

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries

5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Heaven and Hell

Lesson 5 eternal existence

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Our mortal life in this temporal body is not the end of our existence. According to the Bible, you were made by an eternal God and you have in some form or another, an eternal existence. The Bible has these two things to say about this matter of our eternity, first of all in

*John 10:28 And I give unto them **eternal life**; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. Now look at Mark 3:28, Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme. But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of **eternal damnation**. Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.* Now before we go any farther, it's plain from the scripture, that each and every one of us with a mortal body in a temporal condition is going to one day leave this mortal body and this temporal condition and enter into an eternal state or an eternal condition and the Bible lays two realities down for us to ponder, eternal life or eternal damnation. In either case, there is no statement in God's word that you have an end of your existence. You do not die and that's the end of you.

You will leave this world perhaps today, in a week, in a month or a year. You might have another eighty years to go before you leave this world, but when you leave, you will step out into eternity. You will either enjoy eternal life or you will suffer in eternal damnation.

It is so important that born again people hear these truths, because, number one, some would think that they do not need to hear about that because they know it already; if you've not witnessed to anyone in the last few days, you need to hear it! And number two; they have lost touched with the concept that lost people are facing eternal damnation. If that concept were a reality, there would be some motivation provided by an understanding of that concept. And the joy and the gladness of one knowing he could have eternal life; how that ought to drive us to all those people who are in the midst of all this gloom and despair, we can offer eternal life to all these people. We have something worth proclaiming to the world. You will know that your heart has grown cold, and you will know that you have lost your way, when all you want is to hear something you haven't heard before, when all you're interested in is some new twist or some new idea; that's fine if the old ideas are in operation in your life. But when the reality of eternal life and the reality of eternal damnation are not compelling you to speak up for the Lord Jesus Christ, you need a revival. You need to repent and do what is right by witnessing to every person that we come into contact with. Eternity is for a very long, long time.

The Bible is going to define for us "eternal." What does it mean to have "eternal life"? What does it mean to receive "eternal damnation"? The Bible says in John 3:15-17, *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.* [Explain that to me Lord, please.] 16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* 17 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* Now, *eternal life* in verse 15 is defined as *everlasting life* in verse 16.

What does it mean to live eternally? It is life that lasts forever! What does it mean to receive damnation, eternally? It is damnation that last forever, you are punished, tormented and suffer forever, Do not think that you will only suffer for a few years and then you paid your debt you get out, Oh no, you will suffer for few centuries no one can pay your debt now; you will suffer for thousands of years. God will never feel bad about you being in torment, you are forgotten you will abide under condemnation forever.

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We live in a “touchy,” “feely” society where people would rather feel good about a lie than embrace the truth. But the truth of the matter is, God sent His dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ to die a cruel bloody death on the cross and that death on Calvary and that sacrifice of Jesus Christ was non-cynical if there’s no condemnation for you to escape. God would not have sent His own dear Son to die for sinners if He is just going to take everybody to Heaven anyway? The cross makes no sense, if there is no damnation. The cross makes no sense, if there is no place of punishment and condemnation.

You have to give the devil his due. He has no wisdom and he has no understanding but he is smart. He has made Hell into a joke, a byword, a cuss word, ever since you were a child, you may have heard “hell” used as a cuss word; or someone says, “Wow, it’s hot as hell,” or, “we are really going through a hard time, we are going through “hell!” No matter how bad it was, the fact that it ended proved it’s not hell. Because when a person wakes up in hell, it’s not going to end.

On the other hand, if you should find yourself growing faint and light-headed and you begin to fall down to the ground and as you are clutching your chest, you think this is it. Before your body hits the ground, your soul will step into a place of joy and gladness and happiness and singing where sickness and sorrow and pain and death are vanished, and you won’t be there a week or a month or a year. You will be there, the Bible says forever and forever and forever! That’s worth talking about!

The Bible according to John chapter 3 says you really don’t have to do anything to get in on that eternal damnation; it’s already yours. If you sin, that’s where you are. One time, one sin – that’s all it takes. There you are! You don’t have to be as bad a sinner as I am. You don’t have to commit the sins I’ve committed. You don’t have to commit them as long as I’ve committed them. You only have to steal one thing to be a thief; if you told one lie, you are a liar. Only one sin to be a sinner. Once you commit that first sin, the Bible says you are under the condemnation of eternal damnation. And the only way out of eternal death and into eternal life, the Bible says, is to believe in God’s own Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. We should prefer life to damnation, especially if it’s forever. You decide right now in this life what you are going to do with Jesus Christ, then your body ceases to function you step into eternal life or eternal damnation.

