

Answering God's Call to Health and Long Life

God's Word – Our Faith

*For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but **the word preached did not profit them, not being MIXED WITH FAITH** in them that heard it. (Hebrews 4:2 KJV)*

We must mix Our Faith with God's Word to receive benefit.

The Priority and Promise of Long Life

*“Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: **“that it may BE WELL with you and you may LIVE LONG on the earth.”** (Ephesians 6:2-3)*

The Divine Invitation

*And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole **spirit and soul AND BODY** be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thessalonians 5:23 KJV)*

*And may your spirit, soul, and body **be kept HEALTHY AND FAULTLESS** until our Lord Jesus Christ returns. (CEV)*

*We pray that your whole self—spirit, soul, and body—will **be kept SAFE** and be blameless when our Lord Jesus Christ comes. (ERV)*

*May the God of peace set you apart for Himself. **May every part of you be set apart for God.** May your spirit and your soul and your body **be kept COMPLETE.** (NLV)*

*And may your entire being—spirit, soul, and body—**be kept COMPLETELY FLAWLESS** in the appearing of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. (TPT)*

*Faithful is he that **CALLETH** you, who also will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:24 KJV)*

Calls you to what?

What is He calling us to according to 1 Thessalonians 5:23?

To have our spirit, soul, and body set apart unto God and preserved (kept safe, healthy, flawless, and complete).....**Until the day we die???** **NO.**

UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD.

Notice that this is God's idea not ours.

*Faithful is **HE** that calleth you, who also will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:24 KJV)*

Greek word for *Calleth* is *Kaleō*: one of the definitions is to INVITE.

This word is translated sixteen times in the New Testament (KJV) as the word ***Bid***.

*And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to **call** them that were **bidden** to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are **bidden**, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. (Matthew 22:1-4 KJV)*

*And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were **invited** to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are **invited**, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.” ’ (Matthew 22:1-4 NKJV)*

*Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and **invited** many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were **invited**, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ (Luke 14:16-20 NKJV)*

So what are we being INVITED to?

To have our spirit, soul, and body set apart unto God and preserved (kept safe, healthy, flawless, and complete).....**UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)**

*Faithful is he that **calleth** you, **WHO ALSO WILL DO IT. (1 Thessalonians 5:24 KJV)***

*The one calling you is faithful, and **HE will do it. (1 Thessalonians 5:24 CJB)***

The one INVITING you will do it.

What will He do? (Keep us safe, healthy, flawless, and complete until the coming of the Lord.)

Who will He do it for? Everyone who says, “Yes” to His Invitation.

Most believers are not aware that they have been invited to this.

There are only two things one can do with an invitation.

1. Say “Yes.” – Accept the Invitation
2. Say “No.” – Turn down the Invitation

If He is going to do it, we don’t have to do it. All we have to do is accept the Invitation.

Jesus’ Prayer for you and me

*I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest KEEP them from the evil. (John 17:14-15 KJV)***

***SANCTIFY them** through thy truth: thy word is truth. (John 17:17 KJV)*

*Neither pray I for these alone, but **for them also which shall believe on me through their word; (John 17:20 KJV)***

Jesus prayed this FOR US.

Sanctify: same word used in **John 17:17** as in **1 Thessalonians 5:23**

Sanctify: Hagiazō: to separate from profane things and dedicate to God

AND the word **KEEP** in **John 17:15** is the same word as **PRESERVED** in **1 Thessalonians 5:23**

Keep: *Tēreō*: to attend to carefully, take care of, to guard

The Apostle Paul's Prayer in 1 Thessalonians 5:23 is very similar to the prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17:14-15

*And the very God of peace **SANCTIFY you wholly**; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be **PRESERVED** blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

(1 Thessalonians 5:23 KJV)

Jesus prayed that we would be sanctified AND that God would NOT take us out of the world but that he would KEEP us from the evil in the world.

Enoch

And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years: And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him. (Genesis 5:23-24 KJV)

*By **FAITH** Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. (Hebrews 11:5 KJV)*

Why did God take him?

Because he pleased God?

Did God take everyone who pleased Him?

Other men and women of faith mentioned in Hebrews chapter 11

Abel

Isaac

Noah

Jacob

Abraham

Joseph

Sara

Moses

*These all **DIED in faith**...(Hebrews 11:13 KJV)*

They had faith, why didn't they skip death?

Why didn't God take them?

Did they have faith? Yes.

Were they believing to skip death? Evidently not.

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, (Jude 1:14 KJV)

It appears that Enoch had a vision of the second coming of Jesus and planned to be around to see it.

Faith enabled Enoch to be taken instead of dying. (Hebrews 11:5 GW)

It was faith that kept Enoch from dying. (GNT)

It was because of his faith that Enoch was promoted to the eternal world without experiencing death. (PHILLIPS)

By an act of faith, Enoch skipped death completely. (MSG)

Because Enoch believed God, he was taken up into heaven without dying. (WE)

The only conclusion is that Enoch is the only one who used his faith to skip death.

But Doesn't Everyone Have to Die?

*For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that **WE which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord** shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then **WE which are alive and remain** shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:14-17 KJV)*

Millions, perhaps Billions will never die.

Paul clearly believed that he would be alive when Jesus returned which is why he said, "**WE which are alive and remain....**"

*For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet **what I shall choose I cannot tell**. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. (Philippians 1:21-24 NKJV)*

Paul believed that living or dying was his choice.

Perhaps Paul lived until he was satisfied.

With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation. (Psalm 91:16 KJV)

God's Hidden Mysteries

*For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: **How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery;** (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) **Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;** (Ephesians 3:1-5 KJV)*

*Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; **Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:** (Colossians 1:25-26 KJV)*

Could the revelation of spirit, soul, and body being preserved and kept flawless until the coming of the Lord be a mystery that has been hidden in ages and generations past but is now being revealed to the children of God?

The Enemy of Death Under Our Feet

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. (1 Corinthians 15:26 KJV)

*but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who **HAS abolished death** and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, (2 Timothy 1:10 NKJV)*

*In that death, by God's grace, **he fully experienced death IN EVERY PERSON'S PLACE.** (Hebrews 2:9 MSG)*

*But one testified in a certain place, saying: "What is **MAN** that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? (Hebrews 2:6 NKJV)*

*You have put **all things** in subjection **under his feet.**" For in that He put all in subjection under him, **He left NOTHING that is not put under him.** But now **WE DO NOT YET SEE all things put under him.** But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, **that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.** (Hebrews 2:8-9 NKJV)*

What do we do when we know that something is true, but we can't see it?

We do exactly what Enoch did

*By **FAITH Enoch was translated that he should not see death;** and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. (Hebrews 11:5)*

Faith is specifically for things NOT SEEN.

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, **the evidence of things NOT SEEN.** (Hebrews 11:1)*

Youth Renewed

*Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, And **forget not all His benefits:** Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, **Who redeems your life from destruction,** Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, **So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.** (Psalm 103:1-5 NKJV)*

*He satisfies me with good things. **He makes me young again, like the eagle.** (ICB)*

What if you forget this benefit?

If you're not mixing faith with this verse you cannot receive the benefits? (Hebrews 4:2)

Live Until You Are Satisfied

With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation. (Psalm 91:16 KJV)

Psalm 91 lists several keys to being satisfied with long-life.