Eternal Life — A Present Possession

Tony Mauck · John 5:24

INTRODUCTION

- There is a very real sense in which we inhabit Zion as the Lord's people already.
- It has everything to do with the message you're going to hear tonight about eternal life.

1 With You Is the Fountain of Life

Psalm 36:9; Luke 7:11–17

- For with you is the fountain of life.
- The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may avoid the snares of death.
- Certainly it testifies to our Creator as the giver of life and also the sustainer of life.

2 Do You Possess Eternal Life?

John 5:24; Ephesians 2:1; 2 Timothy 4:8

- Hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life. And does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death and into life.
- As we embrace the life of faith, we are the possessors of eternal life. That implies that faith will be ongoing in our lives as a result.
- We have tasted life, and if our faith continues, it will eventuate in eternal life.

3 Passed Out of Death Because We Love the Brethren

1 John 3:13–18

- We know that we have passed out of death and into life because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.
- No murderer has eternal life abiding in him. So apparently, eternal life abiding in us is a possibility.
- Let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and truth.

4 John Is Providing Objective Tests

1 John 3:3; 1 John 4:16; 1 John 2:23–24

- He's going to give them some objective tests to determine the validity of their faith.
- One way to test the validity of your faith and whether eternal life is abiding in you is are you purifying yourself as Jesus is pure?
- There's a second test, and that's the social test. That is how you relate to others.
- The third test that gets repeated over and over, beginning in chapter 2 is the convictions test. And that is the things that you believe about Jesus.

5 None of These Tests Are Optional

1 John 5:13; 1 John 2:1–2

- None of these tests are optional.
- I write these things that you may know you have eternal life.
- I wonder if we give as much effort and attention and work to the social test.
- We tend to look at this test as the most optional of the three.

6 Abide in These Things Despite the Passing of Time

2 Peter 1:10

- We must continue in these things to evidence the eternal life that is in us.
- There is this one great big issue that affects all this. And it's simply the passing of time.
- I think sometimes we just get tired.
- As long as you abide in these things, eternal life is yours.

THE CHALLENGE

Is eternal life abiding in you? Have you embraced his salvation and this assurance?

MY NOTES