

FEASTING ON THE FAITHFULNESS OF *JESUS*

The Way, the Truth, and the Life

John 11, 1 Cor. 15, Rev. 20-22

INTRODUCTION: WELCOME! Pray for God to cause justice and righteousness to prevail through the election process in recounts, audits, and court decisions.

Last week we read Jesus' statement, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." When I prepared the message, I intended to preach on the whole of that statement (WAY, TRUTH LIFE,) but I sensed that I was led of the Spirit to spend time in other parts of the passage that were especially needful for many of us last week.

Consequently, while I was prepared to preach on the totality of Jesus' statement, I only preached on Jesus is the way. Today it is important to finish that examination and look at Jesus as the truth and the life.

Let's re-read the passage in which Jesus made that bold and wonderful declaration.

John 14:1-7 NKJV 1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know." 5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. 7 "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

For the sake of continuity, let us recall what we considered about

JESUS IS THE WAY

- The way to heaven
- The way to forgiveness
- The way to righteousness
- The way to successful living

JESUS IS THE TRUTH

- Jesus is the Living Word, the Living Truth.

John 1:1 NKJV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 NKJV And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, **full of grace and truth.**

- **Jesus says, “Thy Word (the Bible) is truth.”** John 17:17 NKJV Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.
- **The focus of the Written Word is the Living Word.** (The focus of the Bible is Jesus.)
 - The Books of the Law foreshadow Him.
 - The Books of History reveal our need for Him.
 - The Books of Song and Poetry help us worship Him.
 - The Books of Prophecy declared His first coming and still foretell His second coming.
 - The Gospels tell of His life, death, and resurrection.
 - The Acts chronicle the difference He made in the lives of those who trusted in Jesus.
 - The Letters extol His majesty and instruct His followers concerning how His life and character should impact our life and our character.
 - The Revelation comforts us in the certainty that He is coming again and warns us to live ready!

The whole of the Bible is wholly about Jesus!

This truth is so important, let me slow down and go over it again with you.

- **The focus of the Written Word is the Living Word.** (The focus of the Bible is Jesus.)
 - **The Books of the Law foreshadow Him.** Example – The Day of Atonement
 - **The Books of History reveal the need for Him.** Example – the pattern in the Judges
 - **The Books of Song and Poetry help us to worship Him and allow our souls to be comforted.** Example – Ps. 37:3-11

Psalm 37:3–11 NKJV 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and **feed on His faithfulness.** 4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

5 **Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him,** And He shall bring it to pass. 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.

7 **Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him;** Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm. 9 For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth.

10 For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

- **The Books of Prophecy declared His coming, both the first and the second.** Example - in Bethlehem, taken to Egypt, raised in Nazareth of Galilee
- **The Gospels tell of His life, death, and resurrection.** Example - Birth, life, ministry, cross, tomb, arose
- **The Acts chronicle the difference He made in the lives of those who believed.** Example - Paul
- **The Letters extol His majesty and instruct His followers concerning how His life and character should impact our life and our character.**

Ephesians 3:20-4:2 NKJV 20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. 1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

- **The Revelation comforts us in the certainty that He is coming again and warns us to live ready!**

Revelation 19:11-16 NKJV 11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True ... 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. ... 16 And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

JESUS IS THE LIFE

A. Eternal life

B. Resurrection life

C. Abundant life

1. The intentional life!
2. Life for God's purpose.
3. Life with fulfillment that comes from having lived the life God wanted you to live.

How many of you really want that kind of life? Don't lift your hands, but respond with your heart!

4. How can we have such an abundant life?

- **By being continually filled with the Spirit – controlled and empowered.**

Ephesians 5:18 NKJV **And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,**

- **By growing in the likeness of Christ through sanctification.**

John 17:17 NKJV **Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.**

- **Sanctify means to make holy.**
- Making the believer holy, like Jesus. **It is the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.**
- **The Spirit does that work through the sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures.** There is no mystic or mysterious secret the Holy Spirit will bring you through dreams or visions.
- He will help you understand the Scriptures which will tell you
 - everything you need to know
 - to be everything God wants you to be.
- **As we believe and apply the truth of the Bible to our lives.**

CONCLUSION: This life is possible and available to each and every one of us. If when I asked if you really desired to live the abundant life, you said in your heart, "I really do!" You CAN!

God is no respecter of persons.

Any person may not only have eternal life but abundant life, here and now,

- **through faith in Christ**
- **and as a follower of Jesus**
 - **being continually controlled by the Spirit**
 - **and grown in the likeness of Jesus through obedience to the Word of God.**

A person of

- **Any race**
- **Any age** – teens, children, young adults, median adults, senior

- **Any gender** – women, there is no glass ceiling here. You can be all and everything God created you to be!
- **Any past** – because God’s transformation of us begins with forgiveness, and remember, Jesus is the way to forgiveness.

Stand in prayer – Heads bowed, eyes closed

- Is there anyone here today who would say to God, “I really do want the abundant life. I want my life to be lived according to Your purpose for me, God.” If that is you, lift your hand in commitment to the Lord.
- Is there anyone here today who would say to God, “I want the life You have to offer, eternal life through faith in Jesus as my Lord and Savior, but I am not sure at all that I have it. I want it. I want to put my trust in Him.”