

July 13, 1996, Morning Minchah Asher

Abundant Life

Jn 10:10 — There is tremendous revelation there. Our Master was trying to get across to us so we could understand our job, which is to be a light to the world. It would take everything in us, every bit of our strength that He supplies that it would happen. He was speaking of the enemy, Satan, the opposer who comes to kill, steal and destroy. "I have come that I might give you life more abundantly." That's a good Christian saying (like Jn 3:16).

I'm not saying we have abundant life like He says we're supposed to, yet. We have *life*, but not abundantly. It is something we must attain to, not in our own strength but using all of our talents, every bit, using all we've got, with every ounce of grace and strength our Master supplies. No matter whether we have ten, five, two, or one talent, we have to use it all. The first will be last and the last will be first. Our Father will judge us by what we're given and what we use.

You never give your keys to just anyone. You don't give your car keys out to somebody unless you really trust him. In the first century one had to be really trusted to have keys to something (like in a palace). Our Father gives His keys to those He trusts. In other words, He invests His authority in those He trusts. It is a great responsibility. We have to be worthy of trust. He trusts us with the authority to open people's eyes! It is such a great responsibility that Paul always exhorted people to pray for him that he would have the keys to open other people's eyes to see, that our Father could use. He certainly has entrusted us with a great responsibility. Jn 10:10 — More abundantly, in all it's fullness. *More* abundantly... What does that mean? Look up *more*. If we don't achieve this we won't bring about the end of this age. Nahum 1:15 — that the wicked one would be completely cut off from the land.

We have to attain to this. If we can trust the Greek translation (#4053, the Greek rendition of the word *abundantly*) — I don't want to read it because it might discourage us. We think we can attain to it. Maybe He'll have to leave it to another people. But it says in Dan 2:44 that the kingdom *won't* be left to another people. *We have* to be the ones to take care of the thief. We have to be *prepared* for the thief when he comes. It's a terrible thing to be robbed. The early American settlers went across the boundaries to the west (against God's will) and were robbed. The men would come home from working in their fields and find everything gone, their women raped and killed, children killed and the whole place burned with fire. They would have nothing left. The first church was robbed because they didn't prepare for the thief.

Our Master came that we would have life, *abundantly*. We must have this if His name is to be made great on earth and in order for Mt 24:14 to come about. *Abundant* means: Beyond superior in quality; super abundant; exceeding all others (in quality of life, joy, peace, hospitality, kindness, faithfulness, love, Gal 5:20); Even the Gentiles do these things. We have to exceed them, very highly, beyond measure, being pre-eminent. Otherwise we won't be the light to the world. We can't do what Gentiles do. Don't brag. Our standard has to be greater than any standard the world has in any place. It will be so high that many will desert that standard because they don't attain to it. Everyone must do his part in raising up the standard (Eph 4:16). If we're not doing our part, we're the one dragging the standard down. We have a great responsibility first of all to pray for His will to be done in every locality, and His name to be hallowed, causing His name to dwell in every place and be great on the earth (Mal 1:11). In every locality it's going to happen, prophetically as Malachi said, or he was a false prophet.

I always looked at *more abundant* and never understood it. Christians say you have to have faith to believe it. They say that, "by faith, they have abundant life." They also say that faith is

believing something you know isn't true. I went to school with all these Gentiles. They've got more money than I do, but I have abundant life? (How was I really supposed to believe that?) We have to have abundant life, beyond measure, beyond any standard that there has ever been. *Beyond measure* — what is beyond measure? It is *far more*. If we don't have this abundant life, the kingdom will be taken away from us and given to another. Isa 49:6 speaks of this abundant life. If we do not have that abundant life it is because we have been visited by the robber over and over again.

Mt 24:14 — The end of the age cannot come until we attain to this abundant life. Unless a people attain to abundant life in Jn 10, the end cannot come. There has to be a witness, a complete standard raised up as high as it can go. It will have a phenomenal effect on the earth. A galvanizing effect. We have to live as He lived, walk as He walked, in His Spirit, living for Him, so we can have this abundant life. He wants to give it to us. It is a life of love, joy, peace, no guilt because we're forgiven. As long as our sins are forgiven He can work on us and we can progress. If we have guilt, He can't work on us.

Rev 7:5-8 says the same thing as Isa 49:6. It was prophesied in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the new. The Stone Kingdom will set up such a great, high standard that it will bring to nothing all the kingdoms of the earth. It will be so startling that the kings of the earth will shut their mouths.

The woman in Boston who came to observe our children's training said that in the world children come to school with knives, drugs, beaten all over; she said that what she saw in us was what she *always* wanted! It's got to be a great light. Lk 1:78 — Right now that great light is just dawning. If it's only dawn now, how bright will it be when the sun rises? We have to be a light to one another. What is light? God is light. In Him there is no darkness. If we walk in the light as He is in the light then we have marvelous fellowship with Him. 1 Jn 1:5,6 — Our Father is removing all the people who claim to have the light yet don't produce the *fruit*. The branches have to be pruned and thrown into the fire.

If we have abundant life, there will never be a complaint or murmur in us. We'll have confidence before Him. If we don't know He hears us it's because we're not asking according to His will or there is guilt in there, we're not doing what we're supposed to do. We're not doing the right thing. After we eat we're supposed to help with the dishes, especially our children. In the world when I was growing up I washed dishes. Then when I got older I didn't mind washing dishes (like a rabbit in the briar patch). When you see one person in there struggling and you sneak off, of course your prayers can't be answered. You are destroying the Body. Many people have confessed this. It's just one example of this *kind* of thing.

Only when we know we're doing what is pleasing in His sight will we have our prayers answered before Him.