A Life Worth Living

Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

GOAL: That we, followers of the WAY, the truth and the life would live the life God intended; the life made available through Christ.

PURPOSE: To understand and appropriate the abundant life our creator has made available to us through Jesus Christ.

SERIES OUTCOME: At the conclusion of this series the active listener should have a scriptural foundation of:
1. What life is not.
2. What life is and how true life begins.
3. What it means to be alive.
4. How we now live life.
5. When life ends.

AIM: Through a systematic study of the scriptures we are going to examine God’s Word in order to understand from His perspective what it means for us to live life on earth.

MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT: Peace

Perhaps one of the most difficult questions we grapple with as individuals in our lives center around "Who am I?" "Why am I here?" "What is the purpose of this life?"

These are foundational questions that center around the heart of our existence in our brief lives here on earth. A failure to answer these questions adequately most surely leads to a breakdown in ones life, exemplified in personal crisis manifesting out time and again into one or more areas of life on earth.

"Who am I?"
"Why am I here?"
"What is the purpose of this life?"

In a world of pain and suffering, surrounded by inequalities and mystery how do you begin to answer these questions. For the seeker of truth the path would lead back to our creator. He being the one that made us, He would know the answers to the most pressing questions of our existence.

NOTE: God, knowing that man through out the ages would struggle to understand the pressing issues of his existence, effectively being born with amnesia when he started his life in the earth, gave us his written Word as a roadmap. However, it is the Holy Spirit of God that shines the light on that map so that we can see what it actually says. Without the illumination of the Holy Spirit it is impossible to begin to understand what the Lord is saying or to Know anything of value.
Joh 16:13  Howbeit he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.

Pro 9:10  The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

That word Fear:

H3374

יראה?

yir'âh

yir-aw'

Feminine of H3373: fear (also used as infinitive); morally reverence: - X dreadful, X exceedingly, fear (-fulness).

SO it is only the Holy Spirit that can make the truth known to you. Ask Him right now before you proceed any further in prayer to do so . . .

"Father, I ask that Your Holy Spirit would make known the truth of Your word to me. Draw me unto yourself as Jesus is lifted up. Amen"

Good. Let's begin :-)
A Life Worth Living

PART 1

What life is not.

To begin we will first look at what true life is not, because this paradigm is what most see and face daily. The illusion is the invasive reality you are born into. We do see a dichotomy in Scripture. A war between light and dark, good and evil, right and wrong, truth and the lie. In effect, two systems: The kingdom of this world & the Kingdom of God (Yahweh). There is no reconciliation between these kingdoms, there is no truce that can be made.

1Jo 2:15 Love the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Mat 6:24 No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

The Father and His word are very clear about the polarity of our conflict, just so we are not confused about it. For those who belong to Him it is no surprise that they are hated of the world. Personally, I’d rather know what I’m up against than to live in ignorance kicked around by a system that hates the Spirit of God that lives in me.

Joh 15:19 Ye are of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

Now, the reality of two systems is present. They both make you an offer. Your eternal soul lays in the balance based on the decision of your free will. Yes, your free will. God gave us free will and allows to make choices, you just can’t choose the consequences. YES, you to make a choice. So let’s see what is offered and what is required. For the sake of time let’s cut to the chase. The ultimate offer from the prince of this world to the most sought after participant in his system that he could have wanted:

Mat 4:8 The devil, taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showeth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them.

Mat 4:9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Mat 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan. For it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

What is the offer? Everything that this world has to give. At aspirations and the pursuits of the men of this world: fame, fortune, pleasures, power, position, possession, all of it. In exchange for his soul, his allegiance, his reverence. Instant success, instant results. The fast track to the top. Don’t just be in the world system, go straight to the
top. Be the big dog. A legitimate offer ... for a limited time. Again, every offer of the world is temporal. It is fleeting, it does not last. At best it is a temporary fulfillment at the cost of every eternal element of your being.

You are born as a slave to the system of the world. Born as a slave to sin. Born with a predisposition, not only to take the offer given by the devil but at a much lower rate. Of a truth, the souls of men are bought and sold cheap on the global market. They power they system of the world towards it's own rising, only to in the future be struck down in God's time when the light of Truth comes to bare on the darkness.

So what is the life the world offers to you? A temporary fix, based on the carnality of your own flesh. Your desires ingrained in your fallen flesh are the leverage point for the world and Satan's appeal. The offer: Sex, power, money. To be someone. Security, position. A name. Be a mover and shaker. Make things good. "Do what thou wilt." Is the creed of the Satanic. Because they know very well the truth of the Scripture.

Pro 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Left to our own devises and own carnally made choices, Man will surely destroy himself. Every choice made by man apart from God leads to death.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Whenever man sins, something dies. Instant payment as well as a delayed guaranteed "bonus" at the end. Dreams die. Hopes die. The physical body dies. Something dies instantly when we transgress against a Holy God.

Perhaps this pervasive death is why Man is so bent on distractions. So given to filling His life with meaningless activity to anesthetize himself to his horrible rotting spiritual condition. If you are honest about it, your job would probably not miss you if disappeared. Oh, sure, there would be a bit of a hiccups, but in a few weeks they would carry on without you. And what do these jobs do in the world? Honesty again, most of them do little more than move the furniture around on the deck of a sinking ship. Endless meetings that go nowhere, produce nothing, bound up in this temporary reality. Yes, man is bent on distraction. Check your brains at the door with drugs, alcohol, sex, television, movies, travel, getting new expensive toys for the adult adolescent. NEVER deal with the reality that you are in fact lost, alone, helpless, and in need. But of what? Why time and again will the rich of this world blow their brains out with a shotgun or jump off a building to their death. Because, they believed like the rest that the path of wealth would bring fulfillment. When they find that it has not, they can't stand the illusion being shattered. The distractions no longer work. They must do away with their miserable life. Make the pain stop. Please, stop the pain.

What is the best that this world has to offer? An illusion. And it's not real, because it is all temporary. Every offer of the world has time stamped on it. It does not last. But above this keep in mind who it is that makes the offer from the world. The prince of this world, Lucifer, Satan, the thief, the fallen one, who effectively works to remain hidden until opportune times.
Joh 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:... 

That word destroy:

G622
ἀπόλλυμι
apollumi
From G575 and the base of G3639; to destroy fully (reflexively to perish, or lose), literally or figuratively: - destroy, die, lose, mar, perish.

The offers the world system (the devil) makes ultimately result in the desired goal of the system and its engineers. Though it seems like something to your benefit, the end result is being robbed, killed and fully destroyed. Like my father says "Welcome to the world."

The best offer the world has, the top offer of a life is in exchange for your eternal soul you get to be a part of the illusionary system. You get to be somebody in the illusion. And in order to truly make a name for yourself in that system you must play by the established rules of the game. The higher you would go, the greater your slavery to the system at enmity with God. You are granted temporary relief, followed by pain and meaningless suffering in this life and eternal separation from the God who loves you. And it was your choice.

If however, you are not satisfied with the world. If what you would have it the life that God has for you; if you will seek this with your whole heart you will surely find it. And God will find you.

Luk 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
Luk 11:10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened.
Luk 11:11 If a son shall ask of you any bread, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?
Luk 11:12 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

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Sermon Notes