

## Death is a natural part of life

Since the dawn of recorded human history, man has longed for immortality. One of the oldest stories about this human desire is the epic of Gilgamesh. After the death of his friend, Gilgamesh sets out on a journey to discover the secret of immortality. He visits Utnapishtim (the Sumerian Noah), who tells him the story of the flood. Although Gilgamesh discovers the plant of immortality, he loses it and realizes that immortality belongs to the gods and that death is an inevitable part of human life.

We can see that even in this ancient story (which dates back to the 3rd millennium BC in ancient Sumer), the idea that death is an inevitable part of life appears. If death is the natural end of human life, does it make sense to think about "some kind of hope"? This is the conclusion reached by atheists, people without any belief in God the Creator. Nevertheless, throughout history, people have sought, and still seek today, a way to stop aging and biological death. In Christian history, alchemists sought to find a way or means to achieve immortality. Today, scientists, most of whom are atheists, are trying to do the same thing, using scientific knowledge to discover or invent a way to make the human body immortal. They are generously funded by powerful people who also desire immortality. They are trying to achieve eternal life without the help of God and His Son, Jesus. Those who desire immortality agree with King Solomon, who wrote three thousand years ago: "*... also he has put eternity in men's hearts, so that no man can find out the work that God does from the beginning to the end.*" (Ecclesiastes 3:11) Those who keep people in the delusion about the nature of death, even though they themselves prove the lie by their persistent efforts to achieve it, are the sons of the Evil One (Matthew 13:38-39).

In fact, the real cause of death is unnatural. God created man to live forever. But God's adversary, Satan, deceived Adam's wife through the serpent and seduced her to eat the forbidden fruit, about which God had said that whoever ate it would die. The serpent persuaded the woman to disregard God's warning, and she and her husband ate it (Genesis 3:1-6). Since then, people have been dying.

## Consequences

In fact, it is natural for humans to desire eternity, not death. Those who do not believe that God and Jesus Christ offer us the hope of eternal life, free from war, hunger, disease, and other tragedies that plague today's world, will not be actively interested in the Christian hope of redemption from sin and the possibility of eternal life. They will consider such teachings to be foolishness (1 Cor. 2:14). They will either suppress their natural desire for eternity or seek to fulfill it with the help of science. They do

not understand that God is the source of life and that only He can restore it to us. People who search for the meaning of life and feel that their way of life is unfulfilling, but do not believe in the teachings of the churches, will seek answers in philosophies, in non-Christian religions, or even in demonic practices and rituals.

In reality, man was created for life, which is why God the Creator placed in his heart a desire for eternity (Ecclesiastes 3:11) and, through His Son, gives people the opportunity to accept His way of salvation and the possibility of gaining eternal life. Death is not a natural part of human life, but is the result of the cunning and deception of the Serpent, who seduced our first parents into breaking the only prohibition they received from God the Creator. Let us not be blinded by the deception of the naturalness of death.