

A HIGHER LIFE

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Many do not understand that there is a difference between the life of Christ which the Christian has and lives and the life the ordinary person on the street without Christ lives. There are two kinds of life: the natural life and the supernatural life. The natural life is the life that every man has without Christ. All that are born of a woman has this life. It is subject to all natural laws (laws of nature). It is mortal – has a terminal date. It is subject to all the weaknesses that come from the frailty of human composition and design. This life is lived without God. The end of such life is the lake of fire.

1 Cor 2:14

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

KJV

The natural man is hostile to God because in his thoughts he is alienated from God – he is hostile to God in thoughts. Since the thoughts of man control him, he lives against God's will in total disobedience.

Col 1:21

21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

NIV

Rom 8:6-8

6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

NIV

Rom 8:13

13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die;

NIV

The natural life is the sinful life. It is sinful because it is lived without God. What God says or wants does not matter to the one living just the natural life.

God's original plan when he created man and made him a living being by breathing into him his Spirit is that man will live his life obeying him and fellowshiping with him. His plan was that man's life will be a mixture of the supernatural and the natural – God's life, presence, power and fear will be in man all his days on earth. When man sinned and submitted to the devil his authority to rule the earth, everything changed. Ever since, it has been a life in total disregard to what God says or wants. There are millions today that don't want to hear anything about the existence of God. Those who believe don't care

about pleasing him; they are interested in pleasing themselves and making themselves happy their own way. Man became reprobate to God.

Rom 1:18-32

18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator-who is forever praised. Amen.

26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

28 Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

NIV

THE SUPERNATURAL

Man believes in the supernatural as being greater and better than the natural. The supernatural influences and controls the natural world that man lives in. Decrees made by supernatural power controls and manipulate events, and come to pass in the natural world. That is why people believe in worshipping spiritual or supernatural beings with some level of power or authority that they can use to make things happen for them here on earth. People worship Water spirits, Heavenly bodies or spirits, Ancestral spirits, Forest demons, animals and all kind of creatures and spirits. Men practice witchcraft, necromancy, divination, occultism, cultism, human sacrifices, palmistry, card reading,

fortune telling, voodoo, astral travel, telepathy, mediums, mysticism, yoga and other forms of spiritism. All of these show that man believes and wants the supernatural which is a higher form of life compared to the life the natural man lives.

All these evil alliances and communication with demons and spirits of the dark are all evil in the sight of our God and Maker. This form of supernatural life is called the negative supernatural. And it is inferior to the supernatural life and power of God our Maker and Savior. If you are involved in it, you must repent and submit to Jesus Christ to deliver and save you. The Supernatural life and power of God is the positive supernatural. All life comes from God, including all the spirits of darkness that are being worshipped today. God is the Creator of all things. And since he is the Creator of all things and sustains all things by the word of his power, then he is higher and superior to all things, visible and invisible, spiritual and natural.

Gen 14:19-20

*"Blessed be Abram by **God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.** 20 And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand."*

NIV

Isa 40:28

*28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the **Creator of the ends of the earth.** He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.*

NIV

Heb 1:3-4

*3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, **sustaining all things by his powerful word.** After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. 4 **So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.***

NIV

Col 1:15-20

*15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 **For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.** 17 **He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.** 18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.*

NIV

God's life and authority and power is superior to that of the devil and his cohorts. It is therefore very clear that any man possessing the life of Christ the Son of God and Savior of the world has a superior life and a superior power available unto him. It is true that the

devil appears to be more powerful because he and his followers are always doing evil – they harm, afflict, and place curses and obstacles before people. They steal, kill and destroy. That they do all these evil does not make them more superior or powerful than the power of light and good. God has the ultimate authority and power.

Isa 46:10-11

10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. 11 From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

NIV

His word is law. He does as he pleases. Things always go as he plans them. If he does not give permission, the devil cannot harm you or any other person, place or thing. God can overrule the devil anytime any day. When God says no, the evil ones cannot succeed. After the devil has done his havoc, God repairs or reconstructs the damaged. The one, who can repair the damage the enemy has done, definitely has more power than the one who did the damage. Do not fear or hail the power of the devil, rather, fear and revere God who is the source of all power and authority. God is the source of all life. He is the only person worthy of your worship, reverence and adoration.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IS THE HIGHER LIFE

To be in relationship with Jesus (mankind's redeemer) is to be in relationship with the positive supernatural. It is to have the supernatural life of God – the very life that God himself lives. To have Jesus is to have the higher life. To be born again is to be born of a higher and superior life and nature.

