

WHAT DOES LIFE REALLY ENTAIL?

Text: Job 14:1-22

Key Word: Life

Key Thought: Our Life Needs to Be Understood in its Fullness

I. NATURAL LIFE IS MOSTLY CONFINED (Job 14:1-13)

II. ETERNAL LIFE IS NEVER CONFINED (Job 14:14-17)

III. CARNAL LIFE IS ALWAYS CONFINED (Job 14:18-22)

Our understanding of life is very, very limited. We think we know about it and walk in pride with our accomplishments especially in the last 100 years. The reality is that we know very little about life. The reason I say this is because of the fact that life is not respected as it should be. God gave us life to enjoy. **Satan tries at every opportunity he has to destroy our lives because we are made in the image of God.**

I'm Going to Begin with My Third Point!

III. CARNAL LIFE IS ALWAYS CONFINED (Job 14:18-22)

18 *"But as a mountain erodes and crumbles and as a rock is moved from its place,
19. as water wears away stones and torrents wash away the soil, so you destroy a person's hope.
20. You overpower them once for all, and they are gone; you change their countenance and send them away.
21. If their children are honored, they do not know it; if their offspring are brought low, they do not see it.
22. They feel but the pain of their own bodies and mourn only for themselves."*

Job 14:18-22

One of the most foolish things people believe today is that they are "free" to do what they want. **Lets be honest, the majority of people in our world are walking on a pathway of deceit.** They try to convince others that they truly enjoy their life with all its **limited pleasures.** If they truly believed what they say, **why don't they display it in their words, actions and facial expressions.** **The turmoil in their heart is visibly seen through their constant frowns.** Their smiles are as fake as many actors who **portray** a perfect life on the red carpet and try to conceal the reality of their hidden secrets that eventually get exposed. **The fact, is they know that their natural life is confined to a few years on earth with no hope for the future outside of God.**

III. CARNAL LIFE IS ALWAYS CONFINED (Job 14:18-22)(Contd.)

Job makes a vital statement when he says “**so you [God] [Not Eliphaz, Not Bildad and Not Zophar] destroy a person’s hope**. People who choose to separate themselves from God and disregard His Holy Word, have no hope for the future. **A carnal life will always be a Confined Life! No hope - no future!**

Why do people “**sell their soul to the devil**” when his pleasures are only for a season (limited time) before he comes to collect. **There is a huge cost for confinement!**

“The cost of confinement fees varies depending on the state and the type of confinement. According to the Justice Policy Institute, the average cost of the most expensive confinement option for a young person in 48 states was \$588 per day, or \$214,620 per year.

In 40 states, taxpayers spend at least \$100,000 a year for a single young person’s confinement, and in 12 states spend over \$250,000 a year for a single young person’s confinement. Families are also often responsible for paying court fees, restitution and fines when a member goes to prison.”

Justice Policy Institute

*“If their children are honored, they do not know it; if their offspring are brought low, they do not see it.
22. They feel but the pain of their own bodies and mourn only for themselves.”*

Job 14:21,22

A **carnal life** will lead us to a **carnal destiny** that will always separate us from what is happening in the lives of our family and friends that are still living. Do you remember the story that Jesus told about the rich man and Lazarus? There was not just a **great gulf between Hades and the Bosom of Abraham (Abraham’s loving side)** but also between the rich man’s brothers who were still living on earth. Nothing indicates that he could see them. He just didn’t want them to end up in Hades with him where he could feel ONLY his own pain!

*“I beg you, father [Abraham], send Lazarus to my family,
28. for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.”*

Luke 16:27,28

I. NATURAL LIFE IS MOSTLY CONFINED (Job 14:1-13)

“Mortals, born of woman, are of few days and full of trouble.

2. They spring up like flowers and wither away; like fleeting shadows, they do not endure.

3. Do you fix your eye on them? Will you bring them [Hebrew - me] before you for judgment?

4. Who can bring what is pure from the impure? No one!

*5. **A person's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.***

6. So look away from him and let him alone, till he has put in his time like a hired laborer.”

Job 14:1-6

Remember that many scholars believe that Job was only 70 years old when this intense trouble came upon him. It so overwhelmed him that it had him forget the great days he had prior to these trials. They differ though, on whether he lived an additional 70 years or 140 years making him either 140 or 210 years at his death (Job 42:16,17). He could have had a double blessing after surviving the affliction Satan placed upon his life.

