

“The Breath of God”
Psalm 33:6

Introduction: The breath of God is mentioned several times in the Word of God. For instance, notice what is written in Job 37:10. “*By the breath of God frost is given: and the breadth of the waters is straitened.*” However, notice an important truth concerning the breath of God.

1. Everything that God births and then breathes on will never die.
2. Ecclesiastes 3:14- “*I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.*”

Body: Notice the birth and breath of God on Israel, the Bible, the Church, and man.

- I. God’s Breath on Israel Ezekiel 37:1-10
 - A. God birthed the nation of Israel in Genesis 12:1-3, and then God breathed on them in Ezekiel 37:1-10.
 - B. Genesis 17:1-8
 - C. Ezekiel chapters 37-48 look forward to the future of Israel and Judah, to a time when God will do a new work and His glory will return to the land.
 - D. In Ezekiel 37, we see that the nation of Israel is:
 1. Revived vs. 1-14
 - a. At this time, both Israel and Judah were ruined politically. Assyria had scattered Israel, and Judah had just been captured by Babylon. Both Isaiah and Jeremiah predicted a return from captivity, but Ezekiel’s vision goes even farther down the years.
 - b. He saw the time when the dead nation would come alive again. In the vision, he saw very many bones in the valley, and the bones were very dry. It was a picture of utter defeat.
 - c. Through the power of God’s Word, the bones came together and formed men, and through the breath of God, life was given to them.
 - d. This does not teach a bodily resurrection, or even the salvation of the Jews. Rather, it pictures the future revival of the nation, when the Jews will be brought up out of the “graves” of the Gentile nations where they have been scattered.
 - e. Politically, this took place May 14, 1948, when the modern nation of Israel entered the family of nations again.
 2. Reunited vs. 15-28
 - a. The division of the nation into the Northern and Southern Kingdoms was the beginning of their downfall.
 - b. One day God will reunite all the tribes under their true David, Jesus Christ. He will make a covenant of peace with them and bring glory to His people once again.
 - c. Paul teaches us that Israel has a past, present, and future. Romans 11:25-27
 - E. It does not matter what the rag heads of the Middle East do, Israel has the breath of God.

- II. God's Breath on the Bible II Timothy 3:16
- A. The word inspiration means to breathe or blow.
 - B. God's expiration led to His inspiration.
 - C. I believe in the inspiration and preservation of the Scriptures.
 - D. What God births and breathes on will never die!
 - E. Satan has tried to attack God's words through:
 1. Greek philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
 2. Alexandria, Egypt has tried to corrupt the Word of God.
 3. Origen and his ancient Septuagint have tried to replace the Bible.
 4. Perversions such as the Sinaiticus and the Vaticanus have surfaced to distort Scripture.
 5. Jerome produced a corrupt Roman Catholic Latin Vulgate that was a counterfeit to the Waldensian Old Latin Bible.
 6. Fenton John Anthony Hort and Brooke Foss Westcott have tried to revise the Bible and many have followed in their footsteps.
 - F. However, the Word of God stands uncorrupted!
 - G. Isaiah 40:8- *"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."*
 - H. I Peter 1:25- *"But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."*
 - I. Matthew 24:35- *"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."*
 - J. Thank God for the preservation of:
 1. Moses and the church at Antioch.
 2. Thank God for the Vaudois and their Old Latin Bible. The Catholics tried for 900 years to destroy this Bible and its believers.
 3. Thank God for John Wycliffe who tried to translate the Word of God into English.
 4. Thank God for Desiderius Erasmus who would give us the Genuine New Testament in 1516.
 5. Thank God for William Tyndale, who tried to preserve God's Word in English, and said, "I defy the Pope, and all his laws; and if God spare my life, ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the Scripture than you do!"
 6. Thank God for William Tyndale's last prayer which was, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes."
 7. Thank God for King James and his making of the 1611 King James Bible!
 - K. The Scriptures are profitable for *doctrine* (what is right), for *reproof* (what is not right), for *correction* (how to get right), and for *instruction in righteousness* (how to stay right).
 - L. God thought it, Christ wrought it, the Holy Spirit brought it, the devil fought it, but I have got it!
 - M. Look at this song!

