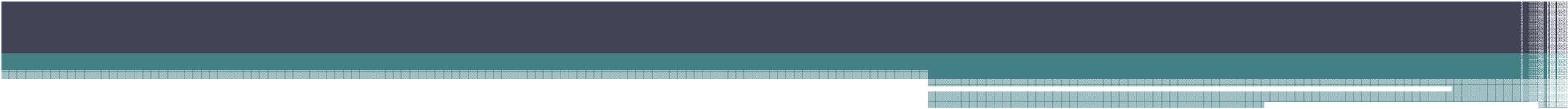


# Jesus

The Life

# Summary (so far)

- Occam's Razor
- The spiritual is the real, the natural is the shadow
- The “real” creation is Christ's creation
- God is not mechanical but loving, sane, kind, etc.
- Jesus was “the word”; the embodiment of what God was trying to say to us
- Jesus was “the spirit”; the embodiment of God's life-giving power
- Jesus is the king of God's Kingdom now



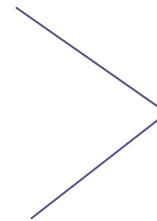
# The Genesis Connection

- Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

# The Real Life

- Dead are Living and Living are Dead
  - Eph\_2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

- Dead people = sinners
- Living people = saints



Does not matter if they are clinically alive or dead

# The Real Life

- **Asleep in Christ**

- Joh 11:11-14 After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died."

# The Real Life

- Let the dead bury the dead
  - Luke 9:59-60 - To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

# The Real Life

- Act 13:36 For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption
- Act 7:59-60 And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

# The Real Life

- 1 Thess. 4:13-16 - But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

# The Real Life

## Our Current State

- Physically Alive , No Relation to Christ
- Physically Alive, Relationship with Christ
- Physically Dead, No Relation to Christ
- Physically Dead, Relation to Christ

## How God Views Us

- Dead
- Alive
- Dead (Perished)
- Alive (Asleep)

# Eternal Life vs. Immortality

- Rom\_2:7 to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life
- 1Co\_15:53-54 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

