

“LIVING THE ABUNDANT LIFE”

JOHN 10:1-21

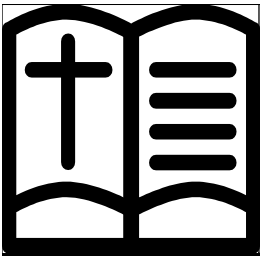
I. LIFE AND DEATH

A. The gift of the thief - loss, death and destruction

1. Loss from stealing - violated; privacy gone; suspicion awakened; trust dashed; recovery diminished by fear; fear alive and looping
2. Death - to be separated from life; to be separated from the possibilities, from the pursuit of happiness, from freedom to expand, from friends, from fellowship, from...
3. Destruction - the action or process of causing so much damage to something that it no longer exists or cannot be repaired.

B. The gift of the good Shepherd - life and having it abundantly

1. Connection with God - He lives a just life in our place; He pays the penalty of our sin that had caused the death; and He rises again to give a new and eternal connection with God; to be connected so well as to know God!
2. Recovery from loss - Understanding and comfort from the loss; replacement of the lost object with something that gives better focus and vision and thus a new “wealth”
3. Restoration from destruction - As the Creator of all things and the light-bringer, He takes



that which was dead and brings it to life. He is the restorer of the ruined earth. He restores that which is needed in one's life to bring glory to God and new beginnings to him. He is the resurrection and the life.

4. His message brings life everywhere it is proclaimed and received

II. ABUNDANT LIFE

- A. Abundant - meeting the need and going beyond; sufficient to meet the need and having “left overs”; having an advantage; doing more than was expected*
- B. Not only being restored to life but having energy, faith, motivation, love, endurance, effort, vision to go beyond back-to-life and becoming a giver of life yourself*
- C. Living by the Spirit to become the incarnation of Christ for this age; live out of abundance...*

III. LIVING THE ABUNDANT LIFE

- A. It's a gift not an obligation - Receive it*
- B. A gift must be opened - Believe it*
- C. A gift must be used - Use it*
 - 1. A gift is only as good as you use it as intended*
 - 2. Look around you to see what God wants done; What moves you? Disturbs you!*
 - 3. Use faith with vision and courage and get it on!*
 - 4. “Hurry it up! We're burnin' daylight!”*