

JESUS: THE MEANING OF LIFE

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

We go through life looking for the ultimate meaning. To begin with, we are convinced that our parents must be the meaning of life. They feed us, watch over us and shower us with unconditional love. But we gradually realize that they have their limitations and weaknesses; they are not the meaning of life. Then we meet good friends, especially as teenagers. We love them because while they may not feed us like our parents, they watch over us, extend unconditional friendship and love and, above all, do not judge us. They do not correct and criticize us like our parents, so begin to think we may have found the meaning of life in our friends. “A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity” (Proverbs 17:17). Then our friends change, we quarrel with them, and they may move away – life goes on. We realize they are not the meaning of life. And without knowing the meaning of life, we are left frustrated, confused, afraid and even depressed. Not everyone is called upon to consider or solve a mathematical problem, but everyone at some point wonders about the puzzle that is life. Some people say, “I have had a good life, or I have had a bad life”, but the question is “What is the meaning of life?” the first answer to these questions is that God is life.

Act 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

The answer lies in Paul’s statement, “in him we live”. All life is from God and in God. Outside of him is no life. In other words, everyone is living *in* God, but not everyone is aware of this fact. Take a deep breath. It is the Spirit of God which circulates life into your body. When our time comes to leave this body and this world, God stops living in this body. This is the first and greatest lesson of life – to live is to discover that we live in God. “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” (Genesis 2:7).

Now, while God who is a Spirit is the life in which we have our being, we sinned against him. Because of this, we lost the meaning of life although we exist in him. “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). All humans are only breathing and living in God the Spirit, but we lost the meaning of life. Sin separated us from

the meaning of life, and we became desperate again. It is for this reason God was manifested in the flesh (I Tim 3.16). The old meaning is not enough, we must have the life of God manifested in the flesh because God restored the meaning of life to us through the death of his flesh and blood.

John 6:5 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

John 6:54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

John 6:56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

To summarize, the meaning of life must be discovered twice. The first time is when we understand that we actually live in God. He is the source of all life. “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good” (Pslam 14:1). After this discovery, a new discovery awaits – to know that Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life. Sin destroyed the old meaning of life, but Jesus took the sin upon him. This is why one cannot come to the Father without entering through Jesus, who is the flesh and blood of the Father. The same God who gave us life and meaning through his Spirit, now gives us meaning through his flesh and blood. In other words, the Spirit, flesh and blood is life. “And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one” (I John 5:8).

Finally, life cannot be described only. It must be experienced. I can describe Jesus all day for you, but you must experience him to truly understand him. “All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him” (Matthew 11:27). So how can you receive this Jesus, the eternal life into your soul? To begin with, believe that God is one and alone. There are no gods with him. Next, believe that this same God was manifested in the flesh and his name is Jesus. Jesus died for our sins and rose up the third day. Now, be baptized in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness and remission of your sins, after which the Lord will fill you with his Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38). “And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost” (John 20:22).