

The Abundant Life

God sends the rain on the just and the unjust alike (**Matthew 5:45**). However, He also gives good things to those who ask Him (**Matthew 7:9-11**). God gives to us good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over (**Luke 6:38**). Often, we have not because we have not asked or we have asked for the wrong reason (**James 4:2-3**).

God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think (**Ephesians 3:20**). The grace of our Lord is exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus (**1 Timothy 1:14**). Jesus said, "I come that they might have life, and might have it more abundantly" (**John 10:10**). An entrance into the everlasting kingdom will be abundantly supplied to us (**2 Peter 1:11**).

What difference does being a Christian make in our life? Having the "abundant" life has the meaning of that which is "Superior in quantity or quality." Paul used "Exceedingly" with that abundant life in **Ephesians 3:20**. We can boldly come to the throne of grace for help in the time of need (**Hebrews 4:16**).

Becoming a Christian is just the beginning of a new life. There is so much more that will fulfill us, complete us, satisfy us, and make us joyful. And yet, the best is still yet to come. The faithful child of God has an eternal home with God in Heaven (i.e. **Matthew 25:21, 23**).

The abundant life is a yielded life (**Romans 6:10-14**). We have a choice about how we live. Will we yield to God or to the world (**Matthew 6:24**)? If we yield to God, we will enjoy the peaceable fruit of righteousness (**Hebrews 12:11**). The wisdom that is from above is willing to yield to the will of God (**James 3:17**; i.e. **Matthew 26:39**). If we yield to sin, we will have a defeated life (**Romans 6:23**).

The abundant life is a life of service. Jesus came to serve, not to be served (**Matthew 20:28**). Christ is our model and example (**1 Peter 2:21-23**). We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice (**Romans 12:1-2**). We are to be "transformed" to godliness and conformed to God's will (**Colossians 1:13**).

We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works and we should walk in them (**Ephesians 2:10**). There is a joy that comes when a Christian is serving in the manner that is pleasing in His sight (**Colossians 1:10**). There is a joy in serving in the place where God has placed us in the body (**1 Corinthians 12:18**). There is a joy in saying to the Lord, "Here am I, send me" (**Isaiah 6:8**).

The abundant life is one that is separated to the Gospel of God (**Romans 1:1**). We are to be holy for He is holy said the Lord (**1 Peter 1:16**). God Himself will sanctify us completely, so our whole spirit, soul, and body may be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (**1 Thessalonians 5:23**). We are set apart for the salvation of our souls (**1 Peter 1:9**). We are to be set apart from the world and will with one mind and one mouth glorify God (**Romans 15:6**).

The abundant life is a Spirit filled life. The Spirit dwells in us (**1 Corinthians 6:19**). We are to be filled with the Spirit (**Ephesians 5:18-21**). Through the Spirit we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith (**Galatians 5:5**). This keeps us close to God and close to each other.

The abundant life is a mature life (**Ephesians 3:17-19**). We are to grow through different stages

(**Ephesians 4:14-16**). We keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight (**1 John 3:22**). We are to continue to grow in knowledge of Him (**2 Peter 3:18**). We are to desire to know Him more and more each day.

Something to think about!

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