



2021 2Q The Promise: Lesson 13 The New Covenant Life

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

SABBATH

Read the memory text: “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (Jn 10:10 NKJV).

What does this mean?

- Is there life without God?
- Is there death with God?
- John 17:3 eternal life is knowing God, which is an intimate union with Him. He is the source of life, life originates in God and we have life only as we are connected to Him. If life eternal is knowing God then what is eternal death? What is Satan’s power?
- What does abundant life mean—is it chronological length of years? Then for those who believe in eternal burning hell, would that mean tortured souls have an abundant life—they would have a lot of it, but would that mean they have the abundant life that Jesus promised?
- How can one experience abundant living?
- Can one have abundant living while violating God’s design laws for life?
- Can you have abundant life without freedom—as a POW, as a slave, what about a slave to sin?
- Can you have abundant life without health, what about with a mind that is damaged or with brain disease?

In the middle of the second paragraph the lesson states, “The Lord cares about our lives *now*; He wants the best for us *now*.”

Do we always receive what is best for us here and now? WARNING this is a trick question—it depends on whom we are focusing the question upon. Do we always receive from God what is best for us—yes. God always does, in governance of God, what is best for us—but God’s choices are impacted by our choices. So, sometimes we experience things in life that are not best for us because we chose to do it our way rather than God’s way, but God continues to work to bring us back to Him and His design for life, but that path may go through experiences we would not have had to go through had we not deviated from God’s plan to begin with. Also, God isn’t the only actor impacting our lives. God doesn’t choose everything that happens to us—other free-beings are making choices that impact us as well. So not everything that happens to us is directly from God but everything God does for us is for our good.



“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (Ro 8:28 NIV84).

Consider these two quotes, do you agree?

God is too wise to err, and too good to withhold any good thing from His saints that walk uprightly. Man is erring, and although his petitions are sent up from an honest heart, he does not always ask for the things that are good for himself, or that will glorify God. When this is so, our wise and good Father hears our prayers, and will answer, sometimes immediately; **but He gives us the things that are for our best good and His own glory. God gives us blessings; if we could look into His plan, we would clearly see that He knows what is best for us and that our prayers are answered. Nothing hurtful is given, but the blessing we need, in the place of something we asked for that would not be good for us, but to our hurt.** CCh 345.2

God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him. Not Enoch, who was translated to heaven, not Elijah, who ascended in a chariot of fire, was greater or more honored than John the Baptist, who perished alone in the dungeon. “Unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake.” Philippians 1:29. And of all the gifts that Heaven can bestow upon men, **fellowship with Christ in His sufferings is the most weighty trust and the highest honor.** DA 224.5

Do you agree with this?

In the second paragraph, the lesson also states: “The covenant is not some deal where you do this and this and this and then, a long way off, you will get your reward. The rewards, the gifts—they are blessings that those who by faith enter into the covenant relation can enjoy here and now.”

What does this mean? What are the blessings we get *now* if we enter into the agreement, the covenant with God?

- A new heart and right spirit
- A mature character
- Freedom from guilt and shame
- Acceptance with God and peace of heart and mind
- A sound mind
- Self-control
- Love that casts out all fear
- Deepening friendship with and trust in Jesus
- If we practice applying God’s methods we develop discernment

Are we promised in the covenant relationship with God that here and now we will:



- have perfect health?
- never suffer pain or persecution?
- never experience injustice?
- have wealth, fame, earthly success?

In other words, the promises of God for a better life now are not what the health/wellness gospel teach—that God brings us earthly wealth, power, fame, and bodily health. Those are not directly relevant to our eternal destiny, and in some cases may actually interfere with God’s healing of our hearts and minds.

