

More Life

John 10:10b

KJV

...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Introduction

1. Let us look at this verse from a few more translations
 - a. Niv...I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
 - b. Nlt...My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.
 - c. Ce...I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest.
 - d. Amp...I came that they may have *and* enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).

2. Jesus came into this world to give you and I the opportunity to come out of darkness into "life," not only life, though, but
 - a. Life abundantly which is, according to Strong's,
 - i. Life Over and above the norm
 - ii. Life that is superior
 - iii. Life that is uncommon, extraordinary
 - iv. Life that is remarkable, more excellent
 - b. Life that is lived to the full
 - c. Life that is rich and satisfying
 - d. Life that is in abundance, full, overflowing

3. If your life above the norm, superior, uncommon, extraordinary, remarkable, lived to the full, rich and satisfying, abundant, full, overflowing?

4. Christ came that we can have that kind of life, that we could be free, happy, but most of us are never happy, do not feel free, depressed, oppressed, with very little ever going right in our lives.
 - I. John 10:10a...The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:...

A. A glimpse of Lucifer before time began

1. Ezekiel 28:12-17

- a. v12...He seals up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.
 - i. Niv...““You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
 - ii. Amp...You are the full measure *and* pattern of exactness [giving the finishing touch to all that constitutes completeness], full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Note: What a creature Lucifer must have been at this time!

- b. v13...Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God;
 - i. Where was Eden the garden of God

Some say it was this earth before the fall of Lucifer, and Lucifer was placed over the earth before his fall, but when he fell, the earth became the chaos of Genesis 1:2

- c. Now look at the rest of v13

...every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

Note: What a beautiful creature he must have been.

- d. v14...Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
- e. v15...Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.
 - i. What caused this iniquity in Lucifer
 - ii. Let us notice verse 17
 - 1) Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty,
 - 2) Thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness:

Note: God will cast him to the ground and lay him before kings, that they may see him

Note: Here are a few things that Bible scholars and preachers have said about Lucifer

- i. He was the choir director of heaven, thus one of his tools of deception is music
- ii. Lucifer, Michael, and Gabriel were the three archangels, and each of them had charge of 1/3 of heaven's angels, which is why 1/3 of the stars of heaven followed Lucifer in Revelations 12:4 where his tail (influence) drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:
- iii. There was nothing or no one that shined any brighter in heaven than Lucifer, except for the one who sat by the side of the Eternal Father, which was Jesus pre-incarnate
- iv, Lucifer's beauty caused him to be exalted with pride, but every time he came before the throne, he always saw one who shined brighter than he did, and that one was the Eternal Son of God

Note Job 1:6 and 2:1

1:6...Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them.

2:1...Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord.

Note: This seemed to be a practice which took place on a regular basis, thus it could be considered that this was happening before this present world was created.

Jealousy griped the heart of Lucifer, and iniquity was found in him which takes us to Isaiah 14

2. Now, let us look at Isaiah 14:12-14

- a. Look at the question in v12
 - i. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!
 - ii. How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Note Amp...

How have you fallen from heaven, O light-bringer *and* daystar, son of the morning! How you have been cut down to the ground, you who weakened *and* laid low the nations [O blasphemous, satanic king of Babylon!]

Note: Perhaps we should ask ourselves these questions

- i. How we have fallen who were once walking in God's presence
- ii. How we have been cut down and laid low who once was with God
 - b. We see in verses 13-14 that Lucifer, acting on his jealous, full of himself, attempted an uprising in heaven to make himself above God, for he said
 1. I will ascend into heaven,
 2. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God:
 3. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
 4. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
 5. I will be like the most High.

Note what is said about Lucifer in v15

Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

B. Now let us move to Genesis

1. In Genesis 2 we see the following
 - a. God had created a new Eden
 - b. v8...He planted a garden in the East of Eden
 - c. v15...And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.
2. According to the Strong's, the word Eden is from the Hebrew "Aden" which means pleasure. So, with Evangelistic license, I am going to say that
 - a. God placed a garden eastward in a place of pleasure,
 - b. God than created man in His image and likeness, and placed man in this

garden which is eastward in pleasure

- c. Man was to dress the garden and keep it, thus enjoying the fulness of the pleasures of God
 - d. I believe that I am safe in saying that God has intended from the beginning for man, who is in his likeness and image, to enjoy life abundantly
 - e. In this garden we find two trees
 - i. One is the tree of knowledge of good and evil
 - ii. The other tree is the tree of life, which one writer said represented Jesus
 - iii. From the earliest time, man has had the opportunity to choose life or death
 - iv. Choose Jesus and have life
 - v. Choose Jesus and stay in the garden which is planted eastward in Eden, pleasure
 - vi. Today, choose Jesus so you may live life to the full, in abundance, living a life of peace, satisfaction, so when you look back, there is no regrets
- C. We see satan from the earliest time bring pain, death and destruction
- 1. In Genesis 3, satan tempts the woman with what is not allowed to her
 - a. The serpent was more subtil (crafty) than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.
 - i. This refers to satan
 - ii. A serpent is used, but satan is the one doing the talking
 - iii. Just as the serpent used craftiness in the garden to deceive Eve, so he will use craftiness to deceive us
 - b. Look at the tactics of our enemy as he seeks to steal, kill, and destroy
 - i. He questions what we know of God by asking
Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

