

Title: The Highest Life

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 2/26/23

Colossians 3:1-4 NKJV

Hallelujah! What a promise. This is truth. It is like the whole gospel is represented in those four verses. Praise be to Jesus who came and took our lowly lives into Himself, saved us, and redeemed us. We are His beloved. We are in Him, and He is in us. We died with Him on that cross, and we were raised with Him into new life and the "highest life." Hallelujah!

Holy Spirit is really highlighting that you need to know and believe the love He has for you. We need to know and live from His life in us. "It is no longer I that lives, but Christ that lives in me. Yet, the life that I live, I live by the faith of the Son of God who died, and gave Himself for me." There is that oneness. "I am in you, and you are in me, and we are in the Father." So, this "highest life" of Christ Jesus is where He is drawing attention to.

How long shall life, and the things of this life be all about me or you? How long shall life, and the things of this life be all about me or you? Whose life do we live by and through? Whose life do we live for? Now is the time for life. Jesus came "to give us life and life more abundantly," right? We are called to live from this life in Christ. We are called to pursue life, and let life have the preeminence in our soul. In our mind, will, and emotion, life will lead us. Eternal life within us is not just something that we long for or what is to come. But, as a living force, the Kingdom of Heaven is within, now, and in the age to come. Should we be prepared for death all around us? Or, should we surrender, meditate, and yield to the life of God inside of us? Which kingdom is greater?

Holy Spirit is drawing attention to the reality of "Christ in us, the hope of glory." He lives in us. His life, Christ's life, Holy Ghost, and Heaven is inside of you now, right? Jesus lives inside of us as the "highest life" now. When you walk into a room, everything changes. Because, it is "Christ in you, the hope of glory," and it is His life hidden in us. There is so much power and authority *in His* life that we carry inside of us. We do not realize how much is there, but God is removing the veils, little by little, and all of a sudden, you see a little bit more.

His life is emanating from us. So, when darkness is all around, and we walk through that darkness, which is greater? Our eyes cannot be fixed on the darkness. Our eyes cannot be fixed on the death, sin, and all the troubles. Our eyes must be fixed on life, on Christ. "The nearness of God is my good." He is right *in* here, everywhere I go, 24/7. When I lie down, when I get up, when I go along the way, He is life. He did not check out, take off work, go back to Heaven, and then come back in at six in the morning. He is abiding in us 24/7. Christ who is your life. Life, and there is so much power in Holy Ghost. There is so much power in Christ's life. It is greater. His life is greater than what is in this life. Correct?

He says, "Now is the time for life." Yes, He gave it more abundantly. Those are not my words. Those are *the words of* Jesus. He said, "I came to give you life, and life more abundantly." It will never end. He said, "pursue life." We know that we have to fix our eyes and gaze on Jesus. This morning in communion, it was very specific in fixing your gaze on Jesus, "the author and finisher of our faith." Eternal life within us is not just something that we long for. Yes, we are going to be with Him forever. We long for that. Yes, we do long for that. But, we have to recognize eternal life inside of us right now. That is greater and that annihilates the fear of death or any fear really.

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Know that eternal life is inside us *now*, not just in the age to come. The life inside of us is a living force. The life inside of us is a living force. The wind of Holy Ghost blows inside of you. In you, with you, and through you. He will push up and out of you what the Father did not plant and what will not bear fruit. Any plant or root in us, that the Father did not plant, the wind of Holy Ghost will push it up and out of us. That is a force and that is life. "The Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force." It is a greater reality. The Kingdom of Heaven, within now and in the age to come.

So, should we be prepared for death all around us? How do you prepare? By looking into His eyes, and looking into His word. Being one with Him, knowing Him, and receiving the love. Honoring Him, and knowing that the life inside of us is greater. We are prepared by meditating on the life. Hallelujah. Everywhere you go, that life is going with you always. Life does not leave and come back in. In difficult times of trials and tribulations, life does not leave to come back when you are done. Good luck, hope you made it, right? He said He would never leave us. He would never fail us. He would never forsake us. It is covenant. He is drawing attention to life.

John 16:33

Now, those are the words of Jesus. Why would He say that if it was not true? So, He is pointing to the life, the "highest life." We are living from His life. "It is no longer I that lives, but Christ that lives in me. The life that I live, I live by His life." That is what He is renewing in our hearts today. Life is in the blood.