What God promises us now is a new heart and right spirit, to heal our characters so that:

- the dishonest becomes honest
- the selfish becomes loving
- the disloyal becomes loyal
- the impulsive becomes patient
- the cruel becomes kind
- the vengeful become forgiving
- the hard-hearted become merciful
- the ungodly become godly
- the fearful become courageous
- the wavering become steadfast and reliable

We are not promised new biology until this mortal puts on immortality. While sometimes God does perform miracles of healing the body, say cancer goes into remission—that person still lives in a body subject to aging, decay and death. In other words, God’s plan for physical healing doesn’t truly happen until the second coming when we received immortal bodies.

We must not let Satan discourage us when we don’t experience earthly success. We must continually seek to glorify God in our lives, our characters, how we conduct ourselves. And the places where godliness shines brightest is not when everything is going well, but in the face of trials and tribulation.

And today in the world it is a constant battle—our minds and characters are under assault like never before. Every person is being tested, what kind of character are you developing—one that practices the methods of Jesus, truth, love, freedom or one that will use the power of force to compel compliance.

SUNDAY

The lesson asks us to read 1John 1:4: “And these things we write to you that your joy may be full” (1 Jn 1:4 NKJV).

What is the difference between happiness and joy and from where do they come? How do we experience happiness and joy?



Both happiness and joy are byproducts. This means that you cannot get happiness and joy directly; they are the result of some other action, much like sawdust is a byproduct of woodworking, or pain is the byproduct of injury, or guilt is the byproduct of sin.

Happiness is the byproduct of healthiness in all domains—physical, mental, emotional, relational, and spiritual. When we are physically ill, our happiness is diminished, undermined, impaired; mental or emotional illness—not happy; relationship conflict—not happy; spiritual sickness (guilt, shame, condemnation)—not happy.

Happiness is the byproduct of healthiness in all domains, and healthiness is experienced only when we are in harmony with God’s design laws for life—the protocols upon which the Creator God has built reality to operate. When we break the laws of health, sickness, disease, and suffering occur—thus undermining our happiness.

This is why the Bible repeatedly tells us, “Happy are those who keep God’s law!” (Proverbs 29:18 GNT).

While we cannot choose to “be happy” or seek to directly obtain happiness, we can make healthy choices to live in harmony with God’s design laws for life. And as we choose healthiness, the byproduct is ever increasing happiness.

However, many people fail to understand this and, instead of pursuing healthiness, they substitute pleasure-seeking, something which in the immediate moment will make them feel good. But this all-too often violates the laws of health (e.g., drugs, alcohol, casual sex, gambling, etc.) and causes only greater unhappiness. This often leads to addictions, as people, rather than seeking healthiness, double down on more pleasure-seeking.

While happiness is the byproduct of healthiness, joy is the byproduct of using one’s energies in harmony with God’s purposes.

God created humankind in His image and purposed that we should love others; should use our abilities to create, develop, advance, and discover; and should invest our physical and mental energies in godly achievement.

Parents, for example, experience joy in procreation. Artists and musicians experience joy in pouring out their passion in beautiful works. Farmers experience joy in a bountiful harvest. Scientists and mathematicians experience joy in new discoveries. And we all experience the greatest joy when we love others—when we give of ourselves for the good of others. This is why abundant life, health, happiness, and joy are found in living like Jesus, “who for the joy set before him endured the cross” (Hebrews 12:2 NIV84).

This is the secret to experiencing happiness and joy:



- Happiness is a byproduct of healthiness, which is experienced only when live in harmony with God's design laws, having them written in our hearts and minds.
- Joy is the byproduct of living out God's purposes in our lives, ultimately loving others as God has loved us.

And as time unfolds every person will be faced with the choice of whether they want God's law written on their heart or the law of sin and death. God is permitting things to unfold before the second coming in such a way that each and every person will face a choice for Jesus—how? Not in the evangelistic sense of an altar call or a profession of faith—but in the reality sense of whose law do you choose to apply to your life in how you treat others.

