LIFE.

It's Origin and Purpose.

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Henry A. Sawyers in his pulpit Oregon Missouri, on Sabbath morning April 22nd, 1900.

Text James 4 14. For what is your life.

The Bible is a book of questions. In fact it is the greatest book of questions in all the world. It contains more questions both expressed and suggested than any other book in existence. Some of the questions of the Bible are bold and some of them are even startling. Many of them are outspoken and uncompromising in their demands. They meet men along the way of life and halt them as the soldiers do when standing on picket duty. It is fair and thinks and make a true and solemn answer. This text is one of these halting questions of the Bible and to attempt to give it the go by or to evade it, or to refuse to consider it, is to do so at one's spiritual peril.

There are two senses in which this question of the text may be understood, the one general; being applied to everybody in general, and noone in particular, while the other, is special or strictly personal.

In these two senses we may now give this question, our present consideration.

First. Considering the question in its general sense, "what is your life?"

What is life itself, human life? What is your life as a human being?

When the question is put in this form it opens up a broad field of thought.

Life is a very mysterious thing. So mysterious indeed is it, that if one were only able to penetrate its mystery he might hope in time to comprehend all other mysteries.

Who understands the beginning of life or the order manifest in creation.

There is a manifest purpose in all things.

It is evident to all thoughtful persons that there is a plan in the great order, and movement of affairs. All intelligent action looks to some rational end.

The idea of final cause and the facts upon which it can rest are possible only upon the condition that there is somehow a plan and a method in things and hence somewhere an intelligence that must be universal and if the plan looks to moral elements, and results, that intelligence must possess the higher elements of goodness. One can not see how anyone, thought to be intelligent, can help but acknowledge this, and to acknowledge this, is to acknowledge that there is a God and when once God is acknowledged, all of his claims should be accepted.

In imagination, we can place ourselves, as looking upon that condition of diffused matter that scientists call, "nebulous" and that the book of Genesis describes as "without form and void" God set this mass in motion forming out of it the sun and all its attendant worlds and planets called the solar system. This would seem complete in itself and we might suppose that God in his creative plan had reached the end but he had not.

A little later, and we see our earth cooling, and rock forming, and pent up, surging forces within, pressing on the surface of the earth, lifting up mountains and continents, leaving depressions that are to become the beds of the oceans. When this is all done, and the sun through a clearer air, begins to shine we might say the end is reached but not so

We look again and life appears in the waters and then on the land and the seaweeds and grasses and various forms of vegetation appear. When we behold this new scene of beauty of groves, and shrubs and flowering trees, we are ready to say the end is surely reached but when we look again, a still higher form, and mystery of life appears. Animal life begins to trouble the waters and to move upon the land fishes swim in the seas, and insects and birds fly in the air, and reptiles crawl on the earth, and animals walk and run upon the ground. The lion is heard in the forests, the tiger in the jungle; the deer on the plain, and birds of beauty and song are found on tree and in air.

And now we say we see the end for which this mighty scene was projected but we have not. We have reached a purpose in the divine mind, further on than fiery or dark world's revolving in space a purpose further on than growing grass and trees. We have come to a form of animal life for which such a world is well suited but something more is needed. "There is no man to till the soil," no being to kindle a fire, to use the great beds of coal, that took long ages to prepare, no one to utilize the iron, and other ores and the precious metals, no one to use the timber and the stone, no one to build houses, to bridge streams, to sail the seas, to utilize the vast forces of air, and water, and electricity, and other forces of nature, no one to study the fossils and the flowers and the stars.

So we go but a step further until we hear God say, "Let us make man in our own image and after our likeness and there appeared a being, with upright form, with features fine, and expressive with hands to labor, with eyes that can weep, and lips that can laugh, a being with a mind to perceive, and a heart to feel, and a conscience to restrain, and impel in the struggle of right against wrong.

And here we seem to have reached a point where God might "rest from his labors." There seems to be here the natural completion of the plan of the world with man as the chief occupant. But we can not rest here for we must ask the higher question, as to the final cause of man, or what was the end for which he was brought into being. It does not meet the requirements of a wise and all comprehending plan of the creation, to suppose that this greatest being of the earth was brought into existence simply, to live, and die, as the grass in the field, or as the animal on the plain.

