

*"For the WAGES (justly earned reimbursement) of sin is DEATH; but **The GIFT Of God Is Eternal Life** through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23 KJV*

As much as we dread it, death is inevitable for all; from plant to pet to parent to child; we all will experience the sorrow of that separation. How we wish we could stay the Reaper's hand! I remember once in the Amazon, an injured beautiful tiny iridescent blue bird was given to me. I nursed it best I could, but it died and my heart ached all day! Death is the absence of or separation from life. When human life ends without God, eternal death begins. Adam condemned humanity when he doubted God by believing Satan's lie, "*Ye shall not surely die!*" Believing a lie makes you an unbeliever. Whether you are Satan deceived, man deceived, or self-deceived, unbelief bars you from Eternal Life! "*He that believeth on [Jesus] 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." Those who blindly trust a lie only have this mortal life to rectify their error. It is no secret what God can do, because "*the heavens declare the Glory of God and the firmament sheweth His Handywork. That which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath Shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of Him from the Creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His Eternal Power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.*" The Holy Writ tells us that vanity and pride blind men to the plain Truth that surrounds them. "*Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the Glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.*" Men's vanity turns them from the displayed Glory of God to their own devices; worshipping what they can acquire, make, or imagine; idols, possessions, pleasure, and power. Some worship hate, torturing and killing; lying to themselves and the world that they do it for God, to justify their atrocities! Those plotting in secret to rule the earth are no less pagan; slaves to power assumed their own when a thought from Eternity's Sovereign would snuff them like a candle! Without God, men will worship lust and "*the end thereof are the ways of death.*" Those who fix their faith on Jesus; Guided by the "*Spirit of Truth;*" (believing and obeying the Truth) will walk in the Light of God's Word and be freed from death and sin forever! "*Where the Spirit of the LORD is; there is Liberty! If the Son shall Make you Free, ye shall be Free indeed! Stand fast therefore in the Liberty wherewith Christ hath Made us Free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*" God wants those He Loves to live forever: To never be separated from them!

The gift provided by God's Love,
Comes only from our LORD above,
It gives to men eternal breath,
Forever freed from sin and death! –CGP

No one walks into prison and asks to be chained, but men who deny Jesus, allow deceit to chain them to their own vanity and pride! Like the blind men and the elephant, each is convinced in his own mind of the certainty of his statements but is plainly in error to those with sight! Hell is full of sincere people! You need look no further than those who blow themselves up to harm others because they vainly deceive themselves into believing that they can gain an eternity of lustful pleasures! If you know God through faith in His Word you live in the glorious Liberty of Eternal Life. Jesus grants Eternal Life to His Own. He is the Truth. God's Word is Truth! Do you believe in Him?

"But as many as received Him (Jesus, the Word made flesh), to them Gave He Power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name." John 1:12 KJV