Will you:

- love others—present truth, in love, leave others free, sacrifice yourself, your resources to help others, protect others, shelter others, stand for truth even though the heavens fall OR
- love self first—and will withhold truth, spread falsehood, coerce others, support governments who will violate individual liberties, participate in the promulgation of lies, coercion, force, report people who don't comply to the government, refuse to shelter others, protect others, help others?

In so doing every person chooses either Jesus or Satan, for Jesus said:

Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me (Mt 25:40 NKJV).

Every person on Earth will face a choice for or against Jesus in how they treat others, in what methods they employ. And the final deception will be so powerful if it were possible even the elect will be deceived. The final deception will be about protecting others, saving others, we must do this to save lives, those who resist are being selfish:

- A teacher who refuses to call a little boy a girl or a little girl a boy is being selfish and cruel we must fire that teacher
- A young person who doesn't want to get an experimental medicine for a disease that has almost no chance of killing them, while the treatment has a higher chance of harming them is selfish, we must prohibit them from attending college
- A world-renowned immunologist, highly respected and credentialed who speaks out a warning of the dangers of giving experimental agents to people who have already recovered from a certain illness is censored, for spreading dangerous information
- Church members tell their fellow church members it is loving to coerce others into getting an experimental treatment to save lives, they support actions to restrict liberty, freedom of travel, commerce, assembly, speech and worship for those who won't comply

Every person is deciding right now and will continue deciding—are you accepting Jesus and becoming like Jesus or are you being duped, under the lie of loving others, to use the methods of coercion to violate the law of liberty, to compel and force others to comply?



The true follower of Christ presents the truth in love and leaves other free. The true follower of Christ never seeks to silence opposition, instead they destroy lies by wielding the sword of truth, they overcome selfishness by living out God's love.

MONDAY

The lesson points out attention to Romans 8:1

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit” (Romans 8:1 NKJV).

What does this mean?

Why is there no condemnation? What kind of condemnation? From where does the condemnation come?

Note the text says, “who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.” So what is described? Is this a legal adjustment or is this explicitly stating there is no condemnation because they have had a change of heart, they live in harmony with God's design law because they now live according to the Spirit?

When a building is condemned, why is it condemned? Because of its dilapidated and corrupt condition. But, if the building is restored to perfection will it still be condemned?

This is what Paul is saying, for those in Christ they are renewed, restored, healed, recreated, perfected by the indwelling Spirit (which means matured so that they love God and trust Him so that they would rather die than betray Him); they are no longer corrupted in heart, mind, character and thus they are not condemned.

And how does this happen? Paul tells us in the next verse:

“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death” (Romans 1:2 NKJV).

What are the laws referred to in this passage?

The law of the Spirit of life is the law of love, God's design law, that is written upon our hearts and minds. And the law of sin and death is the law of fear and selfishness, the survival of the fittest drives, kill or be killed. Paul is saying that when we, in trust, surrender to Christ we “die to self” and the law of love, the law upon which God created life to operate is restored in us and this sets us free from fear and selfishness and thus free from the death causing principle. We have life as we receive the life of Christ.



We then will live out God's principles:

- In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, male or female, free or slave, all are united—there is no black or white. If we live out the law of love we see all human beings as God's children and we don't buy into the world's theories of racial divisions.
- We are lovers of truth, we not only share the truth, we have minds that love the truth. But one of Satan's traps is to get people to accept a lie, act on the lie, speak the lie and this lie then becomes more deeply ingrained into their minds, their values, their beliefs, their sense of self and it becomes harder for the truth to set them free.
 - Good hearted doctors who believe a treatment to be good, but in reality the intervention is false, resist the truth that would change their practice:
 - Germ theory was resisted by the medical professionals when Pasteur and Lister presented their evidence
 - The abandonment of bleeding and leaching was resisted
 - Tobacco smoke was prescribed by doctors for lung disease and many promoted it as an invigorating agent—there was resistance to accepting the truth that tobacco is a carcinogen
 - Zyprexa, an antipsychotic was marketed for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Eli Lilly presented the risks and side effects fraudulently, purposely downplaying the obesity and diabetes risks from this medicine. Eventually they settled a multi-billion dollar lawsuit for their underhanded practices. But doctors who had believed the lies were complicit not only in prescribing it, but in promoting it, lecturing on it, educating other medical professionals falsely. And the doctors who accepted the lies were resistant to accepting the evidence of Zyprexa's role in causing obesity and DM until the evidence was too overwhelming to resist any longer.
 - Why does this happen? Because once a lie is accepted and acted upon a good-hearted person doesn't want to believe that they were duped, that they didn't know better, that they did something to harm others. And that means many good-hearted doctors will be part of promoting the falsehood until such overwhelming evidence comes to bear that the denial and lies can no longer hold back the evidence. I think the same thing is happening today on a certain health intervention.