We have reached the conclusion that man is the end had in view from the beginning in the great world plan of which he is part.

But we still have on our hands the larger question as to the final cause of man himself or the end to which his being looks. There is in the plan of things a vast provision in nature, for his natural wants. It includes also his own pers[illegible] efforts in all the industries that go to pr[illegible] his food and raiment. Yet all of this [illegible] or but a few years, for soon the body dies, and hence there must be something more to life than simply human labor. Earthly affairs often so fill our thoughts that we are in danger of thinking that the real purpose of life is to labor, that we may eat and drink and find pleasure. But God has a higher thought, a higher purpose in giving us life.

We are likely to estimate life by what we gain of wealth or honor. How much property did he have when he died? is the question asked. But God asks how much of honesty, of justice, of charity, of the real nobility of manhood did he work out in all the years of toil. Thrift and not gain are the final causes of all this struggle. God looks to the development of ourselves as spiritual beings and the time to be making this development is now. Says one writer, what you think you are going to do, and what you are doing are two widely different things. There are many people who say: A little later I am going to do this or that Christian work. Next year I expect to devote a good part of my time working for Christ and his church. When I get out of this place I shall have time to work for God. The chances are you will never work for God any more than you do now, if you do not begin and do everything you can, and all you can.

The time will never come when it will be perfectly convenient to do Christian work. You may be in your grave next year. The time when you think you will be free to do some active work may be when you are the least free. The time to make growth is now, the work is waiting, the laborers are few. God has given us the church, and the Bible and the institutions of religion to the end that we may be able to answer correctly, the the question, what is your life?

God is interested in the spiritual development of man and from the creation of Adam till now has shown his interest. After the creation of man there followed a long system of object lessons, in the outer ceremonies and worship of the Hebrew people, to lead them away from idolatry, and to create and throw into their minds, the idea of a living God and a spiritual worship. Then came Jesus with the higher idea that God is Father, that man is his child, that religion is not a form, or a ceremony, but that the kingdom of God is within" that religion is a principle, that God is love, and that to love God with all the heart and our neighbors as ourselves, is the very essence and spirit of the law of God, and the very essence of religion in man. So we had first the teaching of the law and then the love of Calvary and now the presence of the Holy spirit, to help us understand the object of human life. Thus we can see the use of the church as a place of worship and the use of song and prayer and sermons, and self denial and all duty and burden bearing as helps to the soul to kindle desire and aspiration, to help the soul to repentance, to faith, to regeneration and to purity. This is the end to be reached and if the end be reached, if the soul be freed from sin and filled with love, if the heart be pure and the conscience right, God's highest work in man is attained on earth. But if the soul comes not to purity and love and life all of our temples or churches and worship have failed of their end. And having this end in view we may judge of the value of these things in our lives. It is not can I solve all mysteries? Nor have I great faith? Nor am I a Presbyterian but am I right in the sight of God? Am I saved in Christ? Are my motives pure and my life Christ like? Is my soul full of love to God and man? All these means are ours to use and time is passing, prophecies fail, tongues cease, but the requirements of God endure forever.

We are standing today on the shores of time and are looking into the future but that future has no end. That we call death does not end all. The life goes on somewhere. The scenes of the beyond we are now unable to unfold but there we shall find a place and use for all the truth, love and justice for which we here pray and live. It is also a fact that every man is the arbiter of his own eternal destiny. It matters not whether it is a Washington or Cromwell, a Calvin or Wesley, a Napoleon or Grant the same is true. Life therefore is a precious thing. It has such wonderful possibilities. It has possibilities for good or bad, for happiness or misery, for development or neglect.

There is too a wonderful uniformity about life. The tears, the smiles, the sorrows, the joys, the cares the passions, the fears, the hopes of men are much the same after all the world over.

The answer to the question, "What is life" gives us plenty to do and leaves us no time to waste.

