

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **John 3:1-7**.
- B. Life is a precious word in the Bible. The Scriptures speak of physical and spiritual life.
- C. All should give life fullest consideration.
- D. Four things about life to consider in this lesson.

## I. THE NEW LIFE.

- A. Just because one is alive physically does not mean one has the new life.
  - 1. Must ask, "Have I been born again?"
  - 2. All have had physical birth-only a few the new.
- B. Jesus taught Nicodemus the new birth (Jn. 3:5).

Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

  - 1. Must have birth of "water and the Spirit."
  - 2. Many seek being born of Spirit-leave off water.
  - 3. Jesus did not leave out water-baptism a part of the new birth.
- C. See Titus 3:5.

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,...

  - 1. Paul writes not saved by righteousness we have done.
  - 2. Saved by mercy by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the HS (water/spirit).
  - 3. NIV - "HE saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit."
  - 4. Baptism a part of God's righteousness (Mt. 3:14-15).

But John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I have need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?" **15** But Jesus answering said to him, "Permit *it* at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he permitted<sup>^</sup> Him.
  - 5. The Spirit leads sinners through the Word (F,R,C,B).
  - 6. New life (Rom. 6:4).

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
  - 7. In Christ (2Cor. 5:17).

Therefore if any man is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.
  - 8. Baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27).

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

## II. A PRAYERFUL LIFE.

- A. Privilege from new birth-talk to Father.
- B. Prayer defined: "A spiritual child talking to his father."
  - 1. Can't choose the devil for father and still talk to God (Jn. 9:31).

"We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing, and does His will, He hears him."
  - 2. Child of God can ask, etc. (Mt. 7:7,8).

"Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. **8** "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened."
- C. Prayer to Christian must receive top priority. (Ex.: Emily Post says that if you are invited to White House- "An invitation to lunch or dine at the White House is a command, and automatically cancels any other engagement.")

- D. Prayer life represents Power.
  - 1. "Remember, nothing lies outside the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God."
  - 2. Jas. 1:5-6; 5:16.  
**(Jas 1:5-6)** But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. **6** But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.  
**(Jas 5:16)** Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.
- E. All need prayerful life to be blessed.

### III. A FAITHFUL LIFE.

- A. I wonder how many souls in past centuries became unfaithful? Which might be another way of saying one is lost unless repentance.
- B. The NT sounds many warnings.  
 See Jn. 15:6; 1Cor. 9:27, 15:58; Gal. 5:4; 1Tim. 4:1.  
**(Jn 15:6)** "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch, and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.  
**(1Cor 9:27)** but I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified.  
**(1Cor 15:58)** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not *in vain* in the Lord.  
**(Gal 5:4)** You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.  
**(1Tim 4:1)** But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,
- C. Example: Prospector's explanation of success, "Just keep on digging."
- D. Be faithful, even to point of death (Rev. 2:10).  
 'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.'
- E. NT definition of faithfulness (Gal. 6:9).  
 And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary.
- F. Don't make the same mistake as Demas (2Tim. 4:10).  
 for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens *has gone* to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

### IV. A SAVING LIFE.

- A. Adam and Eve lost something important in Eden.
  - 1. They lost life-physically and spiritually.
  - 2. They were driven from **the garden** and the **tree** of life (Gen. 3:22).  
 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, lest he stretch out his hand, and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"--
  - 3. From this time forward, man needed life.
- B. In many years God sent his Son.
  - 1. Angel announced (Mt. 1:21).  
 "And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."
  - 2. Paul taught (1Cor. 15:22).  
 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive.
- C. Jesus' purpose was to bring life (Jn. 1:4; Lk. 19:10).  
**(Jn 1:4)** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.  
**(Lk 19:10)** "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

- D. Example: A great violin burned in a fire-rescued, restored, and played. Compare to mankind. Christ rescues us, restores our soul, and puts us to work.
- E. Paul as an example (1Tim. 1:15).  
*It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.*

### **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. Therefore, a goal for all to seek.
  - 1. The new life.
  - 2. The prayerful life.
  - 3. The faithful life.
  - 4. The saving life.
- B. Would you seek these now?
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.