The same process happens in religion with pastors and priests—resistance to advancing truth because they don't want to believe what they were teaching all along was false.

Only those who are lovers of truth, who are humble enough to acknowledge they don't know everything and are eager to grow and advance in the truth will be protected from this happening.

The lesson goes on to describe the case of a man who murders a woman and gets caught by going to her grave and asking her for forgiveness, the lesson concludes that it was his guilt that caused him to get caught.



The lesson then states,

“Of course, though none of us (we hope) has ever done anything as bad as what that young man did, we are all guilty; we have all done things we are ashamed of, things that we wish we could undo but cannot.

“Thanks to Jesus and the blood of the new covenant, none of us has to live under the stigma of guilt. According to the text for today, there is no condemnation against us. The ultimate Judge counts us as not guilty, counts us as if we have not done the things we feel guilty about.”

Here again the lesson confuses issues because they are blinded by the wrong law. It is impossible to understand the truth while holding to lies. And the lesson authors continue to cling to the lie that God’s law functions like human law, imposed rules requiring judicial oversight.

It is true we have all done things for which we feel guilt, for which we regret and that we cannot undo. But why did we do those things? Did any of us have a choice not to be a sinner? Could we choose to start life out like Adam and Eve as sinless beings? No, we were all born in sin and conceived in iniquity. Thus, we all sin because it is our nature. Our only choice is to accept healing, salvation or reject it. In accepting Jesus, accepting salvation, then we are reborn with new motives and divine power to live from motives of love rather than motives of selfishness.

So condemnation doesn’t come to us because we are sinners, we are condemned when we refuse the Remedy of Jesus Christ!

Thus Oswald Chambers wrote in *My Utmost for His Highest*:

Sin is something I am born with and cannot touch— only God touches sin through redemption. It is through the Cross of Christ that God redeemed the entire human race from the possibility of damnation through the heredity of sin. **God nowhere holds a person responsible for having the heredity of sin, and does not condemn anyone because of it. Condemnation comes** when I realize that Jesus Christ came to deliver me from this heredity of sin, and **yet I refuse to let Him do so.** From that moment I begin to get the seal of damnation. **“This is the condemnation [and the critical moment], that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light . . .” (John 3:19)**

Condemnation comes not when we are born into sin, nor when our sin condition results in symptoms, acts of sin, but when we refuse the light, the truth, the remedy that would heal and restore us to righteousness.

This is what Paul meant when he wrote that the wicked “perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved (2Thes 2:10 NIV84).



It is by accepting the truth that lies are dispelled, we are won to trust and choose to open the heart to God and the Holy Spirit enters our hearts and renews us with Christ's motives of love for God and others. This is being reborn and partaking the remedy. From that moment we daily surrender and walk in truth and love battling the temptations of lies, fear and selfishness.

What about the idea that the ultimate Judge counts us not guilty, is that what happens?

No, it isn't what happens at all—this is again a false legal perversion of reality. What happens is that the ultimate Judge judges us healed, restored, renewed, recreated.

Consider King David, what happens when Satan tries to accuse David as a murderer and adulterer?

