

Stewardship

We see three types of people in our lives. The first is the kind of person who contributes to history, society, and humankind. The second type, on the contrary, is the kind of person of whom we can only say it would have been better if he had never existed. The third type is the kind of person who is, on the whole, just an ordinary person.

Generally we think we understand our lives, but as we grow older we come to know ourselves better through our own experiences and through the people to whom we are attached.

What is the color of our lives – blue, or red? How much weight is there in our lives? Each is different. One is fat and the other is skinny. Where is the center of life located? In the head, in the chest, or in the whole body?

At any rate, we do not know many things about our lives. But we are astonished and filled with wonder at the power of life.

Usually we say that life is mine: this is my life. However, we were not able to choose to be born. Therefore we cannot possess life. This life does not belong to me. I could not give my life to my parents even if they were in a critical condition. Life cannot be transferred from one person to another.

We do not know the time limits of our earthly lives. No matter how much we love someone, we are not able to accompany them into the next life when they return to God. That's why we doubt whether we are truly the masters of our own lives.

Where do we come from, and where are we going to? Nobody knows clearly. Even though science has made great advances in studying the essence of life, it cannot answer these basic questions. Even though I am not a scientist, I can tell you one thing: the conclusions that science has drawn concerning life cannot clearly explain the essence of life itself. Science only explains the medium through which life is expressed.

God is the master of our lives and He is also the essence of our lives.

When you go to Washington, D.C. and see the White House, you can observe what kind of material it is made of. Then can you say that you know everything about the White House? That is wrong. We do not know what happens in the White House by looking at the materials.

The life sciences have developed greatly, leading people to think that some clear conclusions have been reached. But we do not understand the essence of life at all. It is still so far away.

Stewardship of life

We cannot remain forever on the earth. According to the Bible, God blew His Spirit into the nose of a man and he became a living soul. This is the origin of our true life. So true life does not come from the mother's womb; the womb just delivers the body. Also, after the body dies, we cannot bury the spirit (Ecclesiastes 12:7).

Therefore man is only the steward of true life on the earth. The responsibility of the steward is to follow the desires of the owner and take good care of the gift which has been given him to manage.

Accordingly we should take good care of our life, to realize God's desire. Life is intended to have great breadth and scope. Therefore the trustees who truly honor life should help their neighborhood and the larger world around them.

This law is spread throughout the universe. When your body is alive it is soft and flexible. But when it dies it becomes hard and stiff. From this we can realize that harmony and unity is the objective of life.

Since our lives belong eternally to God, we should strive to make harmony and take good care of our lives. Then our lives have great value.

Our lives are unlimited, because God has dominion over our lives throughout eternity. We go beyond space and time, into infinity.

We should live so that life itself will be eternally free. That is the supreme stewardship of our true life.

How can we find the key to the growth of our true life? A plant needs light, water, and nutrition. Love and truth are the essence of life. These are the keys which can make our true life grow. Truth is like water and love is like light.

If love did not exist, then life would become polluted, and would perish. Our lives can be fresh only because of love and truth. By these, life is constantly refreshed, and blossoms with beautiful flowers and bears fruit.

If you look at a flower that is rooted in the ground and one that someone has just picked, they look the same. But after a while they look very different. The life rooted deeply in love and truth will remain fresh throughout eternity.

If we become a great steward for our true life which has been given to us by God, we are able to go to the eternal world with our true life.

We can look at some examples. When Jesus ascended the Mount of Transfiguration with his followers (2 Corinthians 12), Moses appeared in front of them. Also we can study Paul's experience as recorded in 2 Corinthians 12. Through these examples, we can understand that the real essence of life is the spiritual body. It is not a false image of the soul. It is actually our true body.

Who can we call the greatest steward of life? The one who prepares for going to the eternal spiritual world. This means the trustee who most nobly honors life is the one who tries to perfectly prepare for the world of eternity.