LORD." (Isaiah 66:22-23)

6. What marvellous promise does Jesus make to those who overcome the flesh, the world and the devil?

"To him who overcomes I will give to ______ from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the ______ of God." (Revelation 2:7)

7. Who only will have the right to eat from the tree of life? "Blessed are those who do His ______, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city." (Revelation 22:14)

Inheritors of Eternal Life

- For how many sins did Jesus Christ die?
 "And He Himself is the ______ for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the ______ world." (I John 2:2)
- 2. 2. If Jesus died to pay the price for the sins of the whole world, will everyone eventually be saved?

"For God so loved the ______ that He gave His only begotten Son, that ______ believes in Him should not ______ but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to ______ the world, but that the ______ through Him might be ______?" (John 3:16, 17)

3. According to Jesus, what is the essence of eternal life? "And this is ______ life, that they may_____ You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." (John 17:3)

KEYS TO THE MYSTERY OF LIFE & DEATH

CRACKING ORD God rpe ause thou tho ursed above erv beast of the elly shalt thou go, and of the shalt thou eat all the days of th had mad 15 And I will put enmity b nan. the thee and the woman, and bee cat o thy seed and her seed; it sha man OAC

SECRETS UNSEALED PRESENTS: "CRACKING THE GENESIS CODE"

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*Unless stated, All quoted verses are taken from the "New King James Version" (NKJV).

Genesis 2:7	Genesis 5	1 Corinthians 15:16-19
Isaiah 64:8	Genesis 11:10-32	John 14:1-3
Job 33:4	Psalm 90:10	I Corinthians 15:51-53
Genesis 9:4	Genesis 3:19	I Thessalonians 4:13-17
Genesis 12:5	Genesis 3:21	Psalm 30:3
Genesis 14:21	I Peter 1:18-20	John 11:25, 26
Genesis 35:18	II Timothy 1:10	John 6:40
Acts 7:14	Romans 6:23	Revelation 21:4
Matthew 16:26	I John 5:11, 12	Revelation 22:2
Luke 9:25	John 5:28, 29	Isaiah 66:22, 23
Matthew 2:20	Acts 7:60	Revelation 2:7
Genesis 2:9	Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10	Revelation 22:14
Genesis 2:17	Psalm 6:5	1 John 2:2
Genesis 3:22-24	Psalm 115:17	John 3:16
Genesis 3:19	Psalm 146:4	Mark 16:16
John 19:30	Psalm 104:29, 30	
Acts 12:23	Acts 2:29, 34	
Acts 5:10	Isaiah 33:18, 19	

Before resurrecting Lazarus, Jesus said the Martha: "I am the

_____ and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may ______, he _____ live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall ______ die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

NOTE: In John 6 Jesus already explained how we can have eternal life in the present and yet immortality in the **future**: "And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:40, see also 39, 44, 54)

The hope of the Christian in the New Testament is not centered on the immortality of the soul but on the resurrection from the dead. Think about it: If people go to heaven immediately when they die, why must Jesus come to get them when He comes again? The Bible teaches that those who have died in Christ remain in the tomb until Jesus comes to resurrect them at the second coming. (I Corinthians 15:20-23; I Thessalonians 4:15-17; John 5:28, 29)

3. What will not exist after sin has been eradicated from the universe?

"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more _____, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4)

4. What tree will be found in the New Jerusalem which existed in the Garden of Eden?

"In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of ______, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every ______." (Revelation 22:2)

5. How frequently will God's people come to the New Jerusalem to eat from the tree of life?

"For as the	heavens and the	e earth which I		
will make shall remain before Me," says the LORD, so shall your				
descendants and your name remain. And it shall come to pass that from				
one new	to another, and fr	com one to		
another, all flesh sha	ll come to	before Me, says the		

5. According to the apostle Paul, how much does eternal life cost us?

"For the wages of sin is ______, but the ______ of God

is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

NOTE: Sin is an equal opportunity employer. When we sin, we earn the wages of death. But salvation is not earned! It is a free gift! The giver of a gift must pay for it but the receiver must pay nothing. Jesus paid the price for our redemption by offering His life in place of ours. Now He offers us salvation as a gift and we must choose to accept it or reject it!

6. What do we possess as a present reality when we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour?

"And this is the testimony: that God given u		s eternal life, and
this life is in His	He who has the Son	life; he
who does not have the Son	of God does not have life."	(I John 5:11-12)

The Promise of Immortality

1. Is immortality a present possession or will it be received when Jesus comes?

"Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all ______, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be ______. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this ______ must put on ." (I Corinthians 15:51-53)

NOTE: This classic passage tells us **when** we shall put on immortality. It is not when we die but rather when Jesus comes at the last trump. The passage clearly indicates that we are **now** mortal and that we shall not receive immortality until Jesus comes again. If immortality must be put on when Jesus comes, then we don't have it now!