Does God say, "Well let me see. Yes, I see here right in the book of 2Samuel that David committed adultery and had Uriah murdered. Oh, my, I thought David was a real friend of mine, now wait now just a minute. Jesus—do you have anything to add before I pass a verdict?" And Jesus steps up and says to the Father, "Well yes Father, you are looking at the wrong book there. That's the Bible you are reading. Here take this book, it is one that I have applied my blood to. Please use it and relook up King David." So the Father opens the new book and finds David, son of Jesse and reads, "David, son of Jesse, born in Bethlehem of Mary, lived a sinless life, died on the cross." And the Father turns to the heavenly court with a big smile and says, "Sorry about the confusion folks, King David has a new record entered into the court and his actual life is erased from the record and in its place he is credited with the life of Jesus and therefore I find no evidence that David is guilty of sin. I declare David not guilty!" Is this what you believe happens?

This is not what happens! If one wanted to use such a courtroom scenario to try and teach the truth, then it would have to go like this. God looks to Satan and says:

"Satan are you still trying to pawn off your fake imposed law system as the way my kingdom runs? No one here believes your lies any more. Of course we all know the historic deeds of what David did, and those facts of history never change. What changed was David, He trusted me and received a new heart and right spirit and the infection of fear and selfishness was purged. His spirit temple has been cleansed! He is now my friend, free from your lies and purified from your methods of selfishness. Your legal charges have no standing here. I rebuke you again! Next case."

Understand, we are never declared not guilty—we are either healed or not healed, that is the issue.

It is true that because of God's grace, because of living in a trust relationship with Him, that God removes *from our hearts and minds* the guilt, shame and fear that sin brings. Praise God. But this is not a legal guilt, it is the actual experiential guilt that violating the law of love causes.

Back to **SUNDAY**



Read the last paragraph, “Yet, notice, too...” What does it mean that Jesus opened the way for us to enter into close fellowship with God?

What is obstructing the way, blocking the way to God? What are the obstacles that prevent us from entering into close relationship with God?

- Lies we believe about God that keep us from trusting Him—thus Jesus is the truth, the Word made flesh and “you will know the truth and the truth will set you free”
- Our own fallen nature, our fears and selfishness, our inherent survival drives that operate antagonistically to God’s design of love. Our internal guilt, shame and fear.

So what is needed to remove these barriers so we can enter into relationship with God?

We need the truth about God to dispel the lies and win us back to trust in God and we need to be reborn; we need new hearts and minds; we need the mind of Christ; we need the character of Christ reproduced in us.

Jesus destroyed both the lies of the devil and the infection of fear and selfishness that obstruct our returning to unity or at-one-ment with God!

- Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might **destroy** him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death (Hebrews 2:14-15 NIV84).
- Christ Jesus, who has **destroyed** death and has brought life and immortality to light (2Tim 1:10 NIV84).
- The reason the Son of God appeared was to **destroy** the devil’s work (1John 3:8 NIV84).
 - What has Satan been working to achieve? To destroy the image of God in humankind and put Satan’s image where God’s should be. Satan works to live, or reside, or be enthroned in the spirit temple, our hearts and minds. This is why the temple must be cleansed before Christ comes. This is why we must have Christ living within.

Christ’s destruction of the lies and our fallen nature that obstruct our reconciliation with God is also taught symbolically, acted out in the little theater known as the sanctuary? Where?

What is the only part of the sanctuary that God destroyed when Jesus died? The veil—the veil obstructed or prevented the priests in their white robes, who represent the priesthood of believers, from entering into the full presence of God and being reunited, or at-one with God. At the cross Jesus destroyed the barrier and opened a new a living way through the veil, which represents the lies of Satan and the carnal nature that keep us separated from God.

So through Jesus we can enter again into union with God. He is the new and living way through the lies and through our own fallen sinful natures when we in trust die to self and are reborn with a new heart and right spirit.

