

# The Cave of Wisdom and Life

An ancient parable tells of three men who were encouraged to find the Cave of Wisdom and Life. They made careful preparations for what would be a challenging and arduous journey.

When they reached the place of the cave, they noted a guard at the entrance. They were not permitted to enter the cave until they had spoken with the guard. He had only one question for them, and he demanded that they answer only after talking it over with one another.

He assured them that they would have a good guide to lead them through the regions of the cave.

His question was a simple one: "How far into the Cave of Wisdom and Life do you wish to go?"

The three travelers took counsel together and then returned to the guard. Their response was, "Oh, not very far. We just want to go far enough into the cave so that we can say that we have been there."

The response of the guard manifested none of his great disappointment as he summoned someone to lead the three seekers a short distance into the cave, and then watched them set out again, after a very short time, to make the journey back to their own land.

The question of the guard at the cave is one we must face, consciously or unconsciously: How far into the Cave of Wisdom and Life do we – you and I – wish to go?

We do answer that inquiry in one way or another. For example ...

- In our formal education process, did we pursue and earn college and post-graduate degrees, or did we stop somewhere in the process?
- In the School of Life Experiences, which is the educational institution we must all attend, what courses – lifestyle and career choices – do we choose to major in?
- In marriage and family matters, do we set, and remain committed to, fundamental priorities of love and loyalty, placing the interests of others first?
- In the spiritual realm, do we place our faith in Jesus Christ and make Him Lord of our lives, diligently seeking the deep spiritual truths of His Word?
- In human interactions, do we demonstrate love and kindness to those we meet, even strangers?

Our responses to these and other questions indicate how far we want to go into the Cave of Wisdom and Life.

– Beecher Hunter