

The Most Abundant Life™

God is the Source

Genesis 8:22 (NIV)

²² "As long as the earth endures, **seedtime and harvest**, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

Romans 5:17 (NIV)

. . . those who receive God's **abundant provision of grace** and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

I. God as creator/designer

Psalms 100:3 (NASB)

³ Know that the LORD Himself is God; **It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves**; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

A. God of Abundance

1. In quantity, diversity and creativity

Genesis 1:31 (NIV)

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day.

Isaiah 55:12 (NIV)

¹² You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Psalms 89:5 (NIV)

⁵ The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

2. In complexity

3. In generosity

Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

B. God as Spirit (most significant gifts are spirit related)

John 4:24 (NIV)

²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

1. & 2. Peace & Truth

Jeremiah 33:6 (NASB)

'Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them; and I will reveal to them **an abundance of peace and truth**.

3. & 4. Grace & Righteousness

Romans 5:17 (NIV)

. . . God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

5. Comfort

2 Corinthians 1:5 (NASB)

⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.

6. Mercy

Jude 1:2 (NIV)

² Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

7. Redemption

Psalm 130:7 (NASB)

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD; For with the LORD there is lovingkindness, And with Him is abundant redemption.

II. Our Lives ---physical & spiritual

A. In this world but not "of this world"

Hebrews 11:24-27 (NIV)

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. ²⁵ **He chose** to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. ²⁶ **He regarded** disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because **he was looking ahead** to his reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; **he persevered** because he saw him who is invisible.

1 Corinthians 7:31 (NIV)

For this world in its present form is passing away.

B. God is Our Source

1. Physical abundance

Deuteronomy 11:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil.

2. Spiritual abundance

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV)

²⁰ For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

C. Why it Matters

1. Seasons of less

Philippians 4:12-13 (NIV)

¹² **I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.** I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

2. Uncertainty/shaking

Hebrews 12:26-29 (NIV)

. . . , but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." ²⁷ **The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken**--that is, created things--so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving **a kingdom that cannot be shaken**, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our "God is a consuming fire."

Matthew 24:7-8 (NIV)

⁷ Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. ⁸ All these are the beginning of birth pains.

3. Warnings regarding abundance

Prayer

Almighty God open my heart to the wonder of your creation. Grant me an awareness of your majesty and power. I rejoice in your abundant provision for my life. I lay down my attempts at righteousness and receive Jesus into my life as Lord and King. May I have a greater awareness of the Kingdom of God than the kingdoms of this world. Let God be glorified throughout all the earth, in Jesus' name, amen.