In the sanctuary service there were three sections which represented three different divisions of humanity in the plan of salvation:



- The court—which represents the world where the priests and the non-priests interact. This represents the priesthood of believers sharing the gospel and bringing people to conversion, which was symbolically acted out with sacrifices at the brazen altar. The brazen altar was made from impure metal, the mixture of two different metals, represented the divided or impure hearts of the unconverted.
- The holy place—which represents the church, covered in gold which represents the purity of Christ's character; the golden lampstand representing the Word of God, both living Word Jesus and written word the Bible. The showbread which represents Jesus, the golden altar which represents the converted purified hearts of the faithful. In the holy place only the priests and high priest entered, symbolic of the church, the converted. The daily priests in their white robes, representative of their characters being like Jesus, would enter every Sabbath and join with the High Priest, who represented Jesus, to eat the show bread, which represents internalizing the Word of God, both the truth of Jesus but also internalizing the living truth in loving relationship with God.
- The most holy place—represents the universe at-one again with God—a universe free from sin. The ark was covered by a lid made from solid gold. That lid represents Jesus, through whom all things in heaven and earth are united. The shekinah represents the Father and hovered over the lid, it's light shining down touching the lid, the angels represents the heavenly beings touching the lid, and the box below the lid represent saved human beings all united by Jesus.

Thus the church, the priesthood of believers in the holy place are separated from entering heaven by the veil, which was ripped open by Jesus at the cross. It is only through Jesus that the lies about God are destroyed and the carnal nature (fear and selfishness) is destroyed and we receive a new heart and right spirit to enter back into at-one-ment with God. Thus Jesus is the new and living way into unity with God.

Consider this quote:

Christ said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." **Satan has planted himself between God and man, and seeks to intercept every ray of light that God would have come to man. [The veil, with angels sewn on it seeks to intercept the light coming from the Shekinah glory of God in the MH place.] He casts his awful shadow across the earth, and envelops the human race in spiritual darkness. [The holy place, the church, would be in darkness except for the Lampstand, which represents Jesus, who is the light that lightens the world. And the door from the holy place to the courtyard was always kept open thus the light from Jesus shines out of the church to lighten the world. Without the light from Jesus, darkness covers the people, gross darkness the people. And we see in the world today what is happening as the belief in God is being replaced with godless evolutionism—terrible darkness is enshrouding the minds of people] But through Jesus Christ, the Father is pleased to reveal his character to his chosen people. O, then walk in the light, appreciate the light, and step by step advance from light to a greater light. RH Feb 13, 1894**



TUESDAY

Read first paragraph, “As earlier...” Is salvation possible without receiving a new heart? Is salvation something other than this? No, this is salvation, it is healing, transformation, regeneration, recreation. Any theory of salvation that teaches we are saved by a legal adjustment is a lie.

WEDNESDAY

The lesson talks about death and the promise of eternal life.

It says, “Of course, we all die, but according to Jesus, this death is only a sleep, a temporary hiatus that—for those who believe in Him—will end in the resurrection of life.”

One of the great areas of confusion throughout Christianity is the question of life and death. This is confused because there are two deaths described in Scripture, one that is the result of unremedied sin and one that is an artificial state of grace permitted by God, and most people confuse the two or conflate the two.

So let’s define the terms:

First death refers to the cessation of biological activity of the body, but in which the individuality of the person is not destroyed. It is referred to in Scripture as a state of sleep. This is the death from which there is a resurrection. This is similar to a computer running out of power, it goes into a state of sleep, but the data is not destroyed. And thus, when power is restored to the computer it lives again. Or, if you have your data backed up on a cloud and someone destroys your machine, you can get new hardware, upgraded even, and download your data from the cloud and you have just resurrected your computer.

Second death is the death from which there is no resurrection. It is the death in which both the body and the individuality, the soul, (psyche), software are destroyed.

Both the righteous and the wicked die the first death, the sleep death. Only the unhealed wicked die the second death.

When God said to Adam in the day you eat you will surely die, what death was referred to?

