

D. L. Nicely Ministries

Teaching Newsletter

Secret place

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Issue 12...God's Powerful Promise of Life

Well here we are another year's end. And with that comes the conclusion of a newsletters theme. This coming year I feel the Lord leading me into a teaching about the Jewish Feasts and how they line up with today's church instead of finishing part 2 of the teaching series on the promises of God. I pray these newsletters instruct and aid you in the never ending walk with the master so let's finish this series out right by talking about the promise of life.

Life is a god-given right today. Think about this statement. "He who provides for this life, but takes no care for eternity is wise for the moment, but is a fool forever."

Have you ever heard of the story of a Spanish explorer named Juan Ponce de Leon? In 1513 he set out on an expedition from Puerto Rico to discover a so called fountain whose life giving powers gave mortal man the power of immortality. The fountain was appropriately named the fountain of youth. Needless to say Ponce do Leon did not find the fountain of youth. But he did discover a land mass on Easter Sunday in 1513. He named it "Pascua Florida", which is Spanish for "flower of Easter." Today we know that last mass to be the state of Florida.

So what's the point you may be asking? And why would someone waste time and money looking for a so called fountain of youth? The reason is because one such fountain does exist. But it doesn't exist on Bimini Island like Ponce thought. Instead it exists in a person by the name of Jesus Christ.

Today I'm so amazed at all the TV ads and commercials advertizing products to make us look younger and feel more youthful. Friends Americans are obsessed with their age and looks. Well if that's you I have some great news for you. There is something that can make you younger and help you live forever. Listen to how God wants to bless you and help you live forever.

"I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly." John. 10:10

John who because the oldest living apostle in his days of old penned those words and many more some 40 times he referred to the word life in his gospel.

He trying to make his point clear wanted the readers to get three main points.

1—Life is offered only by Jesus... Jesus the man who was literally God in the flesh came to this earth so that we could understand life to the fullest. He promised to give us abundant life which is eternal life. He the literal giver of life also proclaimed the security in putting your faith and trust in his life would be rewarded. He also said in John 10:28; *"I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand"*

So who will receive this eternal life? Why look at John 10:3; “To those sheep who hear my voice and follow me shall have eternal life.” Are you listening to his voice? Are you following his teachings or are you just doing what you want to and not giving any thought to the consequences?

2—Life is found only in Jesus... Many great people throughout recorded history have claimed to know the way to God. Some other great philosophers tell us that there are many paths that will eventually take us to God. But the truth is that according to Jesus there is only one way to God. Jesus said; *“I am the way the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father except through me.”* John 14:6

Which road are you taking to get you to eternal life? Are you on the Jesus road or the road that you hope will get you there someday if you’re a good person? Come on you really know who you are. Are you really a good person?

3—Life is abundant because of Jesus... Jesus promises that the life that we live right now will be full and abundant. “Full of what?” Peace, joy, happiness, love, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness. And of course let’s not forget forgiveness. Have you ever needed forgiveness? Then let’s move on to the greatest of all. “Eternal life.” You see some people think that when they die they will have eternal life. This is not true, because eternal life begins the moment you accept Christ as your personal lord and savior.

According to Philippians 3:20 when we accept Christ our citizenship is transferred to heaven awaiting the end of days when we will move there and live forever.

Now let’s finish this series by talking about how to put all this to work for us.

The moment you believed and accepted Christ’s work on the cross your spiritual life began. He gave you his wonderful gift of eternal life.

So what should you do with this life?

Purpose in heart to live for his with every fiber of your being. More than 20 years ago I made that decision and never one time have I ever looked back. I have found that God is a forward march God and he wants to take us on a wonderful journey with him and him alone. Finally live each day with a grateful heart and remember the price Jesus paid for your abundance. He willingly laid down his life because he loves you and the least you can do is live for him. Everyday count on him and be thankful for all that he gives you.

Now remember next month we begin a new series on the Jewish feasts and holidays and how they fit into the modern church I think you’ll be pleasantly surprised when you learn the truth about the feasts.

Continued Next month

