

What Is Life About?

by Wayne Goff

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from each one of us" (**Acts 17:27, NASB95**). We have been assured of the blessings of life regardless of our performance, at least to some degree, for the New Testament says, *"who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness"* (**Acts 14:16-17**). Also God has sent His Son to the earth to live a perfect example for us so that we would know how to act, and His Son even paid our previous debts for us so that we would not be overburdened with the responsibilities of our errors. And finally, there will be a day of reckoning for each one of us so that we can give an account of our lives. *"Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead"* (**Acts 17:30-31**).

There are people in the world who learn these truths and responsibly perform their duties before God. They are religious, considerate of God and their fellow humans, and they work hard to do those things which are pleasing to the Lord. These are the "Bobs" of our parable. And in the end, because they have been forgiven of their errors through the blood of Christ, and have otherwise been faithful throughout their earthly sojourn, they receive a permanent reward. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,"* (**1 Peter 1:3-4**). See also **1 Peter 1:15-21**.

Sadly though, most people in the world are "Joes." They either neglect to hear or refuse to believe that there is something beyond this "60-day trial" called life. They do not view their responsibilities in life too seriously, and they certainly have no desire to please **someone else** while they are living "the only life they have!" When preachers and conscientious "Bobs" tell them that they are presently living in a trial period, and that they will be judged for permanent residency with God based upon their actions, the warning falls on deaf ears. They are too busy, or too preoccupied with getting what they want out of life here and now or they simply refuse to believe what they are being told. For these reasons, the Bible plainly states: *"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it"* (**Matthew 7:13-14, NASB95**).

What About You?

Beloved friends, what about you? How do you view *your life*? Are you simply living life to please yourself and those you love, or are you living life on a higher plane, seeking the God Who made you that you might love Him and please Him in every way? Each of us makes our own choices in life, both in how we choose to view life and the decisions we make every day. May God give you the wisdom and foresight to see the best life to live — by faith, before God, in obedience to His loving will.

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