

# *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

11.19.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

Life at its Best

## Proverbs 25: 11

What do we consider to be life at its best? Is your best life now, or is your best life in the world to come? Some will say that their life on this earth is the best that they can have, heaven on earth is what they call it, and for those who are not Christians, this is absolutely true. The sinner lives his best life here and now because his next life is going to be one with no hope, no joy, no meaning, no satisfaction, for he will be eternally separated from God, destined for eternal suffering.

Now, as Christians, we should be living the best life that God has given unto us to live in this mortal body. However, life here on this earth, no matter how good it may seem, is nothing compared to that which is waiting for us eternally in heaven with the Lord. The glory of heaven, which is eternal life through God's righteousness, will be love, joy, peace, and perfection in the presence of God. Living our life now, according to our heavenly inheritance, which is to come, will cause even the best life on this earth to seem insignificant compared to a life eternally in heaven with God. So, what do we consider to be life at its best, and what should encourage us to live our best life in Christ, here and now? Our hearts reside in what we see to be to be our greatest treasures. What we value most in life will fill our heart and our mind, and our very existence, and it is sure to shine forth in our actions and in our speech.

**Luke 6: 45,....**a good man out of the treasure in his heart bringeth forth that which is good, and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh....

As Christians, we live Christlike, waiting for our best life in our eternal future with God. The Lord never promised us health or wealth, or worldly success in this life, but he did promise us that his godly characteristics can be fulfilled within us now, so that we might be able to experience the hope of our eternal salvation while living our life here upon this earth. Our best life now is knowing Christ as our savior, while awaiting our time to be joined with him eternally, where we will live and reign with him, enjoying a life that is far greater than the best that we could live now.

**Proverbs 25: 11,....**a word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver....

Living our best life in Christ, means loving God unconditionally, and loving others in a manner that would show them the way to loving God unconditionally. We do this, through the guidance of the spirit of God, by speaking the right words at the right time. Valuable words of God, spoken according to his timing, can be invaluable to someone else, just like apples of gold in settings of silver. In order to have the ability to speak in such an amazing, imaginative manner, we must have our ears open unto God, for he is the one that is going to give unto us the perfect thing to say, and we must also have our ears open unto those around us, so that God may lead us to them that need to hear. If we are so preoccupied with our own trials and troubles, or if we are overwhelmed with our own worldly desires, we will never hear God, nor will we hear the hearts of those who are struggling and are in desperate need of encouragement.

**James 1: 19,....**wherefore, my beloved brethren, let everyman be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath....

Understanding of this kind of wisdom will allow us to hear others, so that we might apply the word of God in a way that will bring spiritual healing to their lives through the grace of God. In essence, we are offering them apples of gold in settings of silver, for people seeking help need to hear more than just words, they need to hear the right words together with the love and compassion of Christ, they need that which will fit their circumstances perfectly.

**Proverbs 16: 9,....**a mans heart deviseth his way, but the Lord directs his steps....

There are many lessons that Gods people have to learn, and it takes a lifetime to learn them. Living our best life in Christ means seeking to develop Christlike behaviors and attitudes, as we grow in grace, and in faith, in spiritual maturity, and in the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of the Lord Jesus Christ. Through Christ leadership, we make plans concerning how that we are going to achieve his desired goals, and God is the one who establishes the steps that we take.

**Proverbs 14: 22,....**do they err that devise evil? But mercy and truth shall be to them that devise good....

Those who plan the goodness of God will find loyalty and faithfulness in his mercy and in his grace. Often time, plans that we make might be good and honourable, but God may take us to a different destination than we expected, and in a very different way. If we are living by faith, and trusting in his guidance, he will bring us into the place that he knows is best for us in our witness to others. However carefully we consider our plans, we have a very limited view of the future. God is the only one that knows the future, and he holds the future in his hand.

So, I am going to give you six things that will help us as Christians to consider what we believe to be life at its best.

**Romans 12: 1,....**I beseech you therefore brethren....that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice....

We can only present our selves unto God a living sacrifice, as we begin to realize and understand the greatest of Gods mercy and grace that he has shown unto us, and that he has given unto us life as we know it now and eternally, life that we did not deserve. For this reason, in response to Gods mercy and grace, we give unto him our lives so that he may use us for his purpose here and now.

**James 5: 16,....**the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much....

Daily seeking God, willingly, diligently, and continually is an important part of living our best life in him, for we cannot have a life of joy or hope in the likeness of Christ without a right relationship with God.

**Luke 22: 42,....**nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done....

Surrendering our will unto God, making his desires our desires, means that we understand that we have no ability to lead ourselves, and that we are willing to put our complete faith and trust in him.

**Psalm 119: 11,....**thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee....

Spending quality time in Gods word is another very important aspect of living our life at its best, because living our life at its best is more than just learning wisdom and knowledge, but it is receiving understanding from God as he communicates unto us through his word.

**1 Peter 1: 14,....**as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance....

As Christians, obedience is the key to living up to who we are. Therefore, we must stop doing what comes naturally, and we must live our life according to the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit which dwells within us.

**1 Samuel 12: 24,....**only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth with all your heart, for consider how great things he hath done for you....

Loving God and glorifying God in our service unto him is the best life that we can live now and throughout eternity, for this is Gods purpose, plan, and will for our life.

Even though, as believers, we do not always realize it, or understand it, loving God above all else is the only way that we can satisfy the yearning that we have within us. Through our own self-righteousness we do our best to make the most of our lives, which will never be enough, but through the love of God and his word, he will provide us with all that we need to live our life at its best in Christ Jesus, which is what we were designed and destined to be.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

*Tim Hughes*

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

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