

Enjoying Life as God Desires

I have a burden to see people enjoy the life Jesus died to give them—and I want to see people not just talk about it but walk in it too. John 10:10 (AMPC) says, “The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have *and* enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).”

Satan is the thief in these verses. But John 10 tells us that while the thief comes *only* in order to steal and kill and destroy, Jesus came so we might have and enjoy life and have it in abundance, to the full, until it overflows. What a passage! Not only are we alive, but we should *enjoy* being alive.

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When Jesus came to give us life, He didn't come to bring us breath—we were already breathing! Instead, He came to give us life as God has it, life as God knows it. Not only does He want us to have and enjoy life, but He takes it even further by saying, “in abundance, to the full, till it overflows.”

God wants us to enjoy life for the sheer sake of enjoying it. But He also wants us to enjoy it because we are His ambassadors. The Bible says in Corinthians 5:20 that God makes His appeal to the world through us. If you are a born-again believer, you are a direct representative of Almighty God. You and I are showing the world what God is like. We're advertisements for a personal relationship with Jesus.

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With this in mind, no wonder Satan wants to keep so many

people in the body of Christ sad, mad and operating in wrong fruit: judgment, criticism, gossip, backbiting. He wants to keep people depressed, angry, stressed-out and full of strife. He doesn't want us to have any joy because then, others might want to know God.

It's also important to enjoy your life because you don't want it to pass you by and leave you with regrets. This sounds awful, but when I was raising my children, I loved them and I was a responsible parent, but I look back now, and I did not enjoy my children as I could have. Why? Because I was a workaholic.

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