

## The Question

Why didn't God allow Adam and Eve to eat from the Tree of Life after they sinned, so they could live forever? (Genesis 3:22-24)

## The Scriptural Account

Genesis 3:22-23 (NKJV) - Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"— therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.

From the beginning, eternal life was part of God's design for mankind. Humanity was created to live forever in fellowship with Him, enjoying His presence and walking in His holiness.

Titus 1:2 (NKJV) - in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began.

1 John 2:25 (NKJV) - And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

## **The Reason for God's Restriction**

The issue was not that God wanted to deny eternal life to Adam and Eve. Instead, it was that they had already fallen into sin. If they had eaten from the Tree of Life in their sinful condition, they would have been locked into an unending existence corrupted by sin.

Eternal life in sin would not be heaven — it would be an eternal hell on earth. Sin brings decay, corruption, pain, and separation from God. Living forever in such a state would be a curse, not a blessing.

Romans 6:23 (NKJV) - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Because God is holy and perfect, eternal life in His presence must also be holy and free from sin. His justice demands that sin be dealt with before eternal life can be granted.

## **God's Redemptive Plan**

God's immediate act of blocking access to the Tree of Life was actually an act of mercy. Instead of allowing humanity to live forever in a fallen state, He initiated a plan of redemption to remove sin at its root.

This plan was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Revelation 13:8). Through Christ's sacrificial death and resurrection, those who repent and believe are cleansed from sin and given eternal life.

Romans 5:21 (NKJV) - so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 3:17 (NKJV) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

The cross became the new “Tree of Life” for all who believe. The way back to eternal life is now through Christ alone.

### **The Only Way to Eternal Life**

The Bible is clear — there is no eternal life outside of Jesus Christ. Religion, morality, or human effort cannot give eternal life, because they cannot remove the stain of sin. Only the blood of Jesus can cleanse us completely.

John 14:6 (NKJV) Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Acts 4:12 (NKJV)

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

When the appointed time came, God sent His Son to die for both the living and those who had died in faith. This was so that all might be purified and share in the eternal life promised before the foundation of the world.

### **The Final Invitation**

Eternal life is not automatic — it is received by faith in Christ. To reject Him is to choose eternal separation from God.

John 3:35-36 (NKJV)

The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.

Other passages that affirm this include 1 John 5:11-13, John 3:16, John 5:24, John 6:54, John 12:50, John 17:2, and Romans 6:23.

Have you received the Lord Jesus as your Savior? These are the last days; time is short, and the end is near. The door to eternal life is open — but only through Him.

Revelation 22:14 (NKJV)

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

Why Did the LORD God Prevent Adam and Eve from Eating from the  
Tree of Life?

**May the Lord bless you richly.**

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