

What are the three things that people would define as a “good life?”:

1. Health
2. Wealth
3. Fame

Jesus said in John 10:10 that He came to give man life, but not just life, an **abundant** life.

What does an abundant life from Jesus entail?

Three Characteristics of an Abundant Life Promised by Jesus:

I. An Abundant Life is Spiritual Abundance, Not Material Wealth.

Before we begin to have visions of lavish homes, expensive cars, worldwide cruises, and more money than we know what to do with, we need to pause and think about what Jesus teaches regarding this abundant life.

The Bible tells us that wealth, prestige, position, and power in this world are not God's priorities for us. **1 Cor. 1:26-29**

In terms of economic, academic, and social status, most Christians do not come from the privileged classes. Clearly, then, abundant life does not consist of an abundance of material things. If that were the case, Jesus would have been the wealthiest of men. But just the opposite is true.

Jesus says to the listeners in **Matthew 8:20: ... The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.**

If Jesus wasn't concerned about material wealth, then neither should we.

God knows what's best for us and He knows that wealth will not truly satisfy us. In fact, God is not even overly concerned with the physical circumstances of our lives.

He assures that we will be taken care of in **Matthew 6:25-32** and **Philippians 4:19**, but at the same time He says that we are not to worry about our physical sustainability.

How can someone who doesn't have much be content?

Because the abundant life that Jesus offers is far more satisfying than wealth and physical blessing.

II. An Abundant Life is Eternal Life, Not a Healthy Life.

There are some teachings among society today that believe that once you receive Christ, not only will you restore your relationship with Him, He will restore you physically as well as materially

The New Testament promises that Christians will experience:

1. Tribulation: **Acts 14:22**
2. Suffering: **Romans 8:17**
3. Persecution: **2 Timothy 3:12**

No-where in Scripture does God promise a healthy life while on earth.

A leader in the “Prosperity Gospel” movement states: “the basic principle of the Christian life is to know that God put our sin, sickness, disease, sorrow, grief, *and poverty* on Jesus at Calvary.”

This statement stems from two errors regarding the atonement of Jesus:

1. A False View of Who Jesus Really Was
2. A Misinterpretation of 2 Cor. 8:9

Verses, such as **1 Peter 2:24** and **Isaiah 53:5** that speak of the stripes of Jesus healing mankind are often misinterpreted. The word “stripe” is a singular noun in the original Hebrew language. This verse is in reference to the “stripe” that caused the death of Christ. The “stripe” that caused the death of Christ is the stripe that brought salvation for all sinners

The abundant life that Jesus describes for all those that put their faith and trust in Him does not equal a healthy life, it equals eternal life. Both physical healing and ultimate victory over death are guaranteed by Christ's atoning work,

but physical healing and ultimate victory will not be fully realized until we are transformed into our glorious body after our physical death on earth.

III. **An Abundant Life is Eternal Gain, Not Temporary Fame.**

Investing in eternity is not limited to where we give our money. Investing in eternity is the constant growth and development of our spiritual nature.

Peter commands us in **2 Peter 3:18: *But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.***

The Christian life is a continual process of learning, practicing, and maturing as well as failing, recovering, adjusting, enduring, and overcoming. Our number one priority is God and His kingdom. Although we are naturally desirous of material things, our perspective must be transformed into desiring what God wants.

Romans 12:2: *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

When we desire what God wants, then our life will be filled with the ultimate satisfaction of God- which is the only thing that truly satisfies.

The fruits of the Spirit found in **Galatians 5:22-23** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and self-control. No where in this verse does it say that an abundant life results in material wealth, fame, and physical health.

An abundant and rich life is found in Christ and nothing else.

***Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
Ephesians 3:20***



Pastor Brandon Joyner
Sunday AM

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John 10:10

Our View on Jesus: Part 1 ***Jesus Came to Give Abundant Life***

God, aka the Godhead, has three parts. This is often referred as the Trinity. All three parts are separate, but co-equal, and they all consist within the Godhead. The Godhead is often referred as “three in one.” The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit each have specific functions within the Godhead.

When it comes to mankind...

The Father- called us to be Holy

Jesus Christ- gave us a way to become Holy

Holy Spirit- empowers us to be Holy.

For the next two weeks we are going to talk about one aspect of the Trinity. The very subject of the person that we are going to discuss causes more division, more controversy, and more animosity among people than the other two.

The underlying reason for all persecution when it comes to Christianity, is the truth that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven. Satan wants to do whatever he can to prevent others from believing Jesus is the Savior of the world.

Jesus brings life. Satan wants death.