

No. 35 Can You Live Forever? Will You?

PLEASE NOTE: Help the audience to anticipate the joy of everlasting life. Motivate them to take needed steps to gain this prospect for themselves. If you wish, you may use the artwork provided to illustrate points where indicated

MAN WAS DESIGNED TO LIVE FOREVER (5 min.)

All of our hopes, plans, and pleasures depend on our being alive

Time goes by so fast, and life seems so short (*g* 8/13 6)

We desire to go on living indefinitely [Read Ecclesiastes 3:11] (*g* 8/13 8 ¶1-2)

God designed humans to live forever in perfection on earth (Ge 1:26, 31; *wp*19.3 6-7)

Adam and Eve had the prospect of everlasting life as long as they obeyed God (Ge 2:16, 17)

HOW EVERLASTING LIFE WAS LOST (4 min.)

Adam and Eve willfully chose to disobey God (Ge 3:6) [Image 1]

They were expelled from the garden of Eden, and they eventually died (Ge 3:19, 22, 23; 5:5)

Adam passed on sin, imperfection, and death to all of his descendants [Read Romans 5:12]

Despite the rebellion in Eden, God's purpose for mankind has not changed (*g* 12/08 7)

How is it possible for imperfect humans to gain everlasting life?

HOW EVERLASTING LIFE IS POSSIBLE (9 min.)

Human efforts to overcome aging will not bring everlasting life

Advances in hygiene and medicine have increased the *life expectancy* of many, but the human *life span* remains basically unchanged (Ps 90:10; *wp*19.3 5 ¶3-4)

Jehovah God has provided the solution to the problem of inherited sin and death [Read John 3:16]

Jesus willingly gave up his life to provide a ransom for Adam's descendants (Mt 20:28; Ro 5:19; *bhs* 54 ¶10-11) [Image 2]

Many will live forever on a paradise earth in harmony with God's purpose (Ps 37:29)

Millions will survive the end of this present system; billions of others will be resurrected from the dead (Re 7:9, 14; 20:13)

WILL EVERLASTING LIFE BE ENJOYABLE? (8 min.)

In the future, God will remove the problems that rob us of joy now

All wickedness will be gone (Ps 37:10, 11)

Sickness and death along with the sadness they bring will be eliminated (Isa 25:8; 33:24; Re 21:3, 4)

God will reverse the aging process; old ones will be young again (Job 33:24, 25)

Mankind will live in peace and enjoy prosperity (Ps 72:7, 16)

Everlasting life will not be boring

We will have endless opportunities to study creation, travel, learn new skills, and build friendships

Imagine the joy of coming to know your ancestors who have been resurrected

Most important, we will keep learning about Jehovah and drawing closer to him (Ro 11:33)

WILL YOU LIVE FOREVER? (4 min.)

Jehovah and his Son have opened the way to everlasting life, but each of us must choose whether to accept the loving provision of the ransom

Those who exercise faith in the ransom are promised everlasting life (Joh 3:36; *wp*17.2 7 ¶1)

Make it your priority to gain the knowledge that will lead you to everlasting life (Joh 17:3)

[Invite new ones to gain accurate Bible knowledge by attending congregation meetings regularly and by accepting a Bible study]

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section.

Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School* book, pages 52-55, 166-169]

TO BE COVERED IN 30 MINUTES

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