



Berean Christian Fellowship

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You Shall Not Die

“But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’” (Genesis 3:4-5).

Satan, through the serpent, promised that the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (the ability to decide what is good and what is evil for yourself) would make Adam and Eve divine and they would not die—they would become like God and would live forever. The serpent guaranteed forbidden knowledge would make them “godlike.” He put their destiny into their own hands—“you can make yourselves like God.” Adam and Eve discovered the hard way that the serpent’s promise was not one he could keep. They learned that they could not make themselves like God, and they suffered the consequences of falling from Eden and earning death—the exact opposite of what they hoped to achieve.

How sad today that the devil is convincing an ever growing percent of the world that through their increasing knowledge and wisdom, they will not die, and they will become like God. This great delusion is growing in many sectors of the scientific community and culture. Collectively it has come to be known as Transhumanism—the endeavor to transcend the limits of what makes us human to become godlike with the knowledge and technology we acquire, extending life-spans, overcoming death, and empowering ourselves with super-human enhancements. It is the promise of “superman”—to become a god like in classic mythology and maybe even “the god.” Sound familiar? In essence it is the same promise the serpent gave Adam and Eve, just packaged a little differently.

The truth is that the serpent’s promise was not his to make, but God’s. The great irony is that God’s plan all along has been that mankind should not die and that they should be “like” Him. The difference is in the “how” of the matter. Rather than leave mankind toiling to overcome death in futility, “*God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life*” (John 3:16). Only God can overcome death. His promise of eternal life comes from Eternity—therefore, it alone is justifiable. He sent His Son from eternity to accomplish on earth what we can never do, and then He offered it to us as a free gift if we but acknowledge His power alone to save us and accept Him as Lord of our lives (our obligation). What is more, if we believe on Him, “*we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He is*” (1 John 3:2). Through Jesus, God offers us adoption as His children to be joint heirs with Jesus. We will be like Him, not because of anything we have done, but because He loved us and saved us from death in sin, and He will glorify us even as He is glorified (Romans 8:17).

So the choice before mankind is simple: repeat history by trusting in the promises of the devil that we can make ourselves like God, or trust in the promise of God through Jesus Christ that God will make us like Him, if we acknowledge our inability to save ourselves and put our faith in Him to accomplish what we cannot. Unfortunately, mankind seems dead set on falling for the same con that cost us Eden in the first place—this time losing life for eternity. We who are Believers can rest secure in the promise of Almighty God that through His Son, we will receive eternal life and be where He is. Even so. Amen.

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