

LIFE FROM DEATH

This is our final lesson of the Amen Special series.

Jesus introduced a new teaching technique by using the double Amen at the beginning of a doctrine rather than at the end. It is always introduced by “**truly, truly, I say to you.**”

John listed this new teaching technique 25 times in his gospel. It was identified by the Greek word (pariomia) - “Jesus used this figure of speech (**paroimia**), but they didn’t understand what He was telling them.” (Jn.10:6)

In our final Amen lesson, Jesus will use this new teaching technique to teach the doctrine of Life from Death – “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; **but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**” (Jn.12:24)

Today’s lesson will study five aspects of Life from Death taken from one of the Amen Special Lessons of Jesus.

1. Our lesson text opens with a group of visiting Greeks that were in Jerusalem for the Passover who were seeking an interview with Jesus.

“Now there were certain Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast (Jn.12:1) [Passover].” (Jn.12:20)

Apparently, these Greeks were curious about the death and resuscitation of Lazarus (Jn.11:55-56).

“The great multitude therefore of the Jews learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead.” (Jn.12:9-11)

The Greek culture was infatuated with the possibilities of life after death. “Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, **how do some among you say** that there is no resurrection of the dead?” (1 Cor.15:12-19)

“**But someone will say**, ‘How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?’” (1 Cor.15:35-38)

2. It was during this encounter that Jesus used an illustration taken from some of the laws of Day Three of Creation in the double Amen doctrine of Life from Death.

Day 3 of Creation had a double work of God (Gen.1:9-13):

- Dry land and seas (Gen.1:9-10) and
- Vegetation, **plant yielding seed**, and fruit bearing trees (Gen.1:11-13).

Possible gate question: Which came first the seed or the plant?

A new concept was introduced on Day 3 that is important to Jesus’ illustration. It is the phrase, “after their kind.” It is the Hebrew word (**min**). It refers to the DNA genetic code of species.

Jesus used the plant yielding seed and min in His illustration. “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a **grain of wheat** falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone; but if it dies, it bears much **fruit.**” (Jn.12:24).

3. In this same illustration, Jesus applied some of the laws of Adam's original sin (AOS).

Death - "But from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die." (Gen.2:17)

Curse - "Cursed is the ground because of you." (Gen.3:17)

We learn from Rom.8:18-23 that death spread to other categories of life from AOS. "For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now." (Rom.8:22)

"How long is the land to mourn and the vegetation of the countryside to wither?" (Jer.12:4)

DNA genetic min life code is in the seed but the seed must die to bear new life – "But if it dies, it bears much fruit." (Jn.12:24)

Spiritual lesson: "But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die." (Jn.12:33)

4. Jesus taught a famous parable about the Sower and Seed in Matt.13:1-23.

It was one that He interpreted for us to understand (Matt.13:18-23). "The farmer went out to sow his seed."

You remember that the farmer sowed the same seed on four different types of ground. Three had hostile elements to the seed (roadside / birds; rocky / little soil and heat; thorny / choke; **but not the good ground**)

We were told that **the seed** was the message of the kingdom that must be sown in a good heart to yield great production (100, 60, and 30 fold) (Matt.13:23).

A **good heart** would be one that has positive volition to receive the word of God by faith and then apply it by the grace of God for great divine production without getting distracted by the elements. "He who loves his life loses it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it to life eternal. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall My servant also be; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him." (Jn.2:25-26)

5. In order to restore the spiritual life formula to the human soul, Jesus Christ had to die spiritually to bring to spiritual life through the gospel.

Spiritual life formula

"Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life (neshamah chayyim) [lives]; and man became a living soul." (Gen.2:7)

Spiritual death formula

"For in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die (dying you shall die)." (Gen.2:17)

Divine solution

"For **in Adam** all die, so also **in Christ** all shall be made alive." (1 Cor.15:22; Rom.5:12-21)

"So also it is written, 'the first man, Adam, became a living soul (chayyah nephesh).' The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.'" (1 Cor.15:45; Gen.1:27; 2:7)

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, **has eternal life**, and does not come into judgment, but **has passed out of death into life**." (Jn.5:24; 20:31; 1Jn.5:11-13; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9)