

THE HEART OF ETERNAL LIFE

April 27, 2014 Various Texts by Bob Branch
Experiencing, Enjoying & Growing in Eternal Life, part 1

What is Eternal Life?

MAIN IDEA: Whatever comes after this life, and however life can be restored and enriched here, the key is Jesus himself and relationship with him.

Eternal life...

Coming age of God's reign... Initiated by Messiah, on the last day, with physical resurrection of dead into a restored-new creation, with God's Spirit poured out

- **Restored (new) creation**, God reigning as king, setting all things right on earth, spirit poured out (Amos 9; Joel 2)
- **Heaven (God's realm) in harmony** with earth (Gen. 1-2)
- **Messiah** would come and inaugurate new/eternal age (Is. 53:10)
- **Dead raised** (resurrection) at last day (Ez. 37:12f; Dan. 12:13)... physical body out of tombs into restored creation on earth.

"God loved the world with so much love that he gave his son so that everyone who believes in him should not be lost but should share in the life of God's new age." **John 3:16** NTW

1. Eternal Life is JESUS HIMSELF.

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." **John 14:6**

"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life." **John 5:39-40** NLT

"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind." **John 1:4** (3:15)

"this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life." **1 John 5:11-12** NLT (Col. 3:3-4)

2. It is RESTORED RELATIONSHIP with God

"For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." **John 17:2-3**

Veil torn (Matt. 27:51)

Genesis 1-2...

"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." **Jeremiah 31:33-34** (Hos. 6:6)