

Zoe



John 3:16

*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Let's start with the intro of the poem **Wasteland** by T. S. Elliot, *[I have seen with my own eyes the Sibyl hanging in a jar; and when the boys asked her "What do you want?" She answered, "I want to die."]*

Sibyl was a prophetic old woman of Greek mythology. She had been granted immortality by Apollo, but because she forgot to ask for perpetual youth, she shrank and shrank into withered old age in a jar and wanted to die. Did she love immortality? No, she was experiencing it as a curse.

What do you imagine about immortality? Today we want to talk about the gift of Jesus, "Everlasting life" in John 3:16, which is Zoe in Greek language. Please listen to the precious verse again in passion translation. *"Here is the way God loved the world - He gave his only, unique Son as a gift. So now everyone who believes in Him will never perish but experience everlasting life."*

We do not understand what Zoe is. Does eternal life mean the continuation of life on Earth? When Adam and Eve fell in the Paradise, the Spirit of God left them. They were expelled to the wasteland where all humans were lost. God's mercy sent his only unique son, Jesus, who was with God from eternity to eternity. God wanted to give us back the lost life that we had in the Paradise. So that we may be healed, restored, rescued, and have eternal life, Zoe!

Zoe is God's life in human body. It is such a precious gift that you can gain in a most simple way of looking to Jesus in belief! It is wonder! The cost was God's death, Jesus' death, on the cross.

Zoe - God's life is not actually the life that we easily imagine in the prolongation of life. It is mystery hidden beyond the human perception because God exists outside of the human condition, outside of the frame of space and time. **God's eternal life in the quality of God's life is Zoe. We are connected to Zoe.** The Zoe doesn't belong to the concept of time at all. Zoe comes with all God's goodness, love, peace, righteousness, compassion, grace, mercy, patience, etc. So everlasting life is God's life coming from "eternity" into a "now" moment. When we are connected to the life of God through the Holy Spirit, we are living eternal life right here and now. The Clock Pendulum of Zoe always moves from the present moment to God's timelessness. In Zoe, we are in God, God is in us. So, to know God through Zoe is salvation. In such communion with God, you always find wonder of life, and gratitude here and now. Take a deep breath! Breathe in the Zoe.

Grace and love,

Pastor Hae-Jeong