

# Epistle 184

by George Fox

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of living in the power of eternal life, distinguishing truth from falsehood, and being attentive to God's voice speaking from heaven.*

**Scripture:** Amos 5:24, John 4:24, Romans 8:2, Ephesians 2:19, Hebrews 7:16, Hebrews 12:25-27, 1 John 1:3, 1 John 3:15, 1 John 5:12, Revelation 22:1

**Topics:** "Unity in Christ", "Eternal Life"

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## Description

George Fox emphasizes the power of God that unites believers in eternal life, urging them to live in this divine power to inherit eternity. He warns against envy and persecution, stating that those who harbor such feelings do not possess eternal life. Fox encourages the faithful to worship God in truth and spirit, distinguishing between divine and human gatherings, and to remain steadfast in the teachings of Christ. He highlights the importance of listening to God's voice, which brings true joy and shakes away falsehoods. Ultimately, he calls for a life rooted in the eternal, where believers can experience the fullness of God's glory and righteousness.

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## Transcript

O my dear friends and brethren every where! the power of the Lord God, that is over all, live in, that in that ye may feel unity and fellowship; that in the power of the Lord God ye may all come to be heirs of the power of an endless life [Heb 7:16], through which ye may inherit eternity, and so to feel life eternal abiding in you. Now, the manslayer hath not eternal life abiding in him, that is he that envies his brother [1 Jn 3:15]; so all the persecutors, that envy their brethren, have not eternal life abiding in them: under this all the persecutors about their church and vain religion, false worship, faith, and ministry, are.

Therefore all of you, feel this eternal life abiding in you; for he that hath the son of God, hath life eternal [1Jn 5:12]; and so, in this eternal life ye have fellowship with God and his son [1 Jn 1:3], and with one another [1 Jn 1:7]; and in this, the law of life, that is in Jesus Christ, passeth sentence on the law of sin and death [Rom 8:2] in every man and woman, and brings it to the execution. Through which law of life righteousness flows and runs down [Amos 5:24], and also justice and truth; and by this law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus [Rom 8:2], (mark, in Christ Jesus,) ye come to know the Lamb's throne [Rev 22:1,3], and the throne of iniquity [Psa 94:20] thrown down, and all blasphemous mouths stopped, and the chambers of imagery [Ezek 8:12] thrown down, and the household of God [Eph 2:19] raised up, and the fruitless trees [Jude 1:12] thrown down, and the plant of God raised up, which is of his own planting, the

tree of righteousness [Isa 61:3], whose fruit is unto holiness, whose end is everlasting life [Rom 6:22].

So mark, here is the fruit of this tree, and the end of this tree, and by this spirit ye do distinguish names and plantings, and pluckings up; and God's building ye will distinguish from man's building [Heb 3:4?]; and man's plucking down, and man's gathering together--ye that are gathered together in the name of Jesus [Mat 18:20], can distinguish men's gathering, and their scattering [Mat 12:30?]. Oh! therefore be valiant for the truth [Jer 9:3], which ye are come to the knowledge of, and worship God in that truth, which the devil is out of, and abode not in [John 8:44]; this makes you free [John 8:32] from the devil and his works, that are out of the truth.

Here in this worship, (in the truth and in the spirit,) [John 4:24] the living God, who is a spirit, the God of all truth, he hath his glory and his honour from his spirit in every heart. And so, keep in the spirit and truth, and the power of the everlasting God, who is from everlasting to everlasting [Psa 90:2], that ye may know him Lord of the earth and of the heaven, and of the heaven of heavens [Deut 10:14], ruling and reigning, whose eye is over all his works; that ye may glorify him in his power and spirit, and serve him in the new life [Rom 6:4/7:6], which will keep you over all men's fables and devices, whimsies and imaginations, out of all janglings and vain disputes of men of corrupt minds [1 Tim 6:5].

And so, all to live in that which is the same to-day, as was yesterday [Heb 13:8], Christ Jesus, the power of God [1 Cor 1:24], and the seed of life, and word that was in the beginning [John 1:1]; so, no new thing [Eccl 1:9], but that which was and is to all eternity: let your fellowship be in that, and your unity and communion be in that; for by the spiritual eye the eternal unity with the eternal God is seen. So, hear his voice every where, that speaks from heaven, whose voice shakes the earth, and not the earth only, but heaven also.

The heaven signifies joy; so, all the false joys, the lifted up joys, or exalted joy, and joy in vain glory, and joy in the world, or any outward thing or creature, or men or women, his voice, that speaks from heaven, shakes the earth and the heavens, and these must be shaken and removed, both the heaven and the earth, before that doth appear that can never be shaken [Heb 12:25-27], the noble, royal seed, elect and precious [1 Pet 2:6], which was before the world began; being heirs of him, come to inherit him; in him ye shall know that which cannot be shaken.

And there is the true joy, the standing joy, in that which is from everlasting to everlasting, who is the beginning and ending; here is not any lifted up, nor cast down. So I say, hear his voice, and harden not your hearts; for through not hearing his voice, ye harden your hearts, then ye provoke God to wrath [Psa 95:7f,11] and sore displeasure. Let him have your ear, that speaks from heaven; that ye may come to observe his counsel, teachings, instructions, and directions.

For all the prophets, the holy men of God [2 Pet 1:21], and the apostles, were attentive and obedient to this heavenly voice, who witnessed to the truth, who had a witness in heaven [Job 16:19] also; and such declared forth the glorious truth, which they had from the instruction of the Almighty. . . . And as your ears are attentive to the Lord's voice that is from heaven, iniquity's mouth is stopped [Job 5:16] in you, the throne of iniquity [Psa 94:20] is thrown down in you, (that is, the wicked spirit and power,) wherein iniquity sits, and the chamber of imagery [Ezek 8:12] is thrown down in you, where man's thoughts and imaginations are. . . .

And here as ye abide, ye have the savour, and can taste your meat in the power of the Lord God, feeding upon every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God [Deut 8:3], having your ear open, and attentive to

his voice; in this ye grow up in the life that is eternal.

G. F.

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