

Special Hour 2

life, but a man who is keeping the commandments naturally has eternal life. "This do and live". If you are doing this you are living. If you are doing this you don't need to ask how to enter into eternal life. You've got it already. He is here again, not giving the direct words, but He's getting down underneath the mind and leading the thought along to present to you the idea which is right, the idea that here is the commandment and it is through keeping the commandments you have eternal life, but you recognize you don't keep them. You recognize that you are not fully keeping the commandments. You recognize that there is something wrong; something still needed and so you are asking for eternal life. The commandments describe the sort of man who has eternal life. After you get eternal life; after you are redeemed, then you take the commandments, and you study the guide which God has given you to the sort of life of which He approves. You'll never get there by trying to keep the commandments. You can't do it, but you observe that the man who has moved furthest in the line of following God is the man who is most truly keeping the commandments for we grow further and further into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ until that day when we shall be like Him. We can never, by any legalistic method of approach, secure eternal life, and that is not the teaching of the New Testament nor the teaching of the Old Testament, but the law of God is a guide, a lamp unto our feet and light to our path. It is observation, it is help, it is direction for the one who is trying to serve God, who already has eternal life, and so he asked this young man, "You know the commandments, you want eternal life, well, here's a commandment—the man is asking for eternal life, what's wrong? Hasn't he kept the commandments? Well, the man says, "All these have I kept from my youth up," and now Jesus might have turned to him and said, "What a liar you are. Everybody breaks the commandments. There is not a soul who has ever lived who has kept all of these commandments. How perfectly silly for you to say that you have kept all these from your youth up. That's what He might have said, and might have said it truly, and that is what one of us probably would have said, and that is what sometimes if you say, God will