

A Matter of Death and Life

[Romans 5:1 – 6:8](#)

Life Begins in Death

- My Story
 - Motivation • Condemnation • Rededication
- The Testimony of Nature
 - Seasons • Days • Birth • Sleep Cycle • Life Cycle
- [Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-7](#)
 - The fall of humanity
 - Adam – created out of earth
 - The world – created out of void
- [Romans 5:8](#) – “still sinners” (in death)

What Makes a Man

- Two Views of Humanity:
 - Three Parts: *Spirit • Soul • Body*
 - Two Parts: *Spirit/Soul • Body*
- Spirit/Soul: Unlikely Scientific Distinctions
 - Often Used Interchangeably
 - Greek:
 - Spirit – “*pneuma*” – breath, breeze, spirit, Spirit
 - Soul – “*psuche*” – breath, spirit, life, mind, soul
 - Hebrew:
 - Spirit - “*ruach*” – mind/spirit/wind/breath
 - Soul - “*nephesh*” – breathing creature, body, life

Who You Were Is Dead...

- The Bottom Line:
 - Your spirit: What Makes You... You.
 - The Spirit: What Makes You... Someone else
- When you accept(ed) Christ, your “you” died with him on the cross
 - [Rom 6:6](#) – “our old self was crucified with him.”
 - Like it or not... *something* died:
 - [Rom 6:2, 6:8, 7:4, 7:6; 2 Cor 5:14-15](#), etc...
 - That *something* was “you”, your spirit (but don’t worry, it was dead already – you just thought it was still breathing).

The Exchanged Life

- The old you was slave to sin... a “sinner”
 - [Rom 5:19](#) - “by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners”
- A *sinner* is not someone who sins
 - “The teaching of Romans is not that we are sinners because we commit sins, but that we sin because we are sinners.” - Watchman Nee, *The Normal Christian Life*
- In by birth, out by death
 - [1 Cor 1:30](#) – We were placed “in Christ” by God
 - [2 Cor 5:14](#) – “One died for all, therefore all died”

The Exchanged Life

- Our Inheritances: [1 Cor 15:45-49](#)
 - The “first man” – death
 - The “last adam” – life (resurrection)
- The New Creation – [2 Cor 5:17, Gal 6:15](#)
 - [Genesis 2:7](#) – God breathed the breath of life... living soul
 - “breathed/breath” – *naphach/neshamah* – puff or blow/breath
 - “soul” – *nephesh* – life, breathing creature, soul
 - [John 20:22](#) – “he breathed on them... receive the Holy Spirit”
 - “breathed” – *emphusao* – puff/blow/breathe
 - “spirit” – *pneuma* - life/breath/curent of air
 - [Acts 2:2-4](#) – “mighty wind”; “filled with the Holy Spirit”
 - “wind” – *pnoe* – breath/wind
 - “filled” – receiving into themselves

The Exchanged Life

- When we enter into a relationship with God, our spirits are re-created / reborn
 - [1 Peter 1:23](#) – “born again”
 - not of corruptible seed (*Adam*), but of incorruptible (*Jesus*)”
 - “by the word of God (*Jesus*), which lives and abides forever...”
- We don’t need a life-change, we need a life-exchange.
 - God exchanges our life for the life of Christ
 - In the process, who we were... dies

The Grateful Dead

- The Benefits of Dying:
 - Your past dies with you
 - Your sins die with you
 - Past and future – your entire life was placed on the cross in Jesus and replaced with his life
 - You are a sibling to Christ, child of God ([Rom 8:29](#))
 - You are no longer under the law ([Rom 6:14-15, 3:19, 7:4, 7:6; Gal 3:23, 5:18](#), etc...)
 - Dead people have no fear...

Learning to Die

- Both spiritual death and Spiritual life are accepted in faith... we believe it because its true...
- In Adam, we exchanged God’s life in the *Tree of Life* for our own life in the *Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil*.
- Go ahead, exchange your life. It’s the only time you’ll ever get something for nothing.