

Is Eternal Life Enough For You?

I. Introduction:

A. First century saints were told: *“And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life”* (**I John 2:25**).

1. The hope is laid up in Heaven (**Colossians 1:3-6**).
2. That promise is older than the earth (**Titus 1:1-3**).

B. The saints in Ephesus were told that the blessings they had were spiritual, in Heavenly places (**Ephesians 1:3-4**; cf. **Ephesians 1:19-2:7**; **3:4-6**).

1. In instructions about slaves and masters, there was a statement made about being *“partakers of the benefit”* (**I Timothy 6:1-2**; cf. **I Peter 5:1**).
2. Just remember the “if” (**Hebrews 3:1**; **3:12-14**).

II. Body: At The End, For The Faithful, Eternal Life Is It (**Romans 6:21-23**).

A. Yet, there is certainly the problem of those who think there is something more valuable than eternal life (**Mark 8:34-38**). **Looked at Matthew’s account in last week’s lesson (**Matthew 16:24-27**).*

1. For this reason, MANY choose to fatally set their minds on earthly things (**Philippians 3:18-19**).
2. Think about what Jesus said to those who followed Him to get food (**John 6:26-27**).

B. Some move with fear (**Exodus 14:31**), but that doesn’t sustain faithfulness (**Exodus 15:23-24**, **Exodus 16:1-2**, and **Exodus 17:1-3**).

1. It is certainly wise to avoid Hell [Sheol/Hades in this verse] (**Proverbs 15:24**).
2. Yet, if you’re ONLY running from something you're not necessarily running to something. Consider Israel’s paralyzing fear that kept them from the will of God and their inheritance (**Deuteronomy 1:19-38**).

C. Our relationship with God has to be our motivation (**II Corinthians 6:14-18** and **Revelation 21:7**).

1. In the here and now we don’t want to live in a manner that causes our Father grief as others have in the past (**Genesis 6:5-6**, **Psalms 78:36-40**, and **Isaiah 63:7-10**).
2. We need to be motivated by hope of the there and then, to be with our Father (**I John 3:1-3**).
3. Though the point is carnal, think about **Proverbs 28:7** with our spiritual Father (cf. **Romans 2:17-24**).
4. A relationship that may have started with some fear (**Psalms 111:10**, **Proverbs 1:7**, and **Proverbs 9:10**) and still has a place for fear (**Philippians 2:12**), but has to have grown to be rooted in love (**Ephesians 3:17-19**).

D. I do NOT intend to imply that there are no other benefits for saints than getting to Heaven. There is much to be thankful for, even for us in this world, that is unique to being a child of God that we don't want to forget (cf. **Psalms 103:2**).

1. We have a Father that doesn't leave us (**Hebrews 13:5-6**).
2. In addition to having a Father, we have a family (**Ephesians 3:15**).
3. We have peace that is beyond physical comprehension (**Philippians 4:7** and **Colossians 3:15**).
4. No matter our past, we can know we are washed (**I Corinthians 6:9-11**).
5. We have a clear conscience from the things we have sinfully done in the past after our proper conversion (**Hebrews 10:22**).
6. We have a revealed wisdom that is pure, peaceable, etc. (**Proverbs 2:1-12** and **James 3:13-18**).
7. We are partakers of the divine nature (**II Peter 1:3-4**; cf. **Ephesians 5:1-2**).
8. An otherworldly citizenship [conversation] and the promise of better clothing (**Philippians 3:20-21**).
9. And on we could go...

III. Conclusion: The Offer Is Amazing (**Revelation 3:21**). Is it enough for you?