Titus 1:2, ***“In hope of eternal life which God that cannot lie, promised before the world began;*** Now, I’m going to try to never tell a lie. But I cannot, I’m not capable of not telling a lie. I hope that you have set out as a Christian to never tell another lie; but you are incapable of accomplishing this goal. God not only does not lie, He is not capable of lying. If God ever, and He wouldn’t, but if God ever yielded to the temptation to twist the truth or misrepresent something, he could not pull it off. He does not have the capacity to lie. God cannot lie. If God said, believe on my Son the Lord Jesus Christ, and I will give you everlasting life; it’s a fact!

There is no possibility that is untrue, when God said, if you choose not to believe, you will receive eternal damnation. God cannot lie. People today are trying to prove that God is just like them, a liar. (Numbers 23:19) That is what all these liberal religions are counting on. They call themselves Christians, but are they? I think not. They are constantly correcting God’s Bible; they question the serious doctrines of the Bible. To them God is only love, they say, “He would not send anyone to Hell,” even though God said eternal damnation, “they say, Ah...He was just kidding. He was lying. He didn’t mean it.”

Do you know why you’re waiting to witness to that family member; you’re not fully convinced that God’s telling the truth. I know they will get mad; I know they are not going to like it; I know it’s not going to go well. The God who cannot lie said that person you are waiting to talk to, is under God’s condemnation and they are facing eternal damnation. I do not know what you would be waiting for, except you are not sure if God is telling the truth.

Romans 6:22, ***But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.*** I might be a servant, I might have tough times, I might have trials and troubles, I might be misunderstood and misrepresented down here, but I know how it is going to end up. The end – my hope (Titus 1:2); the end of my journey (Romans 6:22)

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according to God himself is eternal life. Come on, that's something to be excited about. Bible says in verse 23, ***But the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord***

You could say, "God, I have nothing – but here I am. This isn't a mask, it's just me; just give me what you will." He will just drop eternal life on you. That's what He said, ***"the gift of God is eternal life."*** You don't pay for it. You don't earn it. You don't buy it. You just show up and say, "I want what you're giving out" and God gives eternal life. It really is that simple.

Religion complicates it. Our pride complicates it. Our interest in feeling like I did something to earn salvation complicates it; it's not complicated. Bible says it's a gift. ***The gift of God is eternal life.*** Eternity is a long time, eternal life. That's what we're talking about here. We're talking about eternal life, better than eternal damnation.

John 3:36 says, ***He that believeth in the Son hath everlasting life:*** Hath means "you have it right now." Now you know who Jesus is. If you have grown up in America you know who He is. You have heard about Him all your life. You know that the Bible says He died on the cross and you really do not have any objection to that or you would not be taking this Bible Correspondence Course, you are pretty sure that He must have risen from the dead or something pretty great. Here is all this information with the facts that you have about Jesus. Even though you have the facts you are not resting on them.

Let's take a chair for example. It has legs a seat and it seems pretty firm; I believe that it would hold me. But it is not holding me, because I am not sitting on it. Yet I'm convinced by the experience of others that it would hold me because I've seen it hold them, but it's not holding me. I can say, "I believe in that chair. I believe that is a chair. I believe that this chair would hold me because I have seen other people sitting in it. But all I'm doing is believing IN. (James 2:19) I'm about to believe ON IT. That is the exercise of my faith and my intellectual understanding. A lot of people believe in Jesus; but they are just standing there looking at the facts. They have never exercised faith in the information and rested their eternal soul on the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible says, if you believe on Him; just don't know about Him. Set your soul upon Him. Trust Him to carry you into eternal life.

Now look at the contrast. Verse 36, ***and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*** God's wrath abides on you even after you leave this body. For what crime? What offense? Not for any crime; not for any offense, because all crimes and all offenses could be forgiven. God's wrath abides on those in Hell right now. God's wrath abides on those who will enter hell today, for one reason, they did not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Everything else, Mark said, could be forgiven. You could say, "I don't think I'm going to hell because I've never done this and I've never done that." You don't go to hell for doing bad things. You go to hell for failing to do one good thing, trusting Jesus.

Now think about something. When people get up and go to church, they are looking for some hope and looking for some joy. Last time they went to church they heard God wants to make them rich; most of those people were disappointed, so they will not go to church this week. Some will hear God wants to heal you and most of them will go home disappointed, because they do not get healed. The Gospel that we have to proclaim may not fix your finances, your health, or your social condition. But when you leave this world, which is going to pretty quick in the vast scheme of things, you can have eternal life. Now, that is a pretty good deal because you are not going to be here forever. You are going to be in heaven forever, or you are going to be in hell forever. You will either be living forever or under **damnation** forever. There's one of those words again, you see. God doesn't damn furniture, appliances, automobiles, or jobs. The world throws that word around like it is a dirty word; it is not a dirty word. It is a holy righteous word from the Bible; God pronounces damnation on people, who do not receive His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. It's not a curse word to throw around. It is a very serious holy word of warning.