Revelation 1:4-5

Life is in the blood. Life is in the blood, and Christ's blood is in us, because we have been born again from above. His life and His blood, has forgiven us, cleansed us, healed us, delivered us, empowered us, called us, anointed us, and set us apart. Life is in the blood, and life is in Christ. Life is in us. It is the "highest life." The darkness sees that when we walk in the room, and when you combat it. When it comes against you with a lie, hoping to deceive you, and that you will get your eyes off of life, and onto death. Right? He loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

Hebrews 10:19

We have boldness, courage, and confidence, that we can come before God. We can talk to God. We can cry out to God. We can pursue God. We can come up here. We have to get up higher, and live from our Spirit, not our soul. We have to live from our Spirit, not our soul. You live with your Spirit, in the blood, and that life, our soul will follow. The mind, will, and emotions will line up with your Spirit man when it is up front and center. The body will follow, truth. He says, "brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus." Life is in the blood. This is a "now" word. It casts down all arguments and strongholds raised up against you.

John 17:3

This is the "highest life." This is the goal. It is all about knowing God. Really, all we do is just preach it a thousand different ways to convince us that we are in God, in Christ, and in the Spirit. In Him and chosen, anointed, appointed, called, and sent out to proclaim this gospel. We are in Him. We are going to have to keep saying it until you say, "Oh, man, I am in Him." You know, when it "clicks." This is eternal life. Eternal life is not something that is, "well praise the Lord, hallelujah, we just make it through on this Earth, and we have eternal life in the age to come." No, Jesus said, "I came that you would have life, and life more abundantly," now! Through His blood, you are living through eternal life now, and in the age to come. The rewards of eternal life start today. The devil hates that. The rewards of eternal life start today!

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That is why there is this thing called “sozo,” or salvation. That is working from your spirit, through the name of Jesus and the blood of Jesus. A born again spirit, that starts renewing your mind as soon as you are saved. That starts changing the way you think as soon as you are saved. That starts healing your body that is sick, just as soon as you are saved. It starts delivering you, casting darkness and demons out, as soon as you are saved. You start knowing God, you start prospering, you are provided for, and you are loved. He gives you wisdom. He gives you knowledge. He gives you counsel. He gives you understanding. He gives you might. He leads us in the way of life, that is an eternal life working inside of us. Now! “This is eternal life, that you may know Him, the only true God, and Jesus Christ. Yes, and in the age to come, we can hardly wait. There are no words.

Sometimes it is like, “Today would be a great day to come back, Jesus! Let's wrap this up. I am over it.” Right? But, He is saying “live by the highest life,” eternal life, today. It will transform us. All the grumbling, griping, complaining, fear, negativity, and all that mess will fall away. Because, your eyes get off of the darkness, troubles, and “what if's,” and back to looking on the One who loves us.

John 1:7

How about that? Talking about living from the “highest life.” He says, “If you walk in the light as He is in the light.” We are always following Him. He is my model. He is our Lord. He is our Husband. We are following Him. “If we walk in the light, as He is in the light.” Well, then we are going to have fellowship with one another as His body. Yes, the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanses us from all sin. That is amazing. That is a glorious revelation of the Body of Christ. We are delivered and we are cleansed, as we walk, “as one,” as we follow Him in the light. We used to walk in darkness and follow after darkness. We used to be children of darkness. So, we would do and bear the fruit of darkness. Right? That is easy to figure out. Well, what is greater the darkness or the light? The light. Okay, no matter what threats are out there against you, it does not matter. The light is greater.

John 6

Jesus really cuts through it in this whole chapter. The bottom line is that He says you need to “eat my flesh and drink my blood.” He just fed the 5000 and then went walking on the water.

John 6:22-28

That is a strong statement.

John 6:29-64

“He knew from the beginning, who they were, who did not believe.” Do not blame it all on Judas. “He knew who they were, who did not believe, and who would betray Him.”

John 6:65-70

You hear the labor of the Spirit, through Christ, to draw all men to Himself in covenant with Christ, and to receive what He is doing in His flesh and His blood. “This is eternal life to know Him.” He pointed to it countless times. I encourage you to get in this, and just be in it for a while. It is one thing to “know” about the life. It is another thing to “receive the life, know the life, and walk in that life.” Paul said, “I die daily that He might live.” It is that mindset, “I die daily.” This life is not about me and you. It is about the love and the life, of God working in, with, and through Him and through us. Yet, it is about me and you and to save us. It all points back to “the highest life.” If we believe in His words, we have eternal life. His words are eternal life.

