



WHY CHRIST CAME "That They Might Have Life" John 10:1-10

No. 5828

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When Jesus' listeners heard Him announce that He had come into the world in order *that they might have life*, they must have recognized immediately that He was obviously not referring to physical existence. But they had no idea what He did mean (John 10:6). Do we?

I. Facts of Life.

- A. Scripture says, "...through Him (the Word) all things were made." John 1:3
- B. It also teaches, "...in Him was life and that life was the light of men." John 1:4
- C. So Scripture teaches that creation depends on Him for existence.
- D. And living creatures including humanity are totally dependent on Him for life.

II. Forfeiture of Life.

- "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy." John 10:10a, see Ephesians 2:1-5
- A. Life was forfeited through "transgressions and sins." Ephesians 2:1; Genesis 3:11
- B. Deadness drifted into the "ways of this world." Ephesians 2:2
- C. Disobedience became habitual through following the wrong *spirit*. Ephesians 2:2
- D. Desires were perverted and craved satisfaction, thoughts twisted. Ephesians 2:3
- E. Dire consequences followed as "we were objects of God's wrath." Ephesians 2:3
- F. The one who stole, killed and destroyed succeeded – Jesus came to reverse it!

III. Fullness of Life.

- "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."
- A. "The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11, 15, 17
- B. His death is voluntary ("no one takes it from me") and vicarious ("for the sheep").
- C. It is victorious ("only to take it up again").
- D. In His dying, He assumed our death and absorbed the "wrath of God."
- E. In His taking His life up again (resurrection), He defeated the robber.
- F. And He gives His life to all "who will listen to (His) voice." John 10:17
- G. "Life to the full" is *eternal life* – the life of the age to come. John 10:28
- H. "Life to the full" is a life of assurance – "they shall never perish."
- I. "Life to the full" is a life of being known and knowing. John 10:27
- J. "Life to the full" is a life of direction, purpose, and fulfillment ("they follow me").