

# **The Fundamentals of Life<sup>1</sup>**

**Gen. 1:20-28**

## **Introduction:**

- A. There are certain things fundamental to life and its perpetuation.
- B. These fundamentals are the same for physical and spiritual life.
- C. These fundamentals apply to us as individuals and as a people.

## **Discussion:**

### **I. There must Be Life.**

- A. God gave physical life to all living things.
- B. God gave physical and spiritual life to man (Gen. 2:7; Heb. 12:9)
- C. Man sinned and died spiritually – ultimately physically (Gen. 2:17; 3:22-24)
  - 1. All die physically because of Adam's sin.
  - 2. All die spiritually because of own sin (Ezek. 18:4, 20).
- D. Jesus came to give life to the spiritually dead – ultimately to the physical dead.
  - 1. The resurrection of the spiritually dead (Eph 2:1-8; Col. 2:12-13; 3:1-2; Rom. 6:4; John 5:25-29)
  - 2. The resurrection of the physically dead (1 Cor. 15:20-22)
  - 3. Christ died for every man (Heb. 2:9) – What about infants?

### **II. There must Be Growth.**

- A. For life to continue, must grow until we can reproduce.
- B. Christians must grow in grace and knowledge (2 Pet. 3:17, 18).
  - 1. Must grow to teach others (Heb. 5:12-14).
  - 2. Newborn Christians expected to grow (1 Pet. 1:22-2:3)
- C. Growth is combination of eating and exercise (Heb. 5:12-14; 1 Tim. 4:7,8).

### **III. There must Be Reproduction.**

- A. Without reproduction human race would die out – same with spiritual race.
- B. Without reproduction congregations will die.
  - 1. Can start with our families (Eph. 6:4; 1 Pet. 3:1).
  - 2. Can try to restore the fallen (Gal. 6:1; Jas. 5:19-20).
  - 3. Can commit to faithful men what we learn (2 Tim. 2:2).
  - 4. Can teach the lost in the world. (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16).
  - 5. Can support others who preach and teach (Phil. 4:15-17).

## **Conclusion:**

- A. For life to continue we must first be alive, must grow, must reproduce.
- B. If this does not happen physically then the human race will die out.
- C. If this does not happen spiritually then congregations will die out.

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<sup>1</sup>From mental notes taken on a sermon by preached Ray Farris at Red Bay, AL (7/15/99)