

10 3 2019

Set before you life and death Pt 1 the world view

Today we begin a new topic that sets before you "life" and "death", and this study will set out the world view of life and death and establish – (i) for the heathen life is solely physical and measured by – a) what they possess, and b) what they do (their play time), and (ii) for the heathen death is solely physical. Therefore the heathen has no joy beyond what they generate and are without hope of eternal life.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. We set before you today – life and death.

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death" (Deut.30: 19).

i) For the heathen – life is solely physical and measured by

a) what they possess.

"And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Lk.12: 15).

Mt 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. See also Lk 12:34, 16: 25.

b) what they do – their play-time.

"And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play" (Ex.32: 6). See also 1 Cor.10: 7.

Parents often give their young children an iPad to entertain them, or put them in from of the TV to occupy them, and so from a young age grow up thirsting for entertainment. The word "amusement" means – "A" means no, "muse" means to "ponder, reflect", i.e. no thinking!

ii) For the heathen – death is solely physical – cessation of life.

"If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die" (1 Cor.15: 32)

An illustration to help apply the teaching to our life today.

I often stop off for coffee and listen to a man that is a heathen. His topic of conversation is always the same – how much his business made during the month, what he bought with his money, what he wants to buy with his money, what he did with what he bought, and what game he played, or new movie he watched. Matt Cameron said – "Live life to the fullest". for tomorrow you may die.

Question to think about.

For the world there is life – which needs to be lived to the fullest or death where you simply cease to exist. Is the world-view of "life" and living it to its abundance – real or a facade?

Our answer from the scriptures.

It is a facade – because "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Lk.12: 15).

IF success in life is measured by what we possess then is it any wonder that there were many who went from being successful one day to a failure the next, for those that had their money invested in the share market in 1987 when \$500 billion dollars was lost.

IF quality of life is measured by what a person does then young people who play excessive video games would go from high quality of life one day to low the next when they are diagnosed with a "gaming disorder".

Therefore, if you set out life and death before the heathen who has little possessions and nothing to entertain them – they would be **without joy** and have **no hope**.