

Introduction:

1. Do you think it is possible? Can science defeat death? Can genetic engineering stop the aging process to where we can live indefinitely on this planet? You may think those questions to be absurd, and that nobody would actually think something like that to be possible. The evidence would show us otherwise.
2. A number of Silicon Valley billionaires think it can be done.
 - a. Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison, for example, has given more than \$430 million toward antiaging research. He believes we must not give in to mortality.
 - b. Google co-founder Larry Page launched a biotech company called Calico, which aims to extend the human life span by a century. That means the average human could live 180 years or more.
 - c. Ray Kurzweil, a scientist and futurist (a director of engineering at Google) thinks that if we can survive until the 2040s, we can “live long enough to live forever.” That’s just 24 years from now.
 - d. PayPal co-founder Peter Thiel created Breakout Labs to fund scientists and start-ups that work on achieving immortality, and he invested \$3.5 million in the Methuselah Foundation.
 - e. Aubrey de Grey, a biomedical gerontologist, treats aging as an engineering problem to be solved at the cellular level by reprogramming cells to stop aging; de Grey believes that our generation will be the first to achieve immortality—or at least to live indefinitely—de Grey is on record claiming that the first human to live 1,000 years is alive today.
 - f. (All info above is from an article by Michael Shermer, founding publisher of Skeptic magazine—an atheist magazine. Kind of interesting that atheists—like ourselves—are interested in living forever.)
3. So, realistically, what are the chances that science can defeat death? Not very good. It is one thing to extend life-expectancy and retard the aging process; it is quite another to eliminate death.
4. Here are three facts for your consideration.

The Lesson:**I. Humans must die.**

- A. Past experience tells us that.
 1. The longest anyone has lived in the modern age is 122 years. That record is held by Jeanne Calment of France who died on August 4, 1997.
 2. The oldest person living today is 117 years old. According to the British paper, the Daily Star, Nabi Tajima of Japan will have her 118th birthday on August 4—if she lives till that date. She attributes her long life to sleeping soundly and eating delicious food.
 3. All people born before August 4, 1900 (Tajima’s DOB) have already died—all of them!
 4. Past experience gives us a pretty strong record that tells us humans must die. The past gives us some clues about the future, doesn’t it?
- B. God’s Book tells us the same.
 1. The classic text is Hebrews 9:27. Man is appointed by God to die. It will happen to us.
 2. Other texts say the same: Genesis 3:19; 2 Samuel 14:14; Job 30:23; Ecclesiastes 3:2; 9:5, 10.

3. The number of Bible verses that affirm that we must die are too numerous to mention. It is the nature of our existence that we must die.

C. Modern science has done many things to extend human life expectancy—by advances in nutrition, in medicine, and improving the work environment—but can science eliminate death?

II. Humans can live forever.

A. That seems to be the quest of the Silicon Valley scientists. It is possible and readily achievable—but not by means of science. Our God—who does live forever—is the source of life for us.

B. First, let us understand that God does indeed live forever. He has no beginning or end.

1. Hear the expression of Moses regarding God the Father in Psalm 90:1-2.

2. The same may be said of the Son of God; He is eternal, Revelation 1:8, 11.

3. The Holy Spirit also has no beginning and no end; He is eternal, Hebrews 9:14.

C. God is the source of living forever. He has appointed His Son as the only conduit of life for us.

1. Eternal life is provided by God through Jesus Christ, 1 John 5:11.

2. Jesus Himself proclaimed that to Martha in the account in John 11:23-26.

3. Jesus promised eternal life to all who follow Him, John 10:27-28.

4. Paul affirmed the truth of this in Titus 1:2. Note that eternal life is tied to the veracity of God.

D. Science may do many things to extend life expectancy, but science cannot provide eternal life.

III. Humans will never age.

A. I speak only of those humans who follow Jesus and are raised by Him on the last day—raised to eternal life, John 6:40. Death and aging end at that day, 1 Corinthians 15:25-26, 52-57.

1. Those who share in that resurrection will never grow old. The aging process will be no more.

2. Can you imagine what it would be like if we lived forever and the aging process continued?

3. Look back at a picture of yourself from 10 or 20 years ago. Can you see aging at work? What if that went on forever? It will not.

B. Our bodies will be forever young, healthy, beautiful and powerful. The apostle describes the resurrection body, 1 Corinthians 15:42-49. These are bodies fit for eternal glory.

1. We will bear the image of the heavenly. Our bodies will be like His, Philippians 3:20-21.

2. Our present state is not our eternal state, 1 John 3:1-3. Note that this text speaks of those who have “this hope in Jesus.” That is, this is the way they live their lives—in hope of eternal life; in hope of being with Jesus; in hope of being like Jesus. People with that kind of hope live in purity.

Conclusion:

1. God will do for us what science can never do! God will take us past the point of death and bring us to everlasting life. That is His promise to His people—to all who will follow His Son.

2. When we were young, we thought we would be young forever. We thought we had forever to do whatever we wanted. We now know that is not true. Aging, death, and the reality of eternity lie before us. We now have opportunity to lay hold on the most wonderful, fantastic, spectacular thing attainable by man!