God's loving Gifts are truly for our well-being, both in this present world and in the one to come!

One of God's Gifts is revealed in Romans and in 1John:

- The wages of sin is death; but the GIFT of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23)
- And this is the record, that **God has** given to us Eternal Life, and this Life is in His Son. (1John 5:11)

As these verses teach, if we are interested in having the GIFT of Eternal Life (Everlasting, Forever, Never-ending Life), then we must seek it through God's Son, **the Lord Jesus Christ**, who died for our sins and rose from the dead for our justification (Romans 4:24-25).

The earnest seeking for the Gift of Eternal Life begins with our own sincere personal prayers to the LORD and the reading of the spiritual wisdom and truths found in the pages of the Bible.

IF we want to **enter into God's Eternal Heavenly Kingdom** and avoid the misery of eternal separation from God, then we must talk to God personally, in the name of His Son. We must approach God personally, in prayer, and tell Him out loud that we want to know His Truth and His Ways.

Prayer

Here's a suggested prayer that may help you know what to say to God:

Dear God, I want to know the Way to Eternal Life. I ask You to show me, teach me how to turn to You and do what pleases You. I ask You to come into my life and help me turn away from sin. Please bring me into Your Eternal Kingdom, and make me Your child. In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

Abundant LIFE

God is calling to you! By His Holy Spirit, He is right beside you saying: "Come!" He rejoices whenever a soul comes to Him and receives Jesus Christ!

The Way to Eternal Life is open! Talk to God! He loves those who trust Him and He is very near to honest seekers!

The GIFT of Eternal (Everlasting) LIFE that God offers through His Son is what Christ Jesus calls **Abundant Life**:

• Jesus said unto them,... The thief (the devil) comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly! (Life that is superior, vigorous, joyful, glorious). (John 10:10; see also Romans 2:6-7)

For some, Eternal Life begins on the appointed **Day** when Jesus Christ sends His angels to "gather together His Elect from the four winds, from one end of Heaven to the other" (Matt. 24:30-31)

May you and I be among God's gathered Elect – His Favored Ones! Such a Gathering is a BIG reason why Eternal Life is so special!!!

• Jesus said, "I am The Way, The Truth, The Life: no one comes to the Father (God), but by Me." (John 14:6)

This message is written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and by believing you may have LIFE through His Name.

"I want to know one thing – **the Way** to Heaven, to Eternal Life! God came down from Heaven to teach us **the Way**! He has written it in a Book. Give me that Book! At any price, give me that Book (the Bible)!"

See the "Good News" article at https://coldwaterstoathirstysoul.wordpress.com



What's So Special About Eternal Life?

Thanks to the Internet, all of us are aware of the things that go on in this world. Sadly, much of what goes on in this world is corrupt and perverse. As many of us know, this world is full of unrestrained sin. Troubling also is that the righteous ones are often the target of persecution, ridicule, and are denied justice!

It is obvious that few people are interested in living according to righteous standards. Multitudes focus on the world's enticements, embracing the very real passions of 'carpe diem' – looking only to the 'pleasures of the moment'. But such enticements eventually lead down into the dark and wicked realm of Satan: The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble (Proverbs 4:10).

Many do not know that our lifetime on this earth is a preparation for our immortal, spiritual lifetime in Eternity! Our very brief life on this earth is a valuable time of training for <u>every</u> soul for the eventual life-after-death!

Few are seeking to prepare themselves for Eternity – preparing for their life on the other side of death – preparing for something that is eternal (forever). Many think this present world is all there is, therefore they have no interest in preparing for that which **is** to come. Their focus is with this present lifetime – the things of this world.

None of Us Are Exempt

NONE OF US are exempt from giving in to the 'pleasures of the moment'. ALL of us have had moments of no concern whatsoever for the future, not caring one whit about consequences.

But, some have learned the hard way and have come to our senses. We have realized there is more to this present, earthly lifetime!! There is more than what appears on the surface. We have begun to awaken from spiritual darkness. We have begun to 'see' with spiritual understanding the invisible things of the Heavenly Kingdom.

No one really likes to think about their death, much less talk about it! And no one knows the hour of their death. But there is no escaping the inescapable! However, many put off the care of their soul, thinking there is no need. Yet, if we do not care about our spiritual condition **now**, then most assuredly we will care about it at the moment of our death. But then, it will be too late!

So let's ask: What IS so special about Eternal Life?

Eternal Life, also known as Everlasting Life, is a topic in the Bible. Since the Bible is such an important book, it would be good to look at what it says about Eternal Life (forever life).

Here are two verses in the Gospel of John where Eternal (Everlasting) Life is **contrasted** with something:

• For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son (Jesus

Christ), that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life. — He that believes on the Son has Everlasting Life: and he that believes not the Son shall not see Life; but the Wrath of God abides on him. (John 3:16 & 36)

Do you see what is **contrasted** with Everlasting Life?

There is either Everlasting Life <u>OR</u> there is Perishing and The Wrath of God.

Here is another Bible verse that **contrasts** Eternal (Everlasting) Life with something:

• And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth (the dead) shall awake, some to **Everlasting Life**, and some to shame and **Everlasting Contempt**. (Daniel 12:2)

The **contrast** here is either Everlasting Life <u>OR</u> Everlasting Contempt (abhorrence, disgust).

Choices

We CAN choose whichever option we desire. Would you like to choose This One or That One?

One choice will require the effort of searching, with the promise of 'great reward' as we see in Psalms 19:11. The other choice will require nothing – just keep on with the aimless drifting, being a casual spectator.

The LORD God of Heaven advises us, urges us, warns us to **Choose LIFE!** (see Deuteronomy 30:15,19; see also Luke 10:38-42)

The Spiritually-Minded

There is much more information about Eternal (Everlasting) Life in the Bible than what is presented here! If you do your own search, you will find that the

Apostle John wrote most frequently about Everlasting Life, also known as Eternal Life

Additionally, the Bible has much to say on the topics of Heaven and Hell – topics that have to do with the spiritual realm of Eternity. In the Bible, the word 'heaven' appears 583 times, and the word 'hell' appears 54 times.

But these topics are of interest only to the spiritually-minded. The spirituallyminded have learned a **Biblical principle**: that each one of us is a spirit, we have a soul, and we live in a body.

The spiritually-minded recognize the inner longing for Eternity within their spirit. This is why the spiritually-minded look beyond the things that are seen. They are interested in the invisible things of the Kingdom of Heaven – the things that are 'not seen'.

- Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. (Hebrews 11:1,3).
- God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

One Last Thought

The Bible tells us repeatedly that our Creator, the Eternal KING, the LORD God of Heaven, who inhabits Eternity (Isaiah 57:15a) – **He is good**, gracious, merciful, righteous, holy, and truthful!

Because of the LORD's good and loving nature, He has many GIFTS for those who love Him and try their best to obey His Word, the Bible (1Corinthians 2:9).