

## **Names of God from the Bible**

### **22 – The Life**

*When Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life”, He was deliberately using the eternal Name of God. When God created Adam, Adam had a lifeless body until God breathed into him the Breath of Life.*

#### **Reading: John 14:1-14**

One of the most incredible facts of creation is that we cannot replicate life. We still marvel at the fact that a seed falls into the ground and dies before it springs into life. We can have a seed lying on the shelf at home and it will remain a seed. However, if we plant it in the earth and water it, after a while a shoot appears and grows into a plant.

I remember years ago seeing the title of a T.V. programme – *The Baby-makers*. It was about the rise of surrogate motherhood. The problem was that the makers of the programme overlooked the fact that we do not make babies – only God can. Every baby, regardless of its human origin, has been made by God. He alone is the giver and sustainer of life.

We may be very clever and discover amazing advances in the scientific realm, however, we must never forget that God is the source of all life. Once we become arrogant and delude ourselves that we control life and are its source, we open ourselves to the most horrendous possibilities of evil.

The fact that God is the baby-maker makes every baby and every unborn child's life priceless. No matter the circumstances of conception, God has created the baby and 'written its destiny' in Heaven. We are merely custodians, trustees of the priceless gift that God has entrusted to us. It is not ours to own, control or treat with contempt. God has made it and breathed into it the breath of life – something that we are totally incapable of doing, despite our intelligence and scientific discovery.

However, not only is God the author of life, He is also the author of abundant life. Most of us only scratch the surface of the destiny God has designed for us. Unless we surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, we will never know the life God ordained for us to enjoy.

It starts at the Cross of Jesus Christ. I surrender my arrogance, selfishness, independence and self-centredness. I confess my sinfulness and ask for His forgiveness. I accept His substitutionary death for me. Once I am born again as a Christian, I need to surrender my self-control and ambitions to Jesus Christ, and ask Him for my life's orders, His will for my life. Then and only then will I ever experience the fullness of the abundant life He has planned for me.

The enemy will tell us that we are mad to surrender to Jesus Christ. We will lose all our happiness, and life will become a drudge and boring existence. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our God is creative and constantly challenging. A life lived with Jesus is the most exhilarating thrill you could ever imagine. It goes beyond our wildest dreams and ends with a mind-blowing existence in Heaven.

Having lived with Jesus for over 50 years, I can assure you it has been the best life anyone could ever know. As I often say to people – I don't need to go bungee jumping; my every-day life with Jesus is far more exciting (and a whole lot safer!).

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As Jim Elliot, the martyred missionary, once said, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." I agree.

When I was young we used to sing –

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life  
That's what Jesus said  
Without the Way – there is no going  
Without the Truth – there is no knowing  
Without the Life – there is no living.*

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life  
That's what Jesus said.*

I now know that to be the truth.

### **What does that name mean for us today**

God not only gives us the breath of life to start our lives, He gives every second of it to sustain us. However, God doesn't just want us to exist, He wants us to live life to the full. We can only do that through the power of Jesus Christ, by His Spirit who lives in and through us.

### **Prayer**

*Father, thank You so much that Jesus came to give us eternal life. Life that not only carries on forever, but is life in a whole new dimension – the Life energised by Your Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **Additional Readings**

- Genesis 2:4-7
- Psalm 139:13-16
- John 3:1-16
- Romans 6:1-14

### **Questions**

1. What sort of life are you living?
2. Have you surrendered your life to Jesus Christ? If so, how and when?
3. How does Jesus fulfil that name?