

The basic creation principle is to support life.

"See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;"

Deuteronomy 30:15;

The words of the Torah indicate that life and goodness are inseparable. So do death and evil. All is clear at first glance. Questions only begin to arise when we consider the circumstances during which this text was written down. The Israelites to whom these words were addressed received the law through Moses. Since they were all dying, regardless of their observance of the law, God's statement Behold, I have set before you today life and good and death and evil. to speak of another life than our short life that ends in death.

"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Galatians 6:8;

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of יהוה is eternal life through Yahushua the Messiah our Saviour." Romans 6:23;

These two texts point to two kinds of life. Life for our bodies gives us no hope of eternal life. But those who let the Spirit of God speak into their lives can obtain eternal life. The apostle Paul wrote to the Romans, *"To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:"* Romans 2:7;

And that brings us to the heart of the matter. We can live two lives, one is temporary and the other is with the prospect of permanent life. If it were not God's intention that man should live permanently, He would not offer men the hope of eternal life, moreover, dearly paid for by the life of His beloved Son. It follows that man was originally created for eternal life and lost it by being tricked by the serpent, who eventually turned out to be God's adversary, Satan, the Devil. Why can we be sure of this? Because the whole of Scripture bears witness that the basic principle of creation is life support.

Scripture itself serves the same principle. It shows the way to lasting or eternal life. Especially in the New Testament we find many texts that speak of hope and the way to eternal life. And the gateway to eternal life is Jesus Christ / Messiah.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of יהוה abideth on him." John 3:36;

" Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24;

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." John 5:39;

" Yahushua said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:[26](#)And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" John 11:25-26;

„For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.[50](#)And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak." John 12:49-50;

These are just a few texts among many. The Hebrew Scriptures also lead the way to eternal life, as Jesus says in John 5:39. However, we need to read more in depth. Deuteronomy 30:15 says, *"Behold, I have set before you this day life and good and death and evil."* This text is not talking about our temporary life, because we live that life whether we live it well or badly. It is only when we realize that God means eternal life here that the text makes sense.

The word *"good,"* which in this case is a translation of the Hebrew word *tov* (vowel t-v), is also found in Genesis chapter one. *"And Elohim saw the light, that it was good: and Elohim divided the light from the darkness."* Gen. 1:4; 1:10; 1:12; 1:18; 1:21; 1:25; 1:31; It would be superficial to think that this is just God praising His work. The prophet Isaiah wrote that God does not utter a word without a reason.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith יהוה. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:8-11;

If God judges His work to be good, there must be a reason why He does it. The question is by what criterion God evaluates His work. Here again the text of Deuteronomy 30:15; gives us the answer which puts life and good together and

on the other hand puts death and evil together. When the Scriptures, Jesus and the apostles urge us to do good, we can already place in the concept of good that it means to act and speak in such a way as to promote life, not only our own life and the life of our loved ones, but the life of all the people who are part of our life. Before Christ, this required obeying God, who knows what leads to life. The Israelites had no source of knowledge other than the prophets that God called to them and the Hebrew Scriptures that taught them what was good or evil. Mainly that the scriptures point to Christ / Messiah. Moreover, discerning what is good and what is evil is not always easy. Therefore, they were to hold to the spirit of the law which serves to promote life. While the Apostle Paul writes that the law ultimately leads to condemnation, it is also true that it leads to Christ / Messiah who is the Savior for those who believe in Him. Even the Ten Commandments, the spirit of it, is for life support.

Jesus Christ has redeemed for us by his life the hope of forgiveness of sins and eternal life see John 3:36; He who believes in him, keeps his commandments will not remain idle in the work of the Lord.

Furthermore, we must keep God's Word in our hearts and be taught by it in love, righteousness and wisdom, so that we may be prepared for every good work that promotes the hope of lasting life 2Tim 3:16-17; of all those around us. Therefore, we are to love even our enemies, because even among them there may be someone to save. That is why God sends rain and lets the sun shine on the just and the unjust. In this way we become light and salt, as Jesus spoke of, *"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house."* Matthew 5:13-16;

The most powerful expression of life support is Paul's celebration of love: *"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing. Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,* [5](#)*Doth not*

behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away." 1 Corinthians 13:1-8;

Love (*agape*) supports life in a way that no other quality does. Wisdom and righteousness without love can be instruments of death in the hands of an evil man or angel. We are witnessing this live today as we see the fruit of the sons of the Evil One devising ways to reduce the number of people on earth without any compassion or respect for life. Therefore, Jesus gave us a new commandment: *'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another; as I love you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'* John 13:34-35; This makes us completely different from the sons of the evil one. Love cannot bear evil fruit. Its fruit is life sustaining. Among other things, because knowledge, which in the eyes of many people today is the main way to life, puffs up, whereas love builds up.

The life that God and his Son offer us is not just any life. God has also placed in man the desire for eternity. *"I have seen the travail, which Elohim hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it. He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that Elohim maketh from the beginning to the end."* Eccl. 3:10-11; The condition for eternity is love and goodness. Nothing that compromises the perspective of life. That is what all of Scripture teaches. Hebrew and Greek. May God help us to do that.