - 1. Can't live yesterday it is past
 - 2. Can't live tomorrow it has not come
- B. Life seems unbearable to some because they try to live too much at a time
- C. Story of the clock that stopped (McGuffey's old reader) The clock became discouraged after enumerating the number of times it would tick in a year: 31,536,000 times. Just too many ticks. But when explained that it would have to tick only one tick at a time it regained it's morale and began running again.
- D. Cannot solve in one day the problems of a lifetime

VI. LIFE - A VAPOR WHICH IS SOON GONE

- A. This is the Bible's answer to the question: "what is your life?" Jas 4:14
- B. Few days and full of trouble Job 14:1,2
 - 1. Cometh forth as a flower and is cut down
 - 2. Fleeth a a shadow and continueth not
- C. All flesh is as grass and glory of man as flower of grass 1Pet 1:24

CONCLUSION:

- A. The clock of life is wound but once and no man has the power to tell just when the hand will stop, at late of early hour. Now is the only time you own! Live, love. toil with a will, place no faith in tomorrow, for the hands may then be still. (source unknown)
- B. Behold now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation 2Cor 6:2
- C. Why not surrender you life to God today!