

How God Gives His Life to Us

Sermon #0925
1963

Study by W. D. Frazee—October 11,

God has been planning for you and me a long time. Paul says:

"According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love" Ephesians 1:4.

Before God made the world He thought of you and me. He didn't make us for the world. He made the world for us. And everything in creation was designed and planned for man.

When we read that the Sabbath was made for man (Mark 2:27) we want to remember that the Sabbath was the capstone of the whole thing. The Sabbath is the sign of a total creation. It was all made for man from start to finish. God arranged everything to minister to man's need.

I love the simple way in which inspiration begins the story:

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" Genesis 1:1-3.

The first thing in that great work of creation was light. He said, Let there be light. I wonder why? Well, the way man was made he needs light, doesn't he? Yes, we all need light. God saw the light that it was good (verse 4).

On the second day God made the firmament. What is the firmament? Air. It holds up the clouds. What is it for? To minister to our life. We need it.

On the third day God separated the water from the land, and thus made possible life as we know it. It takes both water and soil to give us the trees and grains for food. But if water was over everything we wouldn't have food. If it was taken away entirely we wouldn't have food. It takes water for life, and it takes these different living things that God made on the third day to minister to life.

All through the days of creation God was arranging things for the last thing He made. That was man. Yes, He made the Sabbath, but it was not a thing. It was a day with a blessing in it.

I want you to notice that all the different things God made He established as agencies through which to continue to give His life to you and me. Life giving every moment.

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" John 8:12.

Someone might say this is talking about spiritual things. That is right. But He is using a physical symbol as He spoke those words. Is the sun life giving? Try to grow a child without any sunlight and you will find out. Even chickens need it. The light is the light of life.

What about the air? How did God start Adam moving when He formed man from the clay? He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

What about water?

"And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads" Genesis 2:10.

"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" Revelation 22:1.

Is there anything else that ministered to life?

"And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil" Genesis 2:9.

So the light of life, the breath of life, the water of life, and the tree of life. As life has gone on under the conditions we know it, we receive life not only from the trees but from the grains as well. And the way most of the human family eats those grains they are made into something. Perhaps milled, ground, cooked, baked, and all covered by bread. Jesus sums it up in the expression:

"I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst" John 6:35.

I want you to notice those five expressions all taken from the Bible: the light of life, the breath of life, the water of life, the tree of life, the bread of life. All of those are agencies through which we receive God's life. That is the thing I want us to see. None of those things have life in themselves, but in them the Creator imparts to us His wonderful life. I want to read you something about these beautiful things:

"Each breath is the inspiration of Him who breaths into the nostrils of Adam the breath of life; the inspiration of the ever present God, the Great I Am" *Medical Ministry*, page 9.

Every time I breath, who is breathing into my nostrils? God is. What is He breathing? The breath of life. Wouldn't it be a nice thing to thank Him for it? Oh, yes.

"The Lord has given His life to the trees and vines of His creation. He bestows life-giving properties on all that nature produces. We are to regard the trees laden with fruit as the gift of God just as much as though He placed the fruit in our hands." *Ibid*, page 8.

What is in the trees and vines? Life. Whose life? God's. Who put it there? He did.

I used to like to have bowls of artificial fruit around, but I am losing my appetite for it. I want something that has life in it.

Think of it. Jesus coming and offers us what? A lollypop? Some frozen artificial thing? No. He is offering us life. We are to regard the trees laden with fruit as the gift of God just as much as though He placed the fruit in our hands. Wouldn't it be nice to thank Him for it?

By the way, if you had made something like this for a special friend of yours, would you like to see him enjoy it? Do you think God is actually happy to see us enjoy things like this? Of course He is. It makes Him happy.

I found something wonderful:

"It is the word of God, the impartation of His life, that gives life to the seed; and of that life, we, in eating the grain, become partakers. This, God desires us to discern; He desires that even in receiving our daily bread we may recognize His agency and may be brought into closer fellowship with Him" *Education*, page 108.

This is God's agency giving us life. The iron and lime and phosphorus and the vitamin B complex are found in whole grains all the way through. Do we need them? Yes, there is life there. Wouldn't it be a shame to miss all these blessings?