It is not just to come bring the power of God, revelation, and knowledge of the life of God inside of us. He wants us to come up here, and live differently through that life. Not just head

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knowledge about it. Not just, “Whew, man I hope I get through today,” but live through that life. Live through this life.

It is in this chapter, where He addresses the self-love, self centeredness, love of the flesh, the love of the world, and the boastful pride of life. This is where eternal life hits that. We have this conflict where some say, “Well, we have a life outside of church.” No, you die daily. Your life and the life that you live, you live in Him, period, now and forever. Your life is not your own. So at home, on the back porch, when you go to a swim meet, go out to dinner, or go to work, whose life are you living from? Do you check out? No, it is one life, one purpose, one kingdom. We are the Church. It is the truth that just cuts right through in John chapter six. We are the Church. What are you doing getting outside of it? We are the Church. It is a mindset. “We are just going to church today.” No, we are the Church, and the King of Glory lives inside of us.

It is not my life. It is His life. That is why we are called this “governing force,” because the life of God, eternal life, is in His people. That is why everywhere we go, we should say, “Would you like to be saved?” “Repent, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and be filled with Holy Ghost now.” Receive eternal life, because eternal life is in us now. Everywhere we go, we are wanting to give eternal life to whomever would “eat of His flesh and drink of His blood.” That is what motivates us now. Not just when you go on a mission trip. Not just when we go to an outreach. Not just when we have to go to church for a Bible study or a class. “It is Christ who is my life,” you hear the power in it?

John six will separate that out in your soul. Everything in there screams waaah, because *the flesh* does not like these words. I did not write them. You are in Him, and He is in you. There is such an explosive wind of the Spirit on the life that is inside of us. In the darkest hour, I guarantee you, the light will shine brighter, and brighter, and brighter. The glory of God is greater, and greater, and greater. But, we cannot look down the rabbit hole at the darkness. We have to be in Heaven with Him 24/7. That is living by “the highest life.” Truth. I am receiving this. It is not just “them,” who get to walk in this. It is not just “them,” who gets to lead people to Jesus. It is us. God is very desirous for all to be saved. “Let your light so shine before men that they would see your good works, and glorify Him.” You can read all of I John which covers this in almost every verse. I think John got the message.

I John 5:10-11

His son lives inside of me. This life is eternal life, and in the age to come. We just step over a line. But, here you are. Here we are right now. Are you going to reap the rewards of eternal life now, or just wait till you get to glory? “Well bless God, hallelujah, I will just suffer on a little longer here until the day I get to be in Heaven, then I will believe.” That is just religious garbage. That puts the people of God in bondage and without hope. You hear it? This is the testimony. You either believe it or you do not.

I John 5:12-13

We have the Son. We have life. It is the greatest life. It is God’s life. It is the “highest life,” and that is the life we are living from. My focus is not on what I can do. My focus on is on Him, and His word. That wind of the Spirit is going to blow through us, right? “That you would continue to believe.” Lord, help me in my unbelief.

I Timothy 6:11-12

There you go. “Fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold.” That is what He is saying today. “Lay hold of this.” You say, “Well, I got it yesterday.” Well, get it today, right? Today, while you call it today. This is the day. The goal is to live from the “highest life,” not from the old man of death that is gasping for breath.

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We live by God's breath, His Word, and His Spirit. The greatest weapon formed against the enemy, and his forces, is that we have eternal life in Christ Jesus, and we live from it now. "Now," is the greatest weapon, and the devil does not want you to know this.

Cease striving, and know that I am God. His Word is true. This is the highest life in us, and by the wind of the Spirit, we are living in this life. That old man is crying, waaahhh, because we keep going back to it. No, rise up and go upward and higher into Him. We have eternal life in Christ Jesus. So, let's live from it for Him, amen!

Let's stand and receive some more from Jesus. Jesus, thank you. Thank you, Holy Spirit for reviving us. I ask for the wind of your Spirit to blow literally from the inside, up, and out. To annihilate every lie, every danger, every threat, every hurt, every bondage, every wound, and everything that you did not plant to just blow up and out of us everything of this life. Lord, impart, raise up, and open our eyes, ears, and heart to believe these words. That eternal life is to know you. It starts today. I know that we are going to look at the words, "eternal life," far more differently from here on out, because it starts today. We love you, Jesus. You have taken us from glory to glory, and faith to faith. I believe you. Multiply it Lord, in Jesus's name, amen. Amen. Bless you.