The Psalmist wrote,

“Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.”

Psalms 90:10 NIV

One thing we ALL live is a Natural Life limited in the number of years God will give us. There is no such thing as being reincarnated to a lower or higher level of society by getting rid of the bad Karma as is taught in Hinduism. We do not get many chances to reach a level of fulfilling ALL our unfulfilled desires. We don't end up in what they believe can be any one of the unnumerable levels of Lokas. None of us just keep REAPPEARING on earth! We either are born or die on this earth!

*“But a man dies and is laid low; he breathes his last and is no more . . .
12. so he lies down and does not rise; till the heavens are no more, people will not awake or be roused from their sleep.”*

Job 14:10,12

II. ETERNAL LIFE IS NEVER CONFINED (Job 14:14-17)

“If someone dies, will they live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait for my renewal [or release] to come.

15. You will call and I will answer you; you will long for the creature your hands have made.

16. Surely then you will count my steps but not keep track of my sin.

17. My offenses will be sealed up in a bag; you will cover over my sin.”

Job 14:14-17

It has been said that **“an atheist at the time of his/her death is all dressed up and no place to go!”** That phrase is actually **Not true**. Just because we attempt to convince ourselves that something doesn’t exist won’t determine whether it is true or not. Biblical truth tells us people who think this way are simply fools. **The more they turn away from God, the more they lose their meaning of life.** No one can convince me that they have peace in their life **WITHOUT** welcoming God to lead their life and obey His Word.

“Right now counts forever.”

R. C. Spoul

“Satan's greatest success is in making people think they have plenty of time before they die to consider their eternal welfare.”

John Owen

“Life is just a schoolroom with a glorious opportunity to prepare for eternity . . .

Jesus taught that there is an eternal destiny for each individual — either heaven or hell (John 5:25-29). The eternal destiny of each individual depends on a decision made in this life (Luke 16:19-31) — to be followed by a life of obedience . . .

God can use the fear that grips the hearts of men today to point them to eternal truths — the truth of God’s eternal judgement, and the truth of His eternal love . . .

Where will we spend eternity—with God in that place of endless joy the Bible calls heaven, or apart from Him in that place of endless despair the Bible calls hell?”

Billy Graham

II. ETERNAL LIFE IS NEVER CONFINED (Job 14:14-17)(Contd.)

When I chose to say **ETERNAL LIFE IS NEVER CONFINED** my emphasis was upon the word “**Life**” more than the word “**Confined.**” Life will go on indefinitely. It will immediately change from **temporal life** to **eternal life**. I don’t believe either heaven or hell are small so someone will feel **Claustrophobic: Fear of Small Spaces**.

Those who choose hell won’t be concerned about its SIZE BUT RATHER THE DISTANCE they are separated from God forever and ever. Don’t make the mistake of NOT CHOOSING. Anyone who doesn’t choose God is choosing not to accept His gift of eternal life. There is no middle of the road. Being with Jesus will be the greatest part of heaven and the freedom He is offering every one of us. Everyone has to choose which direction they wish to take when their Natural Life comes to an end and Eternal Life Begins.

I SHALL KNOW HIM

When my life's work is ended and I cross the swelling tide
When the bright and glorious morning I shall see
I shall know my Redeem when I reach the other side
His smile will be the first to welcome me

I shall know Him, I shall know Him
And redeemed by His side I shall stand
I shall know Him, I shall know Him
By the print of the nails in His hand

Oh, the soul thrilling rapture when I view His blessed face
And the luster of His kindly beaming eye
How my heart will praise Him for His mercy and His grace
That prepared for me a mansion in the sky

Through the gates of the city in a robe of spotless white
He will lead me where no tears will ever fall
In the glad song of ages I will mingle with delight
But I long to see my Saviour first of all

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Date: July 30/23

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: THROUGH IT ALL (You are Forever in My Life) - F

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There is a huge cost for confinement!

Job 14:21,22; Luke 16:27,28

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Job 14:1-6; Psalm 90:10 NIV; Job 14:10,12

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