



THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of
Ashley River Baptist Church

"CELEBRATE LIFE"

Genesis 1:26-31

WE ARE CREATED TO LIVE

We are created to live. God saved His breath for the creation of human beings. Genesis 2:7 says, "the Lord God...breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being."

WE ARE CONSECRATED FOR LIFE

Life is a sacred trust. *"We are God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."* (Eph 2:10)

WE ARE CREATED UNIQUE

Among all creation, only men and women were uniquely created in God's image. "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psalm 139). This is what sets us apart. God created us and proclaimed us "very good".

WE ARE CREATED TO REFLECT GOD'S GREATNESS

Being made in His image does not make us "gods". Only God should determine life's beginning and end (Psalm 139:16). we are never "authorized" to "play God," to usurp the position that is rightfully His. (2Corinthians 12:9).

We possess characteristics that are also found in God.

Spiritual Dimension: created as people with a soul and spirit (Psalm 8:4-5).

Intellectual dimension. Only human beings can reason and think, analyze and meditate. Only human beings can fellowship with the Creator (Genesis 1:26-27).

Moral Dimension: a type of integrity - nothing false - a straightness, and uprightness.

WE ARE GIVEN THE TASK OF CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION

God told Adam that His purpose for him and his family was to be caretakers of the earth. He was to multiply and fill the earth and to rule over all God's creation as a faithful steward. This includes His creation of life. He leaves us here only until that purpose has been fulfilled: (1 Corinthians 6:19-20 John 21:16)

WE ARE CELEBRATED FOR ETERNITY

On the other hand, we are clearly told that there will be rejoicing in the presence of God as his people are invited to the tree of life. (Mt 25:31,34)

CONCLUSION: We are created to live lives that are consecrated to God and can be celebrated in eternity. It all begins when we recognize that life is sacred and that we are made to uniquely reflect the nature and character of God and given the awesome privilege of being a steward over God's Created order.

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." 29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so. 31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

Genesis 9:6 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man."

Mt 5:20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven. 21 "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' 22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.

Psalms 139:16 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

2 Cor 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me

Psalms 8:4 what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? 5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

1 Cor 6:19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

John 21:16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

Mt 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. 34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'"