# The (Eternal) Life of a Believer

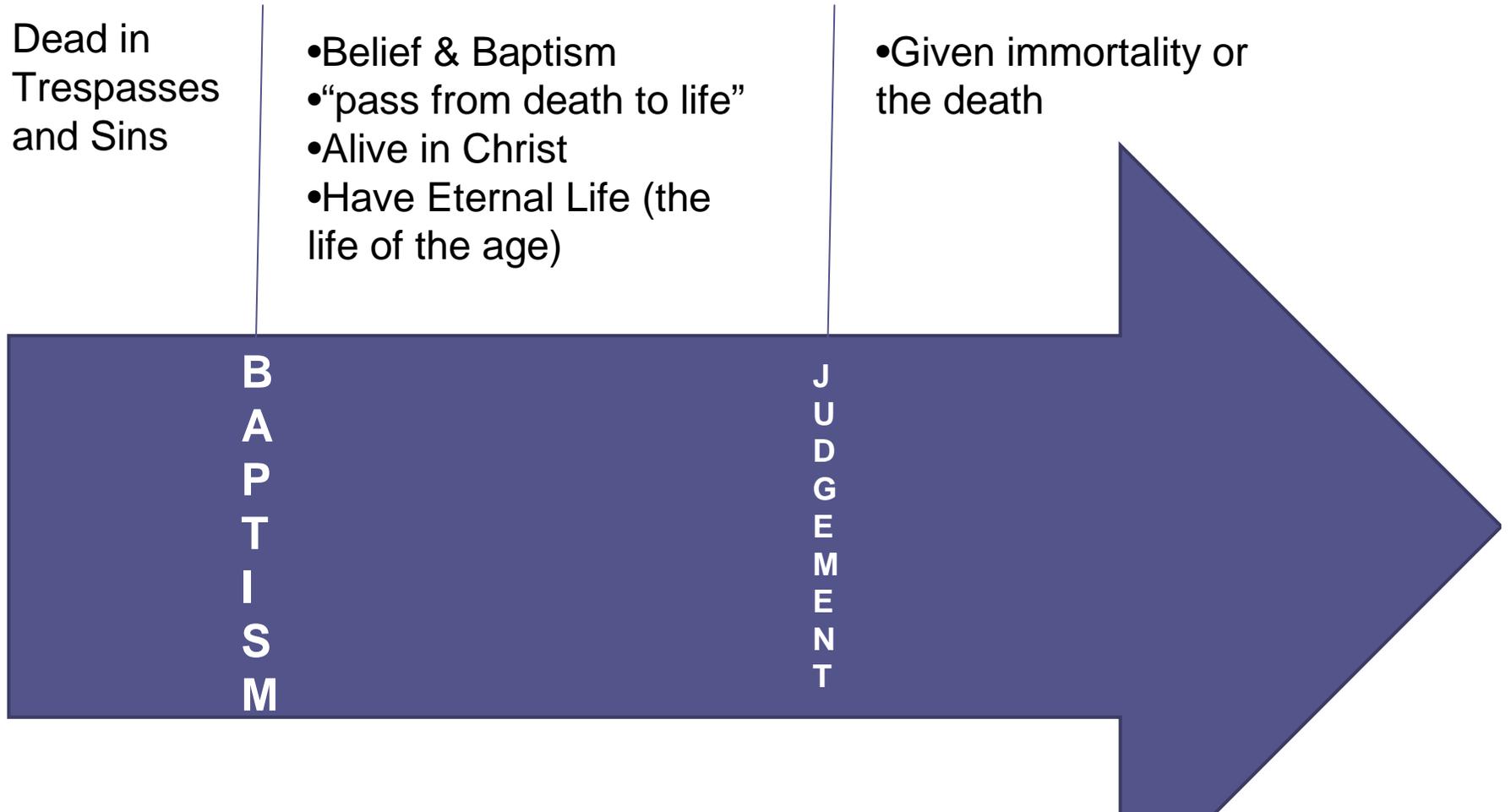
Dead in  
Trespasses  
and Sins

- Belief & Baptism
- “pass from death to life”
- Alive in Christ
- Have Eternal Life (the life of the age)

- Given immortality or the death

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- Mar 12:18-27 And Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection. And they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife, but leaves no child, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. There were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and when he died left no offspring. And the second took her, and died, leaving no offspring. And the third likewise. And the seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman also died. In the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as wife." Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God? For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong."

## The Real Life

- Joh 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **hears my word and believes** him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but **has passed from death to life**.

“Undoubtedly the definition given by Schleusner is the accurate one, ‘Duration determined by the subject to which it is applied.’ Thus it only expresses the idea of endlessness when connected with what is endless, as God. The word great is an illustrative word. Great applied to a tree, or mountain, or man, denotes different degrees, all finite, but when referring to God, it has the sense of infinite. Infinity does not reside in the word great but it has that meaning when applied to God. It does not impart it to God, it derives it from him. So of aiónion; applied to Jonah’s residence in the fish, it means seventy hours; to the priesthood of Aaron, it signifies several centuries; to the mountains, thousands of years; to the punishments of a merciful God, as long as is necessary to vindicate his law and reform his children; to God himself, eternity.”

# The Life of the Age

- *Aionos* – an age, *Zoe* – Life
- Eternal life does not equal immortality
- Eternal Life = the Life of the Age
- Eternal Life
  - Adam had it physically
    - Alive but not subject to death
  - We have it spiritually
    - Like Adam, we are not subject to death
    - Heb 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

# Eternal Life

- **Moral component**

- 1 John 3:14-18 Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

- **Relational Component**

- 1Jn\_5:12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

# The Life/Jesus Connection

- Connecting to Jesus is life
  - this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ: John 17:3
  - believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life: John 20:31
  - I am the resurrection and the life: John 11:25
  - Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
  - Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
  - 1Jn\_5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

# Possessing Eternal Life

- Possessing eternal life means passing from death to life in connection with Jesus
- Eternal life is REAL life
  - “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.” (John 3:36)
  - “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” (John 5:24)

# Possessing Eternal Life

- “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life...Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life” (John 6:47,54)
- “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish.” (John 10:28)
- “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.” (John 17:3)

# The Genesis Connection

## Adam

- Adam had eternal life (physically)
- Adam was born into paradise - a very good state
- Adam was close to God
  
- Adam was condemned because of his own disobedience
- God gave a means for Adam to feel worthy of His presence

## Us

- We have eternal life (spiritually)
- We are reborn into a very good state
- We are close to God = “draw near”
- We are condemned because of our own sin
- God gives us a means to feel worthy of His presence

## 7 Verses about Book of Life

- Php\_4:3 Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- Rev\_3:5 The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.
- Rev\_13:8 and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.

## 7 Verses about Book of Life

- Rev\_17:8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.
- Rev\_20:12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

## 7 Verses about Book of Life

- Rev\_20:15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.
- Rev\_21:27 But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

# Why is there life in Christ?

- Because we act like him (give God what He has been asking for all along) - repentance
  - 1Jn 1:6-7 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But **if** we walk in the light, as he is in the light, **then** (my insertion) we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

- Heb 10:15 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,
- Heb 10:16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds," (OBEDIENCE, REPENTENCE)
- Heb 10:17 then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." (FORGIVENESS)
- Heb 10:18 Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.
- Heb 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, (WE ARE COMPELED BY JESUS TO RUN TO GOD)
- Heb 10:20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,
- Heb 10:21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
- Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (JESUS CHANGES OUR PERSPECTIVE OF WHO GOD IS AND WHO WE ARE)
- Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. (OUR CONFIDENCE IS IN GOD, NOT US)
- Heb 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,
- Heb 10:25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- Heb 10:26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

# Why is there life in Christ?

- Forgiveness – because God said so
  - Act\_2:38 And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Christ as our *paraclete*
  - Rom 8:26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

# Why is there life in Christ?

- New relationship to God
  - Rom\_8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"
  - 1Jn 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

# Conclusion

- REAL Living and dead must be seen through eye of faith
- Eternal life = the life of the age = the real life
- Eternal life does not equal immortality
- No mechanical God with buttons to push or levels to pull to get eternal life or immortality – the process of real life is intrinsic to giving God a sincere faith and obedience