

John 238 “So, How’s Your Love Life?” John 15:12-13

FIVE IMPORTANT ALTERNATIVES OF LIFE

We can choose:

1. To believe in Jesus Christ for eternal salvation OR spend eternity in the Lake of Fire.

2. And if we have believed in Him; We can choose to make the pursuit of biblical truth our #1 priority in life OR live in ignorance of the mind of Christ; so remember that arrogance and ignorance are the top two problems in the Christian life.

3. To prayerfully get under the ministry of a pastor who faithfully teaches the Word of God so you can acquire and master the spiritual skills of being constantly filled with the Holy Spirit, learning

God’s precious truth and therefore, executing

His experiential plan for you OR you can choose

to live a life of ignorant, debilitating confusion followed by failure to glorify God; We are NOT designed to live without biblical truth.

4. To learn and use God’s grace solutions OR live a life of misery and persistent unhappiness, a life without capacity for life.

5. To die well under God’s grace provision of dying grace OR to die under dying discipline known as the sin unto death. The spiritual life is our active relationship with God and it includes our spiritual growth as a result of our regeneration from spiritual death.

We must never confuse morality with spirituality.

Morality is proper conduct and excellence in the strategy, practice and function of God’s established laws.

Since divine institutions such as marriage, family and national government are for both believers and unbelievers, morality is also.

The unbeliever can be and often is extremely moral but anything the unbeliever can do is NOT the Christian’s spiritual life.

THREE LIMITATIONS OF MORALITY:

1. It cannot provide eternal salvation; Titus 3:5.

2. It cannot produce the spiritual life; Eph 5:18.

3. It cannot advance a believer in the experiential plan of God; 2nd Peter 3:18.

Virtue-love, honor and integrity resulting from our personal love for God and impersonal love for all mankind are far greater than any morality that man might conceive of, produce or practice.

If the Lord Jesus Christ is in us and He is and we are in Him and we are, then we have no choice but to love as He loved.

To love as God loves is a decision to act for the benefit of someone else no matter how we feel.

The key for us is to remember it’s just as Jesus said: “As I have loved you!”

God’s love ‘in us’ is not forced; it flows freely from a heart that is conscious of being loved by the Creator of the universe, God Himself.

NEWSFLASH:

Not everyone is as loving, kind, gracious and generous as you are.

It’s not words that count, it’s deeds for actions speak much louder than words.

Life is much more fulfilling in doing for others rather than seeking self-serving pleasures.

Believers who are ignorant of biblical truth have no capacity to love God to any great extent and therefore, they cannot be His friends until they get to know Him better.

Friendship with God is not based on emotion, it's based first on knowing and appreciating Him for Who He is and then thanking Him for what He's done and finally, trusting in Him for what He will do in the future.

The expression of true love is a sign of inner joy.

The soul is the source of both inner happiness and capacity for love.

Loving God is the basis for all genuine friendship.