

In the garden of Eden, as life on this earth began, God granted Life. He provided life, existence to mankind, and He provided all that man would need to sustain life during his stay on this earth. This is most often noted in **Genesis 1:26-28**, on the sixth day of Creation. And then God placed man in A Beautiful Home, an abode of His design, perfect for them to thrive.

What we have learned since then is that life on this earth is only possible if several elements are in place:

- 1) Breath – You must have oxygen to breathe and the power in your body to inhale and exhale it. God provided that as the animation of man's body – **Genesis 2:7**
- 2) Food – **Genesis 1:29** – At the time it was the vegetation. God caused it to grow, arranging the seasons and soil and supply to provide exactly what the body needed.
- 3) Water – **Genesis 2:8,10, 15** – Water is essential to life. None can live long without in within them, and nothing can grow or provide without it. Freely did flow life giving water.
- 4) Light – All of this existed in the light. Light was needed to see, to move, to have warmth and to allow life to take place – **Genesis 1:1-4, 14-18**. God provided it, day & night to make life work.

And so, there they were, God's creation, made with an eternal spirit, special to God, placed in a beautiful place, living in the presence of God, with all that they needed for life, eternal life.

But then, you know what happened. For Eve and Adam, it was not enough. They wanted more. The adversary convinced them they deserved more, things that were not from God, things they were told by God not to have – **Genesis 3:6**.

As a result of this, quite a few consequences were handed down, but the largest of which was death. **Genesis 3:17-19** – All of what God had established for them would continue, and be valuable, but it would not sustain them forever – the breath, food, water and light – for they would die.

Adam enjoyed those provisions and lived a long time, but then he died. I find it striking to read through Genesis 5 at how long these people lived! (**5:5,8,11,14**). The blessing lost their Eternal Component.

Well, since those days, a whole lot of time has passed, 4,000 years. A whole lot of things changed, from nations to life expectancy to Directv. But some things are the same, amazingly the same.

God Granted Life – **Psalms 139:13-16** – He made you, uniquely and special in His sight.

God Breathed Life into You – **Acts 17:24-26** – He breathed life into you, from His own essence.

God Provides Food for You – The land has always given mankind what they needed to survive.

God Sustains You with Water – Reagan did a class on water, this perfectly formed H₂O, intricately made to provide for life, to form much of each of us, to keep us working and to provide for all around us.

God Invigorates you with Light – Our eyes can behold the surroundings, built to take in great light, a light of the sun that heats and nourishes and provides vitamin D to your skin.

God has given you a beautiful place to Live – And we have this – the natural world. Yes we've built a lot of stuff, but the best of it is still the mountains, streams, gardens, light and shadows and nature.

And, we would do well, very well, to think of God as we experience them. When you look at your life, your existence, thank God. Sometimes, just take a deep breathe and imagine as if God was breathing it into your lungs. Thank Him for every meal before you eat it. Think of the perfect provision of water as you cool yourself with it. And by all means, walk into the light of day and the feel of the sun, and smile.. then get back inside quickly!

But with this comes a tempered joy, a very non garden of Eden joy. Because of sin, our experience here, as good as it is, will end in death. There is a shortness and sadness to it. There is no Eternal Component.

But this reality spurred God to do something else, to provide something more. **Genesis 3:15** – He pronounced that Satan’s draining of the eternal glory of God’s blessings would be avenged by One who would come and defeat him – we know this to be Jesus.

Jesus is the one who brings the Eternal Component back to God’s Provisions! He is the one who provides for us the Garden-Like majesty of every element of God’s blessings for our life!

All of this is ours, ours now and forever, eternally in JESUS! John is all about this message!

John 20:30-31 – This letter is to show you in whom the true glory of God’s blessings lie!

Jesus Grants Eternal Life – **John 10:10, 11:25** – He is the giver of Eternal Life to us.

Jesus Breathes the Spirit into us – **John 20:22-24** – the Apostles, but then **Acts 2:14ff, 38!**

Jesus is the Bread of Life – **John 6:47-51** – Every word He speaks, the Gospel, is nourishment forever.

Jesus gives the Living Water - **John 4:10-14** – Eternal Life / **John 7:37-39** – the Holy Spirit’s Blessings!

Jesus is the Light in the Darkness – **John 1:5,9; John 8:12-14; Rev. 21:22-24** – Eternal light in darkness

A Beautiful Home – You are probably thinking I’m going to talk about heaven. That the Lord has prepared a beautiful place filled with eternal glory, reserved for you. And that is true. But that’s not what this represents. You see, the whole list above are not things you are waiting to enjoy – they are things you enjoy right now, on this earth, even while you live here. Such is true with the last

Revelation 21:1-2, 9-10 – The Holy City, the New Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ, the CHURCH, has come down out of heaven and is an abode of beauty and majesty here and now in Christ. The eternal component of where I abide is in Christ, in Christ’s church, in this Holy City, with you, as His bride. We have connections, strength, and relationships that transcend this life and extend into eternity.

Listen, sin took the eternal component out of this physical life, but God provided another way, in his Son, in the church of His Son. Don’t live without that glory. Don’t let this be all there is, a place where sin has compromised it, as death will end it. Make your life about Him.

And just as often as you thank God for LIFE, BREATH, FOOD, WATER, LIGHT and this HOME.

-- Be sure and look for more, see more, thank Him for more. --

Thank Him for Jesus, and how Jesus is the fullest sense of all those things in your life!

And if He isn’t that for you, come to Him and let Him breath of the Holy Spirit’s blessings in you.

But listen – the Devil wants to take away the Eternal Component – That’s what **I John 2:15-17** is all about – it is about enticements to worldliness and sin so that you will live with some joy, some happiness, some things, but they are drained of glory and fade away, like the garden did and Adam’s life did.

Jesus is your Eternal Component. He is everything. He is eternal. He is King!

Who will follow Jesus? How will obey Jesus?