JESUS IS THE LIFE

'I am the way, the truth, the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'
- Jesus / John 14:6 NIV

Most people desire to live a long life and live it well. First of all we should define life, for there is more than one type of life as seen in New Testament Greek.

- Bios a. the period or duration of life 1 Peter 4:3, Luke 8:14, 2 Timothy 2:4
 - b. the manner of life in regard to its moral life 1 Timothy 2:2, 1 John 2:16
 - c. the means of life, its livelihood, maintenance Mark 12:44, 1 John 3:17, Luke 8:43; 15:12,30; 21:4
- Psuche heart, mind, soul (from which we get the word psyche / psychology) It also denotes life in two chief respects:
 - a. breath of life, the natural life Matthew 2:20, 6:25; Mark 10:45, Luke 12:22, Acts 20:10; Revelation 8:9, 12:11
 - b. the seat of personality Luke 8:24b 'whoever loses his life /psuche for my sake will save it.' Jesus. 'I am the good shepherd, the good shepherd gives His life/psuche for the sheep.' Jesus / John 10:10
- Zoe is used in the N.T. 'of life as a principle, life in the absolute sense, life as God has it, that which the Father has in Himself, and which He gave to the Incarnate Son to have in Himself John 5:26.

While Zoe is life intensive, bios is life extensive. Speaking generally, psuche is the individual life, the living being, whereas Zoe is the life of the being.

-Above insights on life words from Vines's Expository Dictionary

Zoe is vitality of life but it also refers to God's eternal divine life. Most Christians think of eternal life as something we get after we die and enter into eternity. However, it is not just for the sweet by and by but also for the nasty now and now. Eternal life is something that the first disciples had with Jesus. The apostle John uses the word frequently throughout his gospel and letter.

According to Strong's Concordance, ZOE is used 135 times in N.T. in various ways. It is used 70X as eternal life eg. John 3:15,16,36. It is used of Jesus 4X and Jesus' life 2X.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched - this we proclaim concerning the Word of Life /Zoe. The Life/Zoe appeared, we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life/zoe which was with the Father and has appeared to us. - 1 John 1:1-2 NIV

Now this is eternal Life/Zoe that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. - John 17:3 NIV

I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal Life/Zoe and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to Life/Zoe. - John 5:24 NIV

I have come that they may have Life/Zoe and have it superabundantly.
- John 10:10

God Life has divine supernatural energy and power, even to raise the dead. This is why Jesus' words bring us great hope.

'I am the resurrection and the Life/Zoe He who believes in me will live, even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?' (Jesus said this to Martha at the tomb of Lazarus)

- John 11:25-26 NIV

The greatest gift to receive is the life of Christ. People bend down to gather gifts that lay under a Christmas tree. It brings great delight for parents to see their children receive and open their gifts. How much greater is the joy for the Father in heaven to see earthly children bow down and open their hearts to the greatest gift to mankind that died on a tree. Those who receive Jesus into their life enter into a realm where God reigns. Their life is hid with Christ in God. - Colossians 3:3 The greatest place to be at Christmas and throughout the year is IN CHRIST.

To be in Christ - that makes you fit for heaven; but for Christ to be in you - that makes you fit for earth! To be in Christ changes your destination; but for Christ to be in you - that changes your destiny! The one makes heaven your home - the other makes this world His workshop.

- W. Ian Thomas

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