Verse One:

What light is that shining so brightly for me?
That gives me such courage, the right way to see.
What hope for my trusting soul ever shall be?
God's wonderful Book Divine.

Verse Two:

What hope for the traveler when strength's almost gone?
That makes him determined to keep plodding on.
What sweet consolation from Heaven's White Throne?
God's wonderful Book Divine.

Verse Three:

What chart can you trust as a guide for your soul?
When tempests would strand you on some treacherous shore.
What compass will point you to Heaven's bright door?
God's wonderful Book Divine.

Chorus:

I love the old Bible, precious old Bible
Light on my pathway to shine
It keeps me so happy, always so happy
God's wonderful Book Divine

III. God's Breath on the Church John 20:19-22

- A. The Spirit had dwelt *with* them in the person of Christ, but now the Spirit would be *in* them.
- B. John 14:17- "*Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*"
- C. Apart from the filling of the Spirit, they could not go forth to witness effectively.
- D. God birthed His church in Matthew 16:18, and breathed on them in John 20:19-22, and what God births and breathes on will never die.
- E. Thank God for an unbroken lineage of the church from the times of Christ to the present!
 1. Novatians—Rome, Italy—150 AD
 2. Montanists—Asia—170 AD
 3. Donatists—North Africa—311 AD
 4. Waldensians—Switzerland—500-1500 AD
 5. Paulicians—Asia—660 AD
 6. Albigenses—France—700 AD
 7. Henricians—France—1116 AD
 8. Petrobrussians—Southern France—1126 AD
 9. Arnoldists—Europe—1155 AD
 10. Lollards—Northern Germany and the Netherlands—1330 AD
 11. Anabaptists—Germany, Holland and Switzerland—1520 AD

12. John Clarke—1638—Portsmouth, Rhode Island
 13. Valentine Wightman—1705—Groton, Connecticut
 14. Waitt Palmer—Baptized Shubal Stearns
 15. Shubal Stearns—42 churches—125 preachers
 16. John Waller—He constituted 18 churches. For many years he pastored five churches at one time.
 17. Lewis Lunsford—Several churches were gathered as the fruit of his toils; the most prominent of which are, Nomini, Moratico, and Wicomico.
 18. Isaac McCoy—He pastored five at one time (from White River church to High Bank is twenty miles, thence to Wabash twenty-four, thence to Maria twelve, thence to Prairie Creek forty, from Prairie Creek to White River church is seventy miles—166 miles) with a desire for two or three more.
 19. Hezekiah Smith—Planted 13 churches in New England.
 20. Daniel Marshall—Planted 1 church in Virginia, 1 in North Carolina, 6 in South Carolina, and 7 in Georgia.
 21. Lewis Craig—Planted 4 churches in Virginia and 4 churches in Kentucky.
 22. John Corbly—Planted over 30 churches in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky.
 23. Samuel Harris—Planted 26 churches in Virginia.
 24. Christmas Evans pastored five churches at the same time in Wales.
 25. John Taylor planted over 30 churches in Kentucky.
 26. Bluestone Baptist Church—Following their Pastor—Chase City, VA
- F. Ephesians 3:21- *“Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”*
- G. Matthew 16:18- *“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*

IV. God’s Breath on Man Genesis 2:7, Job 33:4

- A. God formed man, but he fashioned woman.
- B. The breath of life is special to this passage. It expresses the spiritual and principal element in man, which is not formed, but breathed by the Creator into the physical form of man.
- C. As by his body he is allied to earth and by his soul to heaven. These two different productions show the different nature of the soul and body of man, the one is material and mortal, the other immaterial and immortal.
- D. Job 12:9-10, 27:3, 33:4
- E. Psalm 104:29, Psalms 146:4
- F. Ecclesiastes 8:8

Conclusion: When your breath departs from your body, will you go to heaven or hell. Remember, what God births and breathes on will never die. Luke 16:22-23