You may hear that from people; and when they get really, really, really get mad at somebody, they never tell them to go to Sheol, Hades, or just go be annihilated?" What is it in the depths of a human heart that causes a man or a woman in the hour of their greatest anger, when

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they want a person to suffer, the greatest suffering possible, they want to damn that person to hell, without any theological training at all. How is it that person knows that from the depths of their soul? Because it's such a serious matter.

John 10:27, *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them and they follow me; And I give unto them eternal life* (See it is a gift) *And they shall* (shall means future) *I give* (This means present tense.) *and they shall* (Future tense – because of receiving that gift.) *they shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them out of hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one.* This is great news for you. You have nothing to offer you will never have anything to offer God, all you have to do is just come to God, and say that you do not want to receive eternal damnation and that you would like to have eternal life. If you just trust in God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, God said, I tell you what, not only will I give you eternal life, I will take you and make you a part of me, plus I will give you my guarantee you will never perish!

Now there has to be life beyond your time in this body or God could not make these statements. The word "eternal" is used 47 times in your Bible. John 17:1, *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou has given him.* There is not much good to say about our flesh. It is not very strong and it is not very useful. It is certainly not permanent. It is wearing out and falling apart. But Jesus Christ said that His Father gave Him power to step in and give you something that would over-ride, what your flesh is going to eventually do, it is going to die. You will see death working in you daily. It has a hold of you; it's dragging you down; it is going to get you. Oh, you may break the hold three or four times, but sooner or later, it's going to pin you! Jesus steps on the scene and says, "Yeah, tell you what I do. I have something more powerful than the effects of sin working in your body of flesh. I can give you eternal life. Leave that body and step on up here with me."

Verse 3 says, *And this is* (this is; - present tense) - I'm not waiting to go into Heaven to get eternal life, I have it now. *This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.* That is so simple.

Isn't it amazing, all you have heard about rituals, sacraments, joining, baptizing, quitting, starting, doing and not doing; isn't it amazing Jesus said "here is what I want. I just want you to come and hold out your hand and say "I'm a sinner, needing eternal life." Then Jesus Christ will hold out His hands and say "I am the Saviour, glad to meet you." It is that simple! I go to funerals, church services, religious activities and I watch ministers struggle to tell people what the Gospel really is, because it is so simple, they themselves could not understand it. In the back of their mind, they are thinking, "I have to come up with some deep impressive theological way to say this, because it cannot be as simple as written in the Bible." Thank God, it is that simple!

"I give unto them eternal life..."; "and they should never perish..."; "the gift of God is eternal life..."; "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten son..." It's that simple!

Let there be no regrets. Therefore, consider eternal life and eternal damnation; the word "eternal" defined by the Bible as "everlasting," it lasts forever. If you just sit tight and do nothing, you will end up in eternal damnation. If you will humble yourself and trust Jesus as your Saviour, He will give you, right now, eternal life. How could you not choose eternal life? Do not say that you will think about it. Are you going to think about hell instead of heaven? Damnation, instead of blessing? Torment and suffering instead of joy? What is there to think about? The Bible says, "Believe on! Believe on!" The only hindrance of believing is "unbelief." To believe is to trust.

Notes

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Heaven and Hell**Lesson 5**

Name _____

1. Why is it so important that born again people hear these truths about eternal life and eternal damnation?
2. How many times is the word “eternal” used in the Bible?
3. What is the definition of the word “eternal” according to the Bible?
4.
 - a. If you just sit tight and do nothing, what will happen to you?
 - b. If you humble yourself and trust Jesus Christ, what will happen to you?
5. What does “hath” mean as it is used in John 3:36?
6. Why can't we pay for, earn, or buy salvation?
7. Name the two words that people use as curse words that should not be said because of the serious warning from God's holy word?
8. What is the difference in believing IN something and believing ON something?
9. According to this lesson, what is “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness” referring to?
10. Why are people counting on for God to lie?

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11. Explain Numbers 23:19.

12. According to the Bible, what is the only way out of eternal death and into eternal life?

True/false

- Eternal life is better than eternal damnation?
- You will go to hell for failing to do one good thing that is trusting in Jesus?
- When you leave this world (or when you die) you will step out into eternity?
- We as Christians have something worth proclaiming to this lost and dying world?
- God does not have the capacity to lie?



Scripture memorization (write these verses out on the back of this page) must be in KJV. Titus 1:2; Romans 6:22; John 3:36; John 10:27

any questions?