

Eternal Life

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3

“Eternal life” is more than it is commonly thought to be. It is fullness of life *now*, and forever. It is not just an escape from hell when we die; it means that we get to live in harmony with Creator God in our years on earth too.

God wants to make our life complete – to satisfy that relentless hunger of our inner being. He will be with us through the tough stuff that comes because of the broken world we live in. That brokenness is because the world is under Satan’s rule, but when we choose to come back to God and to receive eternal life through Jesus, we get to experience the life of the Kingdom of God. I discuss that at length in the online book, [“The True Worshipers.”](#)

The Bible, God’s recorded message to mankind, is different from the words of any other book. It is as Jesus said in John 6:63b, “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.” (nas) Knowing that to be true, I’ll let the Bible speak for itself to further explain eternal life and how to receive it.

John 3:16-21 - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

John 14:6 - I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 10:9-11 - I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. ¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 3:3-8 - Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” ⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” See discussion on “Born Again” in Part 3, [here](#).

1 John 1:8-10 - If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

Romans 5:8 - But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 10:8-13 - But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. ¹¹ As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." ¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³ for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Acts 26:18 - to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

Colossians 1:13-14 - For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Ephesians 2:8-9 - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

John 1:12 - Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Revelation 3:20 - Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

That's not hard to understand, is it? You might also enjoy reading "[The Four Spiritual Laws](#)." And please contact me if you would like to discuss this, or any topic.

Born in 1940, Ken Stoltzfus has worked as a pilot, ordained Christian minister, businessman, missionary to Africa and writer. This is #13 in his series "Snippets from the Good Book", and is one of many short articles that can be found at www.John2031.com. Scriptures are taken from the New International Version, except as noted.)

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