

*“Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...” - 1 Cor 15:58*

# NORTHSIDE EXHORTER

*A Teaching Bulletin to Inform & Edify God's Family at Northside*

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## **“Abundant Life In Christ”**

Jesus says the following in *John 10:10*, “***The thief comes only to steal & kill & destroy. I came that they may have life & have it abundantly.***” What does Jesus mean when He promises us an abundant life? Was He referring to material possessions or financial wealth? Absolutely not! Yet many in religion believe that Jesus came for this very reason.

There are two opposing forces seeking to alter our lives as we know it: Jesus & the thief. The thief is the devil & he comes ONLY to steal, kill, & destroy. Therefore, no good comes from the arrival of the devil. Jesus came to offer life.

- The devil seeks to steal life. He comes after us in an effort to take something that doesn't belong to him. Jesus wants to give life. He wants to add to it all that is missing.
- The devil seeks to kill life. He comes to bring us to an end. Jesus wants to protect & prolong life. He believes our lives are worth living.
- The devil seeks to destroy life. If he fails to take or end life, then he will do whatever it takes to leave us in ruins. Jesus wants to make our lives plentiful. He seeks to take all the evil done to us & make it for our good.

We need to thank God for life & turn to Jesus who can make it abundant. Abundance, which is a spiritual richness that extends beyond the temporal boundaries of this world. This everlasting abundance is available to all who seek it & claim it. So, let us claim the riches of Christ Jesus every day that we live, & may we share His blessings with all who cross our paths.

I conclude with the words of Thomas A. Kempis, “*The man who lives without Jesus is the poorest of the poor; whereas no one is so rich as the man who lives in His grace.*”

My friends, the only way we can experience an abundant life is to surrender our plans to the Lord (*Proverbs 16:3*).

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*Antoine N. Holloway*