

Introduction:

1. The question was asked by Job. It was answered by Jesus. The question is in Job 14:14.
 - a. This has been the subject of inquiry by every race, tribe and people on the planet.
 - b. What happens at death? Is death the end? Can a man live again?
2. The question was answered by Jesus in John 11:25. Do you believe what Jesus believed?
 - a. Indeed, man can and will live again. The great hope that Jesus offers is a “forever” hope.
 - b. I believe in forever. Do you? But, why? Why should we believe in forever?

The Lesson:

I. Proven in Examples.

- A. The case of Lazarus in John 11 is a proof of life beyond the grave.
 1. Note the question and answer in John 11:21-26. Jesus then proceeded to raise Lazarus.
 2. The raising of Lazarus is a proof of eternal life, John 11:43, 45, 25. Men believed.
- B. The case of Moses and Elijah in Matthew 17:1-3 is a proof of life beyond the grave.
 1. These men died 1400 years (Moses) and 800 years (Elijah) earlier.
 2. The appearance of these men is solid proof that life does not end at the grave!

II. Personified in Jesus.

- A. What is the meaning of *personified*?
 1. To do something in person, to embody or to show, to personalize. Jesus is the person of forever. He was that even before He came into the world, Micah 5:2.
 2. Jesus is the source of living forever, John 6:47-58. To “eat and drink” is to partake of Him.
- B. The resurrection of Jesus is the ultimate demonstration that eternal life is in Jesus.
 1. In John 11:25 Jesus asserts that He is our source of resurrection and life.
 2. He proves He is that source by His claim, Matthew 20:17-19, and by His resurrection, Romans 1:4. He is the Son of God with power—the power to raise His followers from the dead (as with Lazarus), and the power to give us eternal life, John 6:40; 1 John 5:11.

III. Promised in Scripture.

- A. While the Old Testament Scriptures promised that a Savior—the Messiah—was coming, it is the New Testament Scriptures that clearly spell out the promise of eternal life. Here are but a few of the multitude of passages of promise that can be offered.
 1. It is called “the promise,” 1 John 2:25. This relates back to Abraham (Genesis 12:3).
 2. In response to Peter’s question about having left all, Jesus answers, Mark 10:28-30.
 3. The message of the Scriptures is one of eternal life in Jesus, John 5:39.
 4. Jesus’ words are the source of eternal life—the only source, John 6:68.
 5. Only you can prevent yourself from having eternal life—no one else, John 10:28.

6. To have eternal life, there is something you must hate, John 12:25.
 7. When Jesus talked to His Father, He spoke of their plan to give us life forever, John 17:2.
 8. Paul spoke of eternal life—but not to everyone, Romans 2:4-10.
- B. How many passages of promise does it take to convince us? And should not these passages also convince us that we should absolutely stay away from anything that would prevent us from receiving the promise of God?

Conclusion:

1. Let us be faithful to our God. He really does want you and me to live forever with Him.
2. Let us prepare for the eternity which is before us. This life is the “get ready room” for our forever.

It takes faith to not only see Heaven, but to also see Hell. If your faith in Hell is not strong enough and your view of it is fuzzy, your resolution to avoid going there will not be sufficient. You will allow yourself to play in the ashes of sin not realizing the condemning everlasting pain-filled fire that burns nearby awaiting the faithless.