

LIVING OR HIM

Part 1: A Powerful Purpose.

A Powerful Purpose – Part 1

Introduction:

Philippians 1:21 – *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*

Here Apostle Paul reveals a powerful purpose that should be the goal of every Christian. Every Christian should aim at being able to truthfully say, “For me, to live is Christ.” To bring this powerful purpose into focus, in part 1 of this series, we will address two questions: First, “What are you living for?” and second, “What does it mean to live for God?”

1. What are you living for?

a. What we LIVE for will DETERMINE the DIRECTION of our life. Galatians 6:7-8 (7) *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. (8) For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.*

b. There are TEMPORAL purposes and there are ETERNAL purposes.

1 John 2:15-17 (15) *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father but is of the world. (17) And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

2. What does it mean to live for God?

a. To live for Him means to live in UNION with Him so that His WAYS become our WAYS.

Amos 3:3 *Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?*

b. To live for Him means to EXALT Him in EVERYTHING we do.

1 Corinthians 10:31 *So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*

- c. To live for Him means to **LAY ASIDE** anything that would **HINDER** our walk with God.

Hebrews 12:1 *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.*

Conclusion: As we have seen, it is important for us to honestly examine the purpose for which we are living. Are we living for ourselves, or are we living for Him. In living out God's powerful purpose, it is essential that we understand what it means to live for Him. In part two we will address two other questions; How do we live for God and why live for God.

A Powerful Purpose – Part 2

Introduction: In part two of A Powerful Purpose, we will continue to bring this powerful purpose into focus by discussing the questions of “How do we live for God? and Why live for God?”

1. How do we live for God?

- a. We live for Him by **MAKING** that our **CONSTANT** aim.

Philippians 3:12 *Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.*

- b. We live for God by **ABIDING** in His **WORD**.

John 8:31-32 (31) *Then Jesus said to those who believed Him, “If you abide in My word you are my disciples indeed. (32) And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*

- c. We live for Him by **YIELDING** to the **LEADING** of the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God*
- d. We live for Him through our **FAITH**.

Hebrews 10:38 *The just shall live by faith.*

2. Why live for God?

- a. We should live for Him because of His **GREAT LOVE** for us.

1 John 4:10 *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

- b. God's plan for your life is only for **GOOD**, He has your **BEST INTEREST** at heart – Jer. 29:11 *For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. NIV*

- c. We should live for Him because it is the way in which we **WORSHIP** and bring **GLORY** to Him.

Romans 12:1 *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship (NIV).*

- d. Living for Him brings His abundant **PROVISION, PROTECTION** and **BLESSING**.

Psalms 91 *He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*

Conclusion: God has a powerful purpose designed for your life but that powerful purpose does not just automatically happen. As we have seen in this series, to walk in God's powerful purpose for our lives, we must determine what we are living for, must understand what it is to live for God, how to live for Him and why we should live for Him.

Questions:

1. What does it mean to me to abide in God's word?
2. How does yielding to the Holy Spirit help me live for God?
3. Why does God want me to live for Him?