2. What relationship exists between present eternal life and future immortality?

"Keys to the Mystery of Life & Death" Lecture #15

We live in a world which has been overwhelmed by the occult. Hollywood movies, near death experiences, angel apparitions, channelers, astrologers, and New Ager mystics, all beckon us to believe that there is life immediately after death. But how does this view square with what is taught in the Bible? Does the Bible teach such a view or are we to look in another direction? In this lesson we will examine the mystery of life and death and allow the Bible to provide answers to our questions.

The Nuts and Bolts of Man

Of which earthly substance is man's physical nature composed?
 "And the LORD God formed man of the ______ of the

ground..." (Genesis 2:7) (Dust and Breath = Soul)

NOTE: Note: Isaiah 64:8 amplifies Genesis 2:7: "But now, O LORD, You are our Father, we are the clay, and You our Potter; and all we are the work of Your hand." When Adam sinned he was told by God: "Dust you are and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). Ecclesiastes 12:7 explains what happens with the body when man dies: "Then the dust will return to the earth as it was..." Man's physical body is composed of the dust of the ground.

2. What did God do after he created man's body out of the dust of the ground?

"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and

_____ into his ______ the breath of life; and man

became a living being." (Genesis 2:7)

NOTE: The breath of life is the energizing force which gives the body the capacity to function. The breath of life was placed in Adam's nostrils and the nostrils are used to breathe. In the Hebrew language there are two words which are used synonymously to describe the breath of life: neshamah and ruach. The word neshamah (used in Genesis 2:7) is generally translated "breath" while the word ruach is most frequently translated "spirit".

Notice how these two words are used synonymously in Job 27:3 and 33:4: "As long as my breath [neshamah] is in me, the breath [ruach] of God is in my nostrils... The Spirit [ruach] of God has made me, and the breath [neshamah] of the Almighty gives me life." It is noteworthy that both the spirit and the breath are spoken of as being in the nostrils. When a man dies his spirit returns to God who gave it (Ecclesiastes 12:7). This simply means a person ceases to breathe.

Read the following verse for further study: Psalm 104:29; 135:17; 146:4; Lamentations 4:20 where ruach is used and Job 34:14; Isaiah 42:5 where neshamah is used.

3. What did man become after God formed him out of the dust of the ground and gave him the breath of life?

"And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man ______ a living ." (Genesis 2:7)

NOTE: The word "being" here is the Hebrew word nephesh. The word "soul" is frequently misunderstood in the Christian world. It is commonly thought that the soul is man's alter ego, a part of man, the real self, living within man. But please underline the fact that according to Genesis 2:7, man was not given a soul. Man does not **have** a soul but rather **is** a soul in his totality!

The word nephesh is variously translated in the New King James Old Testament. Most frequently it is translated "life" (Genesis 32:30; Exodus 4:19; Leviticus 17:11; Ruth 4:15; I Samuel 20:1; 28:9; I Kings 1:12; 19:10, 14; Esther 7:7; Job 2:6; 12:10; Psalm 40:14; Jonah 4:3) and "soul" (Leviticus 16:29; Psalm 23:3; 30:3; 33:19; 116:8; 49:15; 56:13; 119:25; Ezekiel 18:4, 20; Isaiah 53:10-12). Often it is translated "persons" or "people" (Genesis 12:5; 14:21; 36:6; 46:26; Leviticus 5:2; 7:20-21; Numbers 31:40; Joshua 10: 28, 30, 32, 35, 37, 39; I Samuel 22:22). Less frequently it is translated with personal pronouns such as "me" (Psalm 22:20) and "yourselves" (Exodus 30:15) Once it is even translated, "being" (Numbers 11:6). Practically, every time the word is translated "soul," it would make perfect sense to translate it "life" instead!

The New Testament word for "soul" is psyche. In harmony with Old Testament usage of the word nephesh, the word psyche (in the New King James) is most frequently translated "soul" or "life". Less frequently it is translated "person". Once it is even translated as "living _, and clothed them." (Genesis 3:21)

NOTE: Adam and Eve should have died that very day. The reason why they didn't is because animals were

sacrificed in their place. Obviously, the blood of those animals could not really remove their sin because

the "blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sin." (Hebrew 10:4) But the sacrifice of those animals in the

Garden of Eden represented the fact that Jesus offered His life that very day as a ransom for sinners.

3. What was represented by the death of the animals in Genesis 3:21?

" knowing that you were not redeemed with		things,
like silver or gold, from your aimless		_ received by
tradition from your fat	hers, but with the precious	of
Christ, as of a	without blemish	and without spot. He
indeed was	before the foundation of	f the world, but was
in	these last times for you" (I	Peter 1:18-20)

NOTE: Though Jesus did not actually die that day that Adam and Eve sinned, He did promise to come to this earth in the future to die in the place of man. The **plan** for humanity's salvation was laid before the foundation of the world but it was **implemented** when Jesus became incarnate.

4. What did Jesus do when He came to this earth and died for our sins?

"God's own purpose which was hidden since before time began 'has now

been revealed by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who has

_____ death and brought life and ______ to light

through the gospel..." (II Timothy 1:10)

NOTE: It is rather obvious that if Jesus brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, then we don't posses life and immortality within ourselves. That is to say, our source of life and immortality is found in Christ, not in an immortal soul! **Think about it:** If man is by nature immortal, why would Jesus have to die in order to give him what he already possesses?

