

Is There Something More?

by Mike Porter



I get up in the morning, walk outside and look north to my neighbor, Jerry's place. Jerry is not there. His wife, Norma also is not there. Jerry passed from this world about a year ago. Norma passed about three years before Jerry. No matter, I still keep looking for him. His passing has left a void. I look to the place north of me and east of Jerry's. That was where my friend, Jack lived.

Jack also has departed from natural life in this world. My parents, aunts and uncles also have passed.

Recently, my Uncle Glenn's four children were visiting Mary and me at our home in Nevada. That likely was the last time we first cousins would be together in this life. Already, Sharon, another first cousin, has passed. Reflecting on these occurrences brought to mind for me the following questions: Are there more realms of existence than the natural, fleshly realm that we detect with our physical senses? Is there life after natural death in another realm? Is this natural life on earth all there is, or is there something more?

Regarding these questions, the Bible, the written word of God, has the answers to all of them. The answer to each is YES. There are other realms of existence. There is a spiritual realm that has all power. God is spirit. God is the creator of all things. We fleshly earthlings cannot see God. However, the Bible describes God's attributes. God knows all things. God is everywhere. God knows our thoughts. God is truth and life. God has all power.

There is a new spiritual life that is offered through our Savior, Jesus Christ, that begins here on earth when, by our choice, we submit to the authority of God and accept the free gift of grace through faith. We look forward to a heaven and an earth where all things have become new.

We are in a period of God-given time where the Kingdom of God is being filled with occupants. God gives us the opportunity to choose our eternal destination. Jesus, the Christ, is God who became man and who lived here on earth. While we have God-given life here on earth we have the choice to choose eternal life in the Kingdom of God, or not. If we deliberately choose "not," God remembers us no more and eternity is utter darkness without God.

As I grow older, having retired from the working world, and contemplating my life lived thus far I see that things have changed. I grew up in the 50's and 60's. During this time the Methodist Church I attended with my parents joined the Ecumenical Council of Churches under which denominations were homogenized. In the process, the church accepted worldly views as acceptable church doctrine. The result was that God was rejected and evil was promoted.

This world culture is dominated by belief in secular humanism (a world view based on atheism, naturalism, evolution, and ethical relativism). In the United States God has been removed from the public square, and our constitutional form of government is ineffective because many of those in governance do not hold a Biblical world view nor are they subjecting themselves to God's authority. The decline in the value of human life and the rise of evil in the government and American culture is devastating.

Each generation must be led into the truth of God's word or pick it up on its own. I basically picked it up on my own by listening to Christian radio programs. I was repentant and born again (made alive spiritually) at about age 53. That means there probably was a lot of time that I lived outside the Biblical world view. However, God was with me during that time.

The Bible says no one can come to God through Christ unless God draws him. Salvation is through the Lord. In Romans 10:9 the Apostle Paul says, "*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*"

I have chosen eternal life in God's Kingdom, I have been born again. I am a child of God and a disciple of Jesus Christ. I tell people the good news so they may make their own personal choice as to their eternal destiny. In dealing with the primary struggle in society today, that is the question — what is truth, I emphasize that Jesus is the answer. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. The bottom line is that fleshly man must die to self and ask Jesus to fill you with Holy Spirit so that you can live a new life for, in, and through Christ.

Word for the Body of Christ for 2024

**COME AFTER ME THIS COMING YEAR
WITH ALL OF YOUR MIGHT
FOR I DID NOT CALL YOU TO BE IN FEAR
BUT I HAVE CALLED YOU TO FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT!
PRAY AS YOU HAVE NEVER DONE BEFORE
YES UNTO ME, PRAY AND UNTO ME, FAST
AND DETERMINE IN YOUR HEART
YOU WILL ENDURE, YOU WILL LAST
AS A BLOOD BOUGHT SOLDIER OF JESUS CHRIST!
FOR HELL HAS BEEN UNLEASHED
IN FORCE UPON THE SOUL OF THE NATIONS
AS MY BODY YOU MUST RISE UP AS ONE
YOU MUST FACE THE SITUATIONS
UNITE WITH OTHERS WHO ARE WILLING TO PRAY
FOR IT IS ONLY THEN YOU WILL RETAIN
IN YOUR HEART, MY PEACE, MY CALM, MY WAY,
OF LIVING LIFE.
MY BELOVED ONES, YOU MUST ENTER THE FRAY
YOU MUST AS YOU HAVE NEVER DONE BEFORE, PRAY
PRAY AND FAST, FOR YOU WILL ENDURE
FOR THIS YEAR THE BATTLE WILL INTENSIFY
IT WILL STUN, IT WILL MYSTIFY
BUT I TELL YOU NOW, DO NOT LOOK WITH
YOUR NATURAL EYES
FOR IT'S BY MY SPIRIT YOU MUST SEE AND RISE
AND FIGHT IN THE CONFLICT SURE
ALWAYS KEEPING YOUR MOTIVES PURE.
UNITE WITH OTHERS WILLING TO PRAY
THIS YEAR IS CRITICAL, DO NOT DELAY,
BUT YOU, MY BAND OF 'WARRIORS' TRUE
DO NOT GROW WEARY BUT STAY THE COURSE
FOR YOU AND I TOGETHER ARE A POWERFUL FORCE
FOR I'VE ALREADY PREPARED FOR YOU
THE PATHWAY TO VICTORY, THE PATH FOR YOU
FOR MY OWN SPIRIT, AND MY SPECIAL GRACE IS NOW
RELEASED UPON YOU, TO SPEAK, TO PRAY AND TO DO
ALL YOU SHOULD AND MUST IN THIS HOUR.
I CAN AND WILL WORK BY MANY OR BY FEW
THIS DECISION IS NOW UP TO YOU
BUT I WILL SAY, IF YOU HEED MY CALL TODAY
THERE WILL BE REWARDS FOR YOU AND THOSE
YOU CHERISH HERE IN THIS REALM, IN YOUR DAY!**

Holy Spirit/pd