If you were the Devil, what would you do about it? Would you try to interfere? Would you try to take it all away? No, you wouldn't. Why not? Because people would die so fast that others watching would say, none of that for me. But the great master mind has studied how to interfere with the sunlight, to pollute the air, to pollute the water, to devitalize the bread, and to take the products of the vine and tree and from them concoct the poison of alcohol.

Who is behind air pollution, water pollution? Who is behind the stealing of the vitamins in bread? Who is behind taking the grapes and apples, and other beautiful and delicious products and running them through these distilleries? Satan is. Some of his methods are worse than others, but beware of the Devil when he gets good. Beware of Satan when he gets easy on you, and seems to tone things down a bit. Just beware.

Incidentally, how much life do you need? John says he needs all he can get. Most of the people I meet could use quite a bit more life. They don't have any surplus. They need some more. Why not get some more? Why not get some more sunlight? You can get more exercise from walking than any other method of locomotion, and you can get more sunlight. Also more air.

I present the beautiful picture that God has given us His life through these agencies. Everyone of these is a symbol of the spiritual. The reason its symbolism has such a message is because its reality is so real.

Light represents God's love.

"It will be seen that the glory shining in the face of Jesus is the glory of self-sacrificing love. In the light from Calvary it will be seen that the law of self-renouncing love is the law of life for earth and heaven; that the love which 'seeketh not her own' has its source in the heart of God"
The Desire of Ages, page 20.

That is light. As the light reaches every part of this world, so God's love reaches every heart. That is the true light that lighteth every man which comes into the world.

But men can shut themselves into houses and apartments, close the windows and pull the shades, and keep out the light. So men can shut themselves up into selfishness and miss those beautiful rays of the light of God's law.

Breath represents prayer.

"Prayer is the breath of the soul. What air is to the body, breath is to the soul" *Gospel Workers*, page 254.

Let's keep breathing. What do you say?

Water represents the Holy Spirit.

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto Me, and drink. He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of His belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified." John 7:37-39.

Do we need it? Oh, it is promised, not just by the glass full, but by rivers of living water. We are not only to receive the Holy Spirit, but we are to be the transmission agency. Let's open our hearts to this wonderful gift of the Spirit.

Bread represents the Word of God.

"But He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" Matthew 4:4.

Bread and the Bible. That's the program. Bread for the body, and the Bible for the soul. And what bread is to the physical life the Bible is to the spiritual life. And just as there is danger in refining and taking out the vital elements from the physical bread, so there is danger in tampering with the Bible. We need the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

If there is some hard things in here we need the iron. If there are some complex things in here we need the vitamins. We need every part—the protein and starch, the fat, and all the rest. We need every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

What does the tree of life represent? It seems very clear that light is love, that breath is prayer, that water is the Holy Spirit, and bread is the Bible. We have read the references. It says so. Then I wondered what the fruit represents. I found a little text that tells me:

"The joy of the LORD is your strength" Nehemiah 8:10.

God wants to give us not only love but joy. He wants us to be happy. He could have just given us bread. Bread is good. But I am so glad He put in the grapes and apples and oranges and pears and pineapples and mangos and bananas and raisins and figs and prunes and strawberries and blackberries. Aren't you?

So God was not merely satisfied to give us merely a gospel program to make us be good. He wants us to be happy as well. There is life in it as there is life in this apple. Joy has some things in it that bread doesn't have. There is strength in the joy that God wants to give us. The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Is there anybody here with a sad heart. God has a sweet fruit for you.

"As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love" Song of Solomon, 2:3-4.

God wants you to have a happy Christian experience. You say, But I am such a sinner. Sure you are. Why not give your sins to Jesus and take His forgiveness?

Forgiveness is sweet fruit. Thank God we don't have to go on feeding on the bitter ashes of remorse and disappointment. We can come to Jesus just as we are, breath a prayer of contrition, and He will give us the sweet fruit of forgiveness. Then as we come to Him day by day He will not only give us this bread to eat—good solid facts from the Bible—but we will find sweet promises that just thrill the heart. Won't we? Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Copyright 2019. All rights reserved.

W.D. Frazee Sermons
PO Box 129, Wildwood, GA 30757
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755
www.WDFsermons.org
support@WDFsermons.org