

CHANGE YOUR MIND / CHANGE YOUR LIFE

The Human Side of Destiny

Romans 12:1-2

Introduction:

1. Christ has promised us an abundant overflowing life John 10:10
 - NKJV I have come that they may have **life**, and that they may have *it* more **abundantly**.
 - TPT I have come to give you everything in **abundance**, more than you expect- **life** in its **fullness** until you **overflow!**
2. 3 John 1 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.
3. Here's the question: Are we living the abundant life that Jesus promised?
 - If Jesus has promised us an abundant life, why is life such a struggle?
4. This message is about the process of transformation and how we can begin to experience true and lasting transformation in our personal lives, living out the abundant life Jesus promised.
5. Transformation is a process, not an event.
 - a. It starts with a commitment,
 - b. continues with a process,
 - c. producing an ongoing, desired result- a transformed life. Rom. 12:1-2
 - NIV: (Commitment) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. Do not be conformed to this world, but
 - **(Process) be transformed by the renewing of your mind, (desired result)** that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."
 - TPT: Commitment: "Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? To **surrender yourselves to God to be His sacred**, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights His heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, **Process:** but be inwardly **transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think.** **Result:** This will **empower you to**

discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes."

- a. Many times, when we find that we have made a mess of things we come up with the excuse "I just didn't think."
 - b. Wrong answer! The truth is we did think, the problem is we did think-wrong thoughts, followed by wrong actions.
6. The New Year is a good time to take spiritual inventory. 2 Cor. 13:5 **Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.**
- Are you living the abundant life Jesus promised?
7. Challenge: Do you want to live the abundant life Jesus promised? Will you commit to, and commence the process of transformation?
- a. Transformation starts with a choice.
 - b. It takes time and is never easy.
 - c. It cannot be done for you but must be experienced by you.

A. GOD HAS A WONDERFUL PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE Jer.29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

1. God has placed within every one of us the potential to live an amazing abundant life.
2. God is our Creator. We are unique, we are wonderfully made. Ps. 139:1,2 **O LORD, You have searched me and known *me*. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and *that* my soul knows very well.**
3. God sees the beauty and potential within us. Example: David 1 Sam. 16:7 **"Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."**

B. PAUL'S TRANSFORMATIONAL JOURNEY Phil. 3:1-15; Gal. 1:13,14

1. He explores his past.
 - a. On the positive: **An Israelite, from the tribe of Benjamin. Circumcised the eighth day. A Hebrew of the Hebrews, a Pharisee. I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.**

- b. On the negative: **I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it.**
 - He does not rest in his accomplishments.
 - He does not allow his failures to defeat him nor define him.
 - c. He acknowledges it, learns from it, and then lets it go. v.13 **...forgetting those things that are behind.**
2. Paul evaluates his present Phil. 3 :12 TPT
 3. He is not regretting the past nor fearing the future.
 4. Paul is living abundantly in the present. **NKJ Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. TPT I admit that I haven't yet acquired the absolute fullness that I'm pursuing, but I am running with passion into his abundance**
 5. Paul envisions and embraces his future. v.12 **I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.** What is the purpose Paul is pursuing? Gal. 1:15-16 **But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, ¹⁶ to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,**
 - a. **To reveal His Son in me**
 - b. **That I might preach Him among the Gentiles**

C. ABUNDANT LIVING- Five Necessary Components

1. A firm foundation- Matt. 7:24-27 A Biblical Mind Set- A Biblical World View
 - a. **Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.**
 - b. Phil. 2:5 **Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.**
 - c. Jack Taylor: "Lord change my mind on every point on which you and I disagree."
 - d. A commitment to live one's life on and by the Word of God.
2. Four critical resources necessary to live the abundant life- four pillars of an abundant, fulfilling, transformed life.
 - a. The Physical / Material
 - Money, Food, clothing, housing, transportation
 - Physical health and well being

- Vocation- Career
 - In America all too often our stuff defines us, our success and our importance.
 - **Destiny:** *“My God shall supply all you need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus.”*
 - **Responsibility:** *Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and All these things will be added unto you*
- b. The Spiritual:
- Begins with the new birth. *You must be born again. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*
 - Our relationship with God.
 - The spiritual comprises our belief system.
 - Here we identify and define truth and how that truth will influence our life.
- c. The Relational:
- Our current and past relationships
 - Our mentors and role models
 - Our support system
 - Family and friends
 - How these people have influenced who we are and how we behave.
- d. The Emotional
- Our sense of well-being and self-worth
 - It includes the things we love and the things we hate.
 - Our attitudes and our addictions
 - Our mental health

Conclusion: Jer. 29:11-13

1. **Destiny** *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.*
2. **Responsibility** *Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.*

