

Life as God has it 3 – Bible Study

Objective

In today's bible study, we will examine three key features of life as God has it. We will also examine ways to maximise these features in our daily life.

Introduction

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.

Jesus came that we might have life as God has it! Zoe life. The God kind of life! Think about that for a second...He came to give us life as God has it! That was His purpose.

What someone is willing to do to achieve something is often an indication of how much value they place on what they want to achieve. What someone is willing to go through in order to bring something to you is often an indication of the importance they place on that thing.

If you say you want to retire before you are 35 or 50, it is what you are willing to do that is a true demonstration of how much you value retiring at 35 or 50. If you say you love someone, it is what you are willing to do for them, how long you are willing to stand by them, what you are willing to give to them that quantifies and qualifies your love for them.

Jesus, who is God, an eternal Spirit, wraps himself in flesh, came in to the world through the womb of a virgin, subjected himself to the limitations of the flesh, faced temptations like all of us, He wasn't believed, He was misunderstood, He was hated, beaten, He was killed like a common criminal, He was put in the grave...that's just a small part of what he did...all that we might have life, in abundance to the full until it overflows!

I want to suggest to you that he thought that it was important that we have and enjoy that life in abundance to the full until it overflows. **John 1:4 says that in Him was life**

and this life was the light of men. Jesus went through all of that, because He knew that this life was our light and without that light, we would all be fumbling around in darkness.

The question we need to answer for ourselves then, is how much value do we place on that life? There is the “correct” answer to that question, which is the highest value. Then there is the real answer, which is obtained by examining our actions and our posture towards that life! I want us to consider the real answer.

What can we see in your actions, attitude and posture in the last week that points to the fact that you value that life and see the necessity of living the God kind of life? Remember that the real value of you place on something is in the effort you make to get a hold of it (or what you are willing to give up to get it) as well as what you are willing to do to pass it on. What is your attitude towards the life that Christ came to give you? Do you think about it? Do you desire to live that life?

These are some questions that we need to ask ourselves. Because it is incumbent upon those who get a revelation to press in on experiencing that revelation. Many of us think that getting a revelation is where it ends. But God gives us revelation, so we can experience them. What is your posture towards experiencing the life that Christ came to give you?

“For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.” Colossians 2:12 NLT

We have been raised to a new life! Jesus died so that by faith, we too can die. He rose up again so that by faith with can rise to a new life! The will of God is that we live this new life right here, right now!

Features of the new life

Our understanding of what we have in our possession determines how much we value it. Let's look at three key features of the life of God and see how that should affect our daily lives;

1) A living hope

This new life which we live is a life of hope. Real hope. Living hope.

“All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation,”

1 Peter 1:3 NLT

“Blessed [gratefully praised and adored] be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant and boundless mercy has caused us to be born again [that is, to be reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, and set apart for His purpose] to an ever-living hope and confident assurance through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,”

1 PETER 1:3 AMP

Hope is a confident expectation of good. To live in hope is to live with necks stretched out in expectation of good. In the natural, we have so many invitations to living a hopeless life. We have so many invitations to living a life to just get by and survive, to just live life only hoping that something bad doesn't happen.

But the life that we have been given by Jesus is one of Hope. Everywhere Jesus went, He gave hope. When people died, He raised them up. When people were sick, He was their hope of healing. When the disciples needed money to pay their tax or when they needed food to feed the multitudes, Jesus demonstrated, that in a life submitted to Him, He becomes your hope! In a life submitted to Jesus, life as God has it becomes your hope.



Here is how you live life as God has it, have hope! If you failed, have hope that you will succeed. If you're sick, have hope for healing. If you need wisdom, believe that wisdom will come. To live the zoe life is to live life in a prison of hope!

Zechariah 9:12 Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare That I will restore double to you.

You never need to be captive the fear of what you have lost in the natural, life as God has it can restore, at least double! That's why we have hope. In the Life of God, everything can be turned around!

2) A life of resurrection power

Resurrection life, Zoe life is powered by resurrection power!

"And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you." ROMANS 8:11 - 15 AMP

The reason we have a living hope is that the life we have been introduced to, by faith in Christ is a life that is powered by resurrection power!

When you have resurrection power in your life, this becomes the reason why nothing phases us. We have resurrection power. This is the power of life. This power is in us. This power raises the dead, this power overthrows kingdoms, this power heals, this power gives wisdom.

Living life as God has it is judging everything by the resurrection power of God. You determine what you hope for by what you believe resurrection power can do. The sick say "I am healed" because in Christ, your life is not powered by sickness, your life is powered by resurrection power! Your business is powered by resurrection power, which is why you have genius ideas.

Living a zoe life is knowing the greatness of God's power towards you because you believe. It is knowing that there is power at work within you to do exceedingly abundantly above all you can ask or imagine! (Ephesians 1:18, Ephesians 3:20)

3- Dominion over sin

“For the death that He died, He died to sin [ending its power and paying the sinner's debt] once and for all; and the life that He lives, He lives to [glorify] God [in unbroken fellowship with Him]. Even so, consider yourselves to be dead to sin [and your relationship to it broken], but alive to God [in unbroken fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus.”

ROMANS 6:10-11 AMP

Living the zoe life is the privilege of being dead to sin. When Jesus died, he ended the power of sin by paying the sinner's debt. The power of sin was such that it brought you death. But Jesus paid the price for that sin.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Whilst we are still in this world, we see sin around us, we fall into sin ourselves, and we deal with the shame and guilt that comes with sin. But the gift of life as God has it, is a life that is free from being dominated by sin. That means we don't have to sin. It means if we do, we don't have to live in guilt and shame. Sin no longer determines our future, the blood of Jesus does.

The quality of our lives dramatically improves when we live life **counting ourselves dead to sin and alive to God**. Every time you genuinely choose not to sin or refuse to live in guilt and shame you are counting yourself dead to sin and choosing the zoe life.

Romans 6:13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members

as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

Conclusion

Colossians 3:1 Therefore, since you have been raised with Christ, strive for the things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

To strive or to seek is to search for, desire, require, demand. The life of God is one of the things from above that I believe we all need to strive for. See out manifestations of the life of God in your daily life. This life is your light. In the life of God, you will find everything that God has graciously set aside for you in this life.

Don't be casual about living the life of God. Seek it out. Expect the features of that life to govern your decisions. Don't accept a revelation that you have the life of God as the best thing. Position yourself to have an experience of zoe life in this life. That is what Jesus brought you.

Discussions

- How will the power of resurrection affect the outcome of a specific situation in your life?
- What impact will a shame free, guilt free life have on you?
- How would you like the life of God to manifest in your life?