

The Good Stuff  
Psalm 65:1-13 (10)  
8-22-2010

Read Psalm 65 paying attention in particular to verses 9-13. Notice all the good stuff. Do you see the praise to God, even by the very ground He blesses; it sings and shouts for joy. Why, because it is doing what it was made to do, flourish abundantly. Jesus declared the truth concerning himself when He said He was the “good shepherd” and that He was the gate through which the sheep enter. And those who enter through Him, as the gate, will find pasture. Jesus said about himself: *“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”* (Jn.10:10)

Another version puts it this way: *“I have come so that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”* (MKJV) Jesus came so that people like you and I might have life and that life in abundance. This Jesus of scripture is still the only gate. As Jesus has said in John 14:6 *“...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one comes unto the Father, but by me.”* Jesus is entrance into the blessings of the Lord.

God has great and good things in store for His children, of this scripture speaks truthfully. So why are there so many professed Christian’s lives troubled and vexed by so many hardships? Why are there so many in the churches across this nation crying out to God: “where are the blessings?” (please don’t be confused by what I am asking or saying here, I am not preaching what is popularly called the “prosperity gospel” which I am not in agreement with, and I think neither is God.)

God does want us to have life in abundance but is His idea of life in abundance the same as ours? So what is abundant life? Read Psalm 36:7-10 and see that having an abundance of what we need is God’s blessing in Life. Having an abundance of what we want is something driven by culture and by our own evil desires which are driven by the culture we live in which is under the direct influence of the “evil one”. (that’s right, the same one who spoke in Eve’s ear about how wonderful the forbidden fruit was.) (Jam.1:14-15; 1Tim.6:10; Rev.12:9)

So how do we have and maintain this life of God’s Abundance? Jesus is still the gate. First you must enter into the blessings of the Lord through Jesus, the gate. This according to scripture is done by believing that Jesus was raised from the dead. Confessing you are a sinner in need of forgiveness. Renounce Satan and his rights over you. Profess/confess your belief and acceptance of Jesus as Lord over your life. And then submit yourself to be baptized in the name of Lord for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will have entered into His precious promises. (Acts 2:38 +)

To maintain the abundance of life it is important that we each seek after what pleases the Lord and do those things and resist and renounce and refuse to do those things that God takes no pleasure in. Contemporary Christianities greatest failures are in accepting a watered down gospel that does not call for its followers to walk in holiness. Instead the watered down gospel is one of tolerance and acceptance and encouragement of living in wickedness (culturally accepted, socially encouraged, nationally practiced) which is contrary to God’s good pleasure. (Eph.5:8-14; Eph.2:1-9)

To maintain or maybe even if the need is there, to restore the abundance of God’s provisions for life, consider:

1. How is your walk in the Lord? Are you pleasing to Him? (Prov.3:6; Mat.10:32-33; Lk.12:8-9)
2. How is the walk of those whom you have responsibility? What you have allowed in your life may well be magnified in theirs. (Ex.34:5-7 (7))
3. Look to the nation, we live in one that we have power to direct the course of, where have we allowed it to go? (Ezek.14:12-23 when a nation goes too far all suffer)

In all these, if need be repent of those things that do not please your Lord Jesus, and do what is pleasing, reap His blessings in abundance.