- 1) Is this really what God wants?
 - 2) Is it really necessary to be that dedicated?
 - 3) Do we have to do all those things to be a Christian?
 - 4) Has God really said...?
- ii. Our enemy tries to get us to interact as Eve did, for when we begin to reason within ourselves, we really begin to question whether or not it is required for us to be so different.
- 1) God told them to not eat of the fruit of the tree
 - 2) Eve added to what God had said, by saying God told them to not eat of the fruit, and to not to not touch the fruit lest we die

Note: Sometimes in our trying to do what God wants us to do, we make it too difficult, but we must understand that it is vital to be obedient to the letter to do what God's Word directs us to do, if we expect to have life, and have it more abundantly.

- iii. We then see the crafty enemy making it seem that God was withholding something good from them
- 1) v4...Ye shall not surely die:
 - 2) v5...For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Note: You eat of that fruit and you will be as knowledgeable as God, and God does not want you to be like Him.

- iv. We see in verse 6 that Satan had accomplished his purpose
- 1) He appealed to the
 - a) Lust of their flesh...Saw that the tree was good for food,
 - b) Lust of their eyes...It was pleasant to the eyes
 - c) Pride of their life...It was a tree to be desired to make one wise
 - 2) We see the workings of James 1:14-15

- a) Temptation is being drawn away by our own lust and Enticed
- b) Lust then conceives and brings forth sin
- c) Sin when it is finished brings forth death.

Note: Everyone of us has desires

- i. Temptation occurs when we focus on those desires
 - ii. It is alright to have a desire, unless it is a desire for something which we are not to have, then when we focus on that, it becomes lust, for lust is a strong desire for something we cannot have
 - iii. Focusing on the desire, thinking about the desire, lusting after what we are not to have causes us to be enticed
 - iv. If we give in to being enticed, then lust has conceived, birthed something that is sin, and sin separates us from God, which is death
2. Remember, satan destroys, steals and kills
- a. 1 Chronicles 21:1
And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.
 - b. Matthew 16:23...Satan was an offence to Jesus
 - c. Matthew 4...Satan is a tempter
 - d. 1 Peter 5:8 show satan as a roaring lion who seeks to devour
 - e. 1 Kings 22 and 2 Chronicles 18, we see satan as a lying spirit in the mouths of the false prophets
 - f. 1 Samuel 16, we see satan as a spirit that troubles people
3. Satan will do anything to sidetrack us
- a. Fear
 - b. Self-condemnation
 - c. Cause us to feel like we are being mistreated
 - d. Cause us to feel like we are being neglected

- e. Cause cares of life to distract us
- f. Cause us to get our eyes on other things instead of God's stuff
- g. Cause us to put other things first and God second or last, and our commitment to the Church demonstrates our commitment to God

II. Man lived in bondage for 4,000 years

A. Before the flood

1. Enoch habitually walked with God and was not

Note: Anytime a man or woman walks with God, God will walk with them

- a. God showed Enoch that the world would be destroyed
- b. Enoch named his son Methusela, when means the flood is coming

Enoch's great grandson built an ark to the saving of 8 souls because like his great grand father, he walked habitually with God

Note: We should note the influence of a godly life on a person's descendants.

2. Man became so wicked that their thoughts were on evil continually, so God destroyed the world by water, but Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord because he walked habitually with God

B. After the flood

1. Nimrod led a rebellion against God by building a tower so humanity would stay in one location, and that tower was dedicated the worship of the stars
2. Man is scattered, but then God finds Abraham, a descendant of Shem who walks habitually before God
3. As the world goes deeper into sin, God works through Abraham and his descendants to bring about the Promised Seed of Genesis 3:15, Who would one day crush the head of satan

C. Let us notice the condition of man without Christ

1. Not able to continually do good because of the sin nature within him according to Romans 7
2. In Romans 5, we faced judgment, condemnation, death without Christ

3. I believe Hebrews 9:27 sums it up nicely
It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:
4. Without Christ there is no pleasing God

III. Christ came so we could have life

1. John 10:10

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

2. John 3:14-17

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Note: Condemnation comes about because light has come into the world and men love darkness instead of light because their deeds are evil

- i. People live in sin because they love their present life more than the love God
 - ii. People do not want to give up what they are doing
 - iii. So, they live in condemnation, unhappy, with no peace, because they have shut God out of their lives
3. John 8:36...If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.
 4. Christ gave His life so we could once again eat of the Tree of Life
 5. Christ went into the depths of the earth, so He could bring forth those held in captivity
 6. Christ rose from the grave crushing the head of Satan as He took from him the keys of authority to death, hell and the grave
 7. Christ ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father, so the Father could send the Holy Spirit to give us More, so we can live life in victory having life abundantly
 8. Christ will return to catch us away to fulfill our Hope in Him, so we can sit in His throne with Him ruling and reigning for a thousand years, then throughout

eternity as we live with Christ forever

Conclusion

1. How is your life
2. It is time to really as these questions

Do I know who I am?

Do I know where I am?

Do I want to keep on living like this?

How long will I set here starving, waiting to die?

Will I now move from the gate of death to the camp of life?