It is true we think we can accomplish much in a little while because we live in a time of organized effort. Organization is the watchword of the day and organization is a good thing in its sphere but it is possible to have too much of it. It is possible to rely so fully on organization as to forget that its sphere is only to simplify and unify and direct individual effort, that unorganized individual effort is, after all, the only way in which anything can be accomplished in some cases.

Dr. Cuyler in speaking of Nehemiah on this point says: "Three and twenty centuries ago a sagacious leader of God's people and a model for all came to Jerusalem and made a thorough exploration of his field of labor. He mounted his mule and made the rounds of the ruined city of his fathers and found its walls broken down, and the gates there of consumed with fire."

Nehemiah was an Oliver Cromwell in rugged prowess and a John Wesley in organizing capacity. He summoned the rulers, priests and men of influence, points out to them the desolation and then sounds out to them his trumpet appeal. "Let us build up the walls." The people echo the appeal with a prompt "Amen" and straighten their hands for the sacred enterprise. Nehemiah's plan of action was a very simple one, but a very thorough one. It was the subdivision of labor and it embodied also the admiral idea that in order to make the work complete, certain citizens should repair the ruins that laid nearest to their own residences. "Every one over against his own house" was the principle adopted by the new Puritan Governor.

Here is the key note to spiritual success in our churches. Let every one in his own neighborhood and near his own home watch and work for the advancement of the kingdom of Heaven. If Nehemiah had waited to get the people of Israel well organized before beginning the work of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem the Holy City would still have fallen into the hands of her foes. If the Good Samaritan had waited to report the case of the man who fell among thieves on the way to Jericho to some society for improving the condition of the poor, we should never have had this inspiring narrative in Luke's gospel for a guide to benevolent action through all time. Organization is useful and much can be accomplished through them that could not be otherwise done but let no one in his life work despise Nehemiah's plan of every man building over against his own house.

A moments attention look to the question in its special sense.

What is your over life. To get at the right answer let us break life into its component parts or divide it into different phases of existence.

First. What is your business life. There is one word that seems to be the test of every business man's life and it is success. Am I making money. We hope every one in legitimate business makes money but at the same time we hope the experience developes a sturdy and true manhood.

Next what is your social life? We hope it is helpful. A person does not need to have money or social rank in order to be helpful in the social circles.

And last of all what is your church life? Are you faithful to your church privileges. Are you faithful in your prayers, your sympathy, your presence and your support. If you are, you are honoring God, and doing yourself the greatest possible service. Continue to let your life tell for him.

The Appetite of a Goat

Is envied by all poor dyspeptics whose Stomach and Liver are out of order. All such should know that Dr. King's New Life Pills, the wonderful Stomach and Liver Remedy, gives a sparkling appetite, sound digestion and a regular healthy habit that insures perfect health and great energy. Only 25c. at Clark O. Proud, Oregon, Mo., and G. Meyer's New Point, Mo.

Try Allen's Foot-Ease.

A powder to be shaken into the shoes. Your feet feel swollen, nervous and tired and get tired easily. If you have smarting feet or tight shoes, try Allen's Foot-Ease. It rests the feet and makes walking easy. Cures swollen, sweating feet, aching, tired, blisters and callous spots. Relieves corns and bunions of all pain and gives rest and comfort. Try it today. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores for 25c. Trial package Free. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

The World around.

London is to spend $[illegible] on drainage works.

Coal mining is one the latest Australian mineral industries.

Trees and shrubs are being planted along the Suez canal to keep the sand from drifting.

Parisian authorities are trying to devise regulations for automobile traffic which will be fair to all parties concerned.

Gorgonzola cheese is Italian, and is made from goat's milk. It comes from near Milan, and needs to ripen longer than three years.

In Tokio there are seven crematories and the cost of cremation is so low that several of the old style undertakers have been forced out of business.

The town of Kos, the capital of the small Turkish island of that name lying off the coast of Asia Minor, possesses the oldest tree in the world.

Near Tangier a native, who stole a mule worth $125, was taken before the chief of the Duar, and as punishment he was tied to a tree, while his ears were turned out with a red hot iron.

