

HOW TO LIVE THE ABUNDANT LIFE
JOHN 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Introduction:

1. Shouldn't we all want to live a full and abundant life? After all, we only have one chance to do so on this earth.
2. Jesus has promised to those who trust in Him to save them that He would offer them an abundant life.
3. The word "abundant" means "to have a surplus, an overflow."
4. It is certain that Christians have enjoyed far greater blessings and privileges than were ever possessed by the Jews.
5. Are you living an abundant life? If not, here's how:

I. THE ABUNDANT LIFE IS A LIFE OF FAITH. **Romans 1:17** *For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "the just shall live by faith."*

- A. Living a life by faith simply means to have total trust and commitment to Jesus.
- B. Faith is not hoping that God will do something, but being convinced He will.

Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

- C. The ground of faith is the divine testimony, not the reasonableness of what God says, but the simple fact that He says it. Faith rests immediately on, "Thus saith the Lord."
- D. It is God who bestows upon us this faith. It is not something that we garnered ourselves.

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God...*

- E. We are saved through faith, it is a gift of God. We trusted Him to save us, shall we not trust Him in all things of this life?

II. THE ABUNDANT LIFE IS A LIFE OF WISDOM. **James 1:5** *If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.*

- A. Wisdom is moral insight, understanding, discernment, and a sense of what is vital.
- B. Knowledge of the Hebrew and Greek languages, of Bible doctrine, and of other biblical literature is no guarantee of spiritual wisdom.

C. True wisdom comes from God. **Proverbs 2:6** *For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding;*

- D. People do not gain wisdom by any efforts of their own, but God gives it according to the laws of His own goodness.

E. The Prophet Daniel understood this. **Daniel 2:20-21** *Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding.*

III. THE ABUNDANT LIFE IS A LIFE OF GRACE. **2 Corinthians 9:8** *And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.*

- A. Grace is that wonderful gift from God that causes us to love the unloveable, and have a spirit of forgiveness toward those who have hurt us.

B. Grace is that ability of God that is able to impart to you all those things which are needful for your welfare.

C. God knows just how much grace you need in your time of trials. **Ephesians 4:7** *But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.*

D. There is a great promise given by God to His children. **Psalms 84:11** *For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*

IV. THE ABUNDANT LIFE IS A LIFE OF POWER. **2 Peter 1:2-3** *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue...*

A. In the divine power of God we are given all things that pertain to the abundant life.

B. The promises of God are great and precious, but we must make use of them, if we are to have this extraordinary, abundant life in Jesus.

C. All the effects of the gospel on the human heart are, in the Scriptures, traced to the power of God. **Ephesians 1:19** *...and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power...*

D. There is a free gift of Divine power for all our needs, everything to foster the spiritual life and to guide us into the way of holiness. **2 Timothy 1:7** *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

Conclusion:

1. The abundant life is not a simple, bare existence - but is a life given by Jesus that includes all things which are needful to make that life eminently blessed and happy.
2. If you are not living an abundant life, it is your fault, not Jesus'.
3. Stop trying to be the master of your own life and make Jesus your Master. Then you will begin to experience the abundant life He's promised.