

Declaration: Psalm 103:1,2

A Life that's full of LIFE! – Sunday, 17th June '07

Introduction:

There are two words that describe 'life':

- **BIOS** This word describes the biological life that humans, plants and animals have.

 The moment we humans stop breathing in Oxygen and breathing out Carbon-di-oxide our physical existence—'BIOS'—comes to an end.
- **ZOE** This describes the Spiritual life in addition to the physical life.
 This is the life that God has—in terms of quality—it's the 'God-kind' of Life.
 It refers to the present life of Grace and the future life of Glory.
 It refers not only to the duration of life—which is eternal—but also, the quality of Life.

1. The Life of God!

John 1:1-5

Vs. 4 (paraphrase) – In <u>Jesus</u> was <u>Zoe</u> and this <u>Zoe</u> was the light of men. It is <u>Zoe</u> that dispels the darkness and brings light. So, true enlightenment is brought about by this <u>Zoe</u>, which is found in Jesus.

Vs. 5 (paraphrase) – ... and the darkness (Sin, demonic influence, spiritual ignorance) did not comprehend (<u>understand</u> mentally/intellectually, <u>could not overcome</u> or <u>extinguish</u>) the light brought by *Zoe*.

1 John 5:12 - 'He who has the Son has Life ...'

So, this 'God-kind' of Life—*zoe*—is found in Jesus alone and whoever receives Jesus receives the same Life—*zoe* in his/her spirit.

- The same Life that is in Jesus is in us.
- Jesus said that He is the vine and we are the branches.
- The sap that carries the life in the vine also flows in the branches.

<u>John 10:10</u> – `... but, I have come that they may have Life and have it more abundantly'

Jesus came down personally to give us this life and so that we can have it "more abundantly."

"More abundantly" means 'excessive,' 'overflowing,' 'surplus,' "over & above," "more than enough," "above the ordinary" and "more than sufficient."

- It is God's desire that the world receives and enjoys this abundant life.
- He wanted us to have this so much that He personally came down to give it to us.
- He desired to give this Life to the world to the extent that it cost Him His death on the cross.
- We have access to this Life, only when we receive Jesus into our lives.

The church should be shouting "<u>Life is calling, where are you</u>?" (tagline of the Smirnoff advertisement) to the world and not the other way around!

This is how God designed it:

- We cannot live Life to its fullest without Jesus—outside of Him.
- We can try our best, but without Jesus, we would still fall woefully short of living the "abundant life"—the "Life that's full of Life," the life that He desires for us.
- It is God's desire that we live this vibrant, full, abundant, pulsating, "full of life" Life.

2. The Nature of God — Truth!

1 John 5:12 - 'He who has the Son has Life ...'

All of us, who received Jesus, received Zoe—the Life of God in our spirits.

Zoe—the Life of God also has the nature of God.

A very fundamental and basic attribute of God's nature is Truth.

- Jeremiah 10:10 **God** is the **God of Truth**.
- John 14:6 **Jesus** introduces **Himself as 'the truth.'**
- John 14:16,17 The Holy Spirit whom Jesus sent to dwell with us and be in us is –
 "the Spirit of Truth."

<u>'Truth' (Heb. 'Emet,' pronounced – eh-met)</u>

This word is used in Ps. 25:5 – 'Lead me in your truth and teach me...'

Meaning – dependability & reliability

Interestingly, emet is spelt with the first, middle and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

Therefore, the Jewish Rabbis concluded that truth (*emet*) upholds all of God's creation – the first, the last and everything in between.

'Truth' (Greek 'Aletheia,' pronounced – a-leythia)

This word is used in John 4:24 – '...worship in Spirit and truth'

Meaning – reality, accuracy and integrity. *Aletheia,* is the opposite of everything false and fictitious.

We received not only the Life of God but also the very nature of God—Truth, in our spirits—when we received Jesus into our hearts.

3. The way we are designed

With the Life and Nature of God in us, we have been designed:

- To live a vibrant and abundant, John 10:10. A life that's full of Life!
- To live a life of truth.
- To live a life of integrity.
- To live an overcoming life.
- To live a holy life.
- To walk, run and soar.
- To live a life of love, joy, peace—'fruit of the Spirit' life.

This life and nature of God in our spirits are expressed, manifest, lived out through our *soul*—mind, will, emotions and intellect—and the corresponding actions.

When we are not submitted to God in our minds and in our thoughts, our thoughts and actions will not be in line with the Life and Nature of God, which we received in our spirits.

When our actions and behaviour are contrary to the Life and Nature of God that is in us, we cannot live the way we were designed to live—Life in all its abundance.

When we live in a way that we were not designed to live, then there is a malfunction. There is great internal conflict and we live a life much lower than the way we were designed to live.

The guestions we need to ask ourselves:

- Am I living a life full of Life and Truth?
- Is my life transparent before God and man?
- What am I trying to hide from God?
- What am I trying to hide from man?
- Do I always speak the truth?
 - 1. At work—with my boss? With my colleagues?
 - 2. With my friends?
 - 3. With my spouse?
 - 4. With my children?

When we lie, we are doing something against the very nature of God, which was placed in us at salvation.

We are not designed to lie, hide facts from people, to conceal the truth.

We are designed to live a transparent, confident and victorious lives.

When we lie, we make ourselves vulnerable to Satan's attack.

Satan moves in mercilessly to trap us in prisons of:

- Guilt
- Shame
- Condemnation
- Fear & Intimidation

We need to allow the truth of God's word, the light, to shine in the dark areas of our minds and dispel the darkness, the lies.

This process is not free of pain.

It is spiritual 'surgery' with the sword of the Spirit.

God's spiritual surgery is without anaesthesia!

But, let's yield to Him and submit to His work of refining.

God's work of refining is painful but, He, the balm of Gilead will heal us where we hurt.

- God wants us to be free.
- The Holy Spirit—the Spirit of Truth has come to <u>lead us</u> into all truth.
- When we abide in His Word, we will know (experience) the truth.
- The truth will set us free.

Free from the prisons of guilt, shame, condemnation, fear & intimidation Free to live the way He's designed us to live Free to live the life that's full of LIFE.

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