Russia is devising more liberal inducements for European peasants to settle in various parts of the empire in Asia. Approved parties of peasants possessing a capital of from $100 to $300 are to receive transportation free and grants, tax free, for 20 years.

When the liver fails to secrete bile, the blood becomes loaded with bilious properties, the digestion becomes impaired and the bowels constipated. Herbine has a direct action on the liver and excretory organs, and a few doses will cure any case of biliousness. Price 50 cents. J. C. Philbrick.

Silk Veiling — Dotted Veiling in White the 20c kind, per yard ... 20cts.

LEHMAN BROS.

515-517 Felix St., ST. JOSEPH. MO.

Bed Sheets. — Made of good heavy sheeting and Marseilles with deep hem. Large size ... 59c

The Store for Bargains,

Between 5th and 6th Streets, East Side of the alley.

Drsss Skirts — Made of Fine Black Brilliantine. Box pleat, the $10 kind for ... $3.25

Bed Ticking — Satteen finished in Fancy Colors, the quarter cut ... 18cts

Men's Socks — Blue or Brown mixed, seamless foot, ribbed top extra heavy ... 7cts

Remnants — of Table Linens and Dollies. Product buyers will notice them without delay.

50 Ladie's Tailor-Made Suits at Deep Cut Prices.

Ladies' Gowns — Made of Cambric. Trimmed with two clusters of tucks, lace insertion, edging and ruffle, only ... 85cts

Ladie's Suits — Tailor Made, Black and Navy Cheviot Serges. Today's value, $11.00. Sale price ... $7.50

Our Great May Sale! — Is being attended daily by hundreds of buyers from every section. Money-Saving prices and slashed values greet them in every department.

All-Over Embroideries — Here where we have you at least twenty-five per cent. Prices per yard. 58c. 75c. 98c. $1.19. $1.25. $1.39. $1.75. $1.98 $2.25.

Wash Goods — Fine Batistes, White or Colored Grounds, with Dots, Stripes and Figures. Extra value at 10c yard ... 15cts

Wash Braids — Fancy Patterns, White and Colored. Value 5cts. Sale price per yard ... 1ct

Dress Goods — One lot of All Wool Plaid Check Suitings. Value 37c. Sale price per yard ... 25cts

Black Silks — Special value in one lot of Black Taffeta, width 24 inches. Per yard ... 85cts

Envelopes — Package containing twenty-five White ones for ... 2cts

SETTLEMENT DOCKET

-OF-

Probate Court of Holt County, Mo.

Regular May Term, A. D., 1900.

First Day, Monday, May 14, A. D., 1900.

Second Day, Tuesday, May 15, A. D., 1900.

Third Day, Wednesday, May 16, A. D., 1900.

Fourth Day, Thursday, May 17, A. D., 1900.

Fifth Day, Friday, May 18, A. D., 1900.

Sixth Day, Saturday, May 19, A. D., 1900.

[illegible]

GEORGE W. MURPHY,
Judge of Probate Court.

NOTICE.

[illegible]

Trustee's Sale.

[illegible]

JOHN RAMSAY

Trustee's Sale.

Whereas on the 1st day of November, 1898, Martin M. Johnson and J. E. Johnson, for themselves, made, executed and delivered their deed of trust to secure the payment of a certain bond, even date herewith, payable on the 1st day of November, 1899, for the sum of Four Hundred Dollars, expressed therein, then and there duly executed and delivered to the undersigned, Charles N. Robinson, as trustee, the following described real estate, situated in the County of Holt and State of Missouri, to-wit:

[illegible]

FRIDAY, DAY [illegible]

[illegible]

CHARLES N. ROBINSON, Trustee.

People Going West or Northwest

should not fail to write John DeWitt, Division Passenger Agent, Burlington Route, St. Joseph, Mo., in order to get the best rates, the best train service and all those travelling conveniences which characterize this railroad. Letters of inquiry will always be answered with that fair dealing which has made the Burlington Route what it is, the road that can take the best care of you to any point in the west.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
Cleanses and Beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and $1.00 at Druggists.