What death did Jesus die? Did Jesus merely sleep in the grave like all of us? No! He did not die the first death. Did Jesus die the death that destroys the individuality and from which there is no resurrection? No!

According to Scripture Christ, by His death, “Destroyed him who holds the power of death that is the devil” (Heb 2:14) and destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light (2Tim 1:10).



There is a difference between dying the second death and destroying the second death.

When we understand what causes death—sin, which is violation of God’s design law of life, we understand why the wicked die in the end, because they persist in being severed from God and His design protocols for life. We also understand that at the Cross Jesus destroyed the death causing infection of fear and selfishness and restored God’s law of love back into humanity, by the exercise of His own human abilities to love and trust perfectly. Thus, He arose on the third day as the natural, normal, inevitable result of eliminating the cause of death and restoring the basis of life. Thus His death was the means of destroying death, it was not suffering the second death.

What Christ experienced at the Cross and what the wicked experience in the end are quite different:

- Christ died trusting the Father – Luke 23:46
The wicked die distrusting the Father – Revelation 6:16
- Christ died longing to see the Father – Mark 15:34
The wicked die hiding from the Father – Revelation 6:16
- Christ died when the Father’s presence was hidden – Mark 15:34
The wicked die when the Father is fully revealed – 2 Thes 2:8
- Christ died less than 72 hours – Luke 24:1-8
The wicked die eternally – Malachi 4:1-3, Romans 6:23, James 1:15, 2Pet 3:10-12
- Christ died when love overcame selfishness – John 3:16, 10:17,18, 1John 3:16
The wicked die overcome by selfishness – Revelation 21:8

Further, the Bible says that

- Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death (Rev 20:14 NIV84)
 - Hades here means the grave—how can one kill death? By life, and what then is this lake of fire? It is the earth when God’s life giving glory flows over it again, where God’s presence is the light. And the righteous live in this glory forever, but death, and all deviations from God’s design are eradicated by life, truth, love.

Where there is similarity between Christ’s death on the cross and the death of the wicked in the end, is in God’s actions. God’s actions toward Christ and the wicked in the end are the same. God surrendered Jesus to experience what Jesus chose, which was to go through the Cross and be our Savior. God granted Jesus His freewill choice and separated from His Son, so that Jesus could complete His mission of defeating Satan and defeating death. And God also, in the end, will grant all the wicked their freewill choice to be eternally separated from Him and they pass into the second death and eternal non-existence.



THURSDAY

The lesson speaks of Covenant Mission and how without purpose life becomes meaningless. We absolutely agree with this. This is why so many of us have joined together in forming Come and Reason Ministries and why so many have joined with us in sharing this beautiful end-time message with the world.

We are so thankful for all of you who join us each week to study, who watch us online, who share our resources, who teach this message to others. Haven't you found that your life has more joy as you participate in sharing God's end-time message with others?

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vision for Come and Reason: In February Come and Reason Ministries board met and prayerfully considered our vision, how to reach more people with this life changing message. We decided that our ability to do more is limited by our lack of space and facilities and we have decided to begin looking for a permanent facility for our Ministry—whether renovating a property or building on. The goal will be to build a professional recording studio with auditorium for our weekly class and other events, where we can begin producing more materials—possibly more live programming and live call in or interactive programming.

It is not our way to do fundraisers and we will not do a fundraiser or send out donation requests, however, several people have recently approached us and asked if our ministry has any needs and recommended that we make our vision and plan to have our own facility public so that anyone who want to support us in this endeavor can do so. We also are resistant to going into debt, so we are quite cautious and have already turned down a couple of options because the cost would have required significant debt.

So, please keep us in your prayers that the Lord will lead us to find the right property and bless the process that any resources we use will be spent wisely and most economically.

SHARING campaign June: *Could It Be This Simple? A Biblical Model for Healing the Mind*
BE SURE TO USE OUR WEBSITE STORE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER—DON'T SEND AN EMAIL.