NOTE: Those who lived after the flood were further removed from the pristine vital energy which Adam and Eve possessed. Their battery was discharging and they no longer had access to the charger—the tree of life! Furthermore, they lived in a charged environment. Disease became more prevalent and intemperance depleted the life forces.

8. According to David, how long is the life span of people today?

"The days of our lives are ______ years; and if by reason of strength they are ______ years; yet their boast is only labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." (Psalm 90:10)

NOTE: The life span has decreased from nine hundred plus years before the flood to seventy or eighty today. Today due to the advances in medical science and the emphasis on healthy living, the battery of man is somewhat preserved. But without access to the tree of life the human race would in time cease to exist. A renowned Bible expositor puts it this way:

"In order to possess an endless existence, man must continue to partake of the tree of life. Deprived of this, his vitality would gradually diminish until life should become extinct. It was Satan's plan that Adam and Eve should by disobedience incur God's displeasure; and then, if they failed to obtain forgiveness, he hoped that they would eat of the tree of life, and thus perpetuate an existence of sin and misery. But after man's fall, holy angels were immediately commissioned to guard the tree of life. Around these angels flashed beams of light having the appearance of a glittering sword. None of the family of Adam were permitted to pass the barrier to partake of the life-giving fruit; hence there is not an immortal sinner." (Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 60)

The Guarantee of Eternal Life

1. According to God, when would man die if he ate from the forbidden tree?

"... but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the that you eat of it you shall surely die."

(Genesis 2:17)

2. Why didn't Adam and Eve die the very day they sinned?

"Also ______ Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of

creatures" (Revelation 16:3). Significantly, every time the word psyche is translated "soul", the word "life" or "person" would fit equally as well. Psyche is translated "persons" in Acts 7:14; 27:37), "soul" in Matthew 16:26; 26:38; Luke 12:19-20; Acts 2:41; 2:27, 31, 43; 3:23; Romans 13:1; I Peter 3:20), and "life" in Matthew 2:20; 10:39; 20:28; Mark 3:4; John 10:11, 15, 17; 13:37; 15:13; Acts 20:24; Romans 11:3; 16:4; Philippians 2:30).

A comparison of Matthew 16:26 and Luke 9:25 clearly indicates that the word "soul" is also interchangeable with the personal pronoun "himself".

The Perpetuation of Life

- Which two special trees did God place in the Garden of Eden?
 "And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of ______ was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the ______ of good and evil." (Genesis 2:9)
- 2. Read Genesis 3:22-24 and then answer the following question: Was man created with innate, inherent immortality or did he have to regularly eat from the tree of life in order to continue living?

NOTE: The source of man's life was not inside himself but rather outside in the tree of life. Man had to partake of this tree on a regular basis in order to continue living. So to speak, man was given a rechargeable battery which needed to be recharged regularly at the tree of life. We shall later see in our study that even in the new earth we will have to continually eat from the tree of life in order to continue living.

3. According to God, what would happen if man ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?

"And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the

garden you may ______ eat; but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the ______ that you eat of it you shall surely ______." (Genesis 2:16-17)

4. What blatant lie did the serpent tell Eve as she lingered under the forbidden tree?

"Then the serpent said to the woman, 'You will ______ surely die."" (Genesis 3:4)

The Inception of Death

- What did Adam and Eve do in open defiance of God's command?
 "So when the woman _______ that the tree was good for food, that it was _______ to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one _______, she took of its fruit and ______. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate." (Genesis 3:6)
- 2. What did God tell Adam after he chose to sin?

"For _____ you are, and to dust you shall _____." (Genesis 3:19)

3. According to Genesis 2:17, when would Adam and Eve die if they ate from the forbidden tree?

"... for in the ______ that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:17)

4. What did God do in order to prevent Adam and Eve from eating of the tree of Life?

"So He drove out the man; and He placed ______ at the east of the Garden of Eden, and a flaming ______ which turned every way, to ______ the way to the tree of life." (Genesis 3:24) **NOTE**: If man already possessed natural immortality, what good would it have been for God to keep him from eating the fruit of the tree of life? The fact that man had to continue eating from the tree of life in order to continue living proves that man was not created inherently immortal.

5. Read Genesis 5:5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 27, 31; 9:29. What did all these righteous heroes have in common?

They all_____.

NOTE: The veracity of God's word was proved true: "The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23) Barred from the tree of life, human beings lived a certain number of years and then died.

6. What impresses you about the life span of those who lived before the flood (see Genesis 5)? What do you think is one reason they lived so long?

NOTE: Adam and Eve had a fully charged battery and they transmitted their pristine energy to their immediate descendants. This is the main reason why the people before the flood had such long life spans. But without access to the tree of life, even Adam's battery ran out at the age of nine hundred and thirty (Genesis 5:5).

7. What happened to the life span of those who lived after the flood? (Make a list with their ages in parentheses, Genesis 11)