A Free Trip to Paris!

Reliable persons of a mechanical or inventive mind desiring a trip to the Paris Exposition, with good salary and expenses paid, should write The PATENT RECORD, Baltimore, Md.

How Much Will Corn Shrink?

In the fall of 1899 an experiment was undertaken by Prof. [illegible] Iowa Experiment Station [illegible] platform of a pair of scales. The [illegible] so constructed that in case [illegible] the weight would be [illegible] the usual pressure of corn [illegible] placed on the scale [illegible] The crib was thirty [illegible] long by [illegible] wide, [illegible] feet and five [illegible] high, [illegible] weeks for a year. During the first three months the loss was 630 pounds or 3 per cent of the original weight. During the next three months from January 1st to April 1st the loss was 1[illegible] pounds, or 4 per cent of the original weight. During the next three months the loss was 230 pounds. During the last three months the loss was 130 pounds. The loss during the four years was 1,[illegible] pounds or a trifle more than 10 per cent.

This means that a bushel of corn weighing eighty pounds when housed, like the samples sent, would weigh [illegible] pounds at the end of the year. Farmers Voice.

A Preventer of Measles. In many instances a persistent cough follows an attack of measles. In speaking of this Mr. Walter B. Jacobs, editor of the Elkin (N. C.) Times, says: "Three years ago I had an attack of measles which left me with a bad cough. I took several doses of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the cough has entirely disappeared. I consider Chamberlain's medicine the best on the market." For sale by Clark O. Proud.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson says the climate and soil of Hawaii are seen for the raising of rubber trees, and he proposes to make the experiment on a large scale. As the United States imports every year nearly a [illegible] worth of rubber, the raising of it in one of its possessions would be a great saving. The incoming of the bicycle, which set the pace for use of rubber tires for sixty kinds of vehicles, and the enormous consumption of rubber for so many other purposes, assures a large and increasing demand for this useful article. The chief supply now comes from Brazil as the gathering and shipping of rubber is one of the chief industries of the Amazon regions. Rubber promises to become of the articles, the demand for which will always exceed the supply.

Through Tourist Sleepers to Portland, Oregon, For Puget Sound and Alaska Travel, From St. Louis Via Burlington Route.

Personally Conducted Tourist Sleepers via the Burlington Route from St. Louis to Portland, Oregon, will be established [illegible] February 15, 1900.

Every Tuesday, St. Louis [illegible] P. M., Kansas City 10:40 A. M., St. Joseph, 12:10 P. M. Thursdays, St. Louis via Lincoln, Denver and Ogden, Salt Lake City, Portland and Puget Sound points. Superior equipment, [illegible] Seattle [illegible] Tourist Agent, 1. W. Wakeley, G. P. A., St. Louis, Mo.

Lots De West, D. P. A., St. Joseph, Mo.

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DESCRIPTION.

[illegible]

PEDIGREE.

[illegible]

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

[illegible]

The Celebrated Jacks.

Zellhoffer and Dick Johnson

DESCRIPTIONS AND PEDIGREES.

[illegible]

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

[illegible]

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Epidemic of Whooping Cough

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General Passenger Agent.

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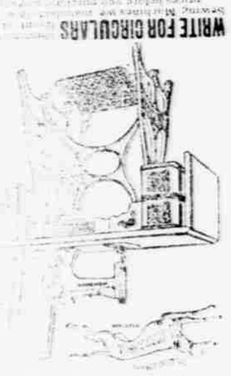

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Kodol Dyspepsia Cure

Digests what you eat.

[illegible] Indigestion, Heartburn, Sour Stomach, Nausea, Sick Headache, Constipation, Cramps and all effects of imperfect digestion. [illegible] times [illegible] Prepared only by E. C. DeWITT & CO., Chicago.

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Pulpit Echoes

[illegible] TRUTHS FOR HEAD AND HEART, By D. L. Moody. [illegible] Rev. CHAS. F. [illegible] LYMAN ABBOTT, D. D. [illegible] Hartford, Conn.