John 3:16

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

NIV

John 1:12-13

12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God- 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

NIV

Eternal life that Jesus offers his believers and followers is not just life without end. All live forever. For all spirits including man was designed and ordained to live forever either with God in heaven or in the lake of fire reserved for the disobedient and rebellious. The eternal life that Jesus Christ offered those who believe in him is his life – His kind of life, the very life that He (Jesus) lives, the life of Almighty God. Jesus gave all believers irrespective of color, tribe, country or status his nature and life as the above passages has revealed. So, all born again believers in Christ are born from above by the Father who is the Maker of the heaven and the earth. So, God is not just our Maker, but our Father. This

means that the same nature he has, we have. The same life he has and lives, we have. The same character he has and manifests, we have and will manifest if we submit to him completely. The same authority and power he has we have also and can manifest through the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 3:31

*31 "The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all.
NIV*

Because we are from above, we are above all – above all that are of this earth, above all the wickedness on earth, above all the devils on earth, above all the problems of life, above the natural life that is lived on earth and above all that subdue the natural man. The believer is born a winner and overcomer.

1 John 5:3-5

*4 for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.
NIV*

Nothing in this natural world overcomes the believer who is determined to win. You can only be overcome if you want to or allow yourself to be overcome. If you put up a resistance, you will win.

James 4:7

*7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
NIV*

2 Cor 5:17

*17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
NIV*

Anyone in Christ is a new specie of human being. You are not like the rest of the people on the street. You are a new creation, completely different from what you used to be though you may not feel like it right away, but you are different. As time goes on, it will begin to manifest as you yield to it. The old life has gone away – The new nature has been destroyed and taken away from you. You are no longer a sinner in the eyes of God. You are now a saint – A sanctified person. You are a child of God. When God the Father looks at you, he sees his son Jesus Christ in you. So as He is, so are you in this world. You are now the light of the world as he is.

1 John 4:17

*17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.
KJV*

When Jesus looks at you the believer, he sees himself. He calls himself the light of the world. When he looks at his disciples, he calls them the same thing he calls himself – The light of the world.

John 8:12

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

NIV

Matt 5:14-15

14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

NIV

If God the Father sees His son in you, and Jesus your Savior sees Himself in you, then you need to start seeing Jesus in yourself. You have the higher life of Jesus Christ. You are Jesus in human flesh. You have the supernatural life of God, and you are expected to live this supernatural life in this natural world. Stop seeing yourself as a natural normal person as the world knows a person to be. You are supernatural in human flesh or house. You are god in human flesh just as Jesus was God in human flesh. He succeeded because of that, so you will succeed as a Christian living holy and victorious because you have the same composition as Jesus had when he was on earth.

Do not look at the weaknesses you are manifesting right now, look at who you are in Christ. It is your faith in Christ that releases the life of Christ to flow through you to the outside. It takes faith to live this life of God. You must first of all believe that you have this life before you can see it come to pass.

Rom 1:17

17 For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

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The righteousness of God Jesus came to offer us is obtained by faith sustained and lived by faith. From first to last, beginning till the end of the journey is by faith. If you became a Christian and had your sins forgiven you by faith, you will manifest the life of Christ by faith, obtain anything and everything you need by faith, run the entire race by faith and end at the feet of Jesus by faith. Seeing yourself as God sees you is faith. Believing you are who God says you are, have what God says you have, and can do what God says you can do, is faith. What ever picture of you the believer that God has painted in the bible should be accepted as your true position now and forever. Believing these truths releases the power and life of Jesus in you to manifest in every area of your life.

Victory over sin just as any other thing in the new creation is by faith – conditioning your mind and heart to see yourself as completely free from sin is faith.

Rom 6:11

11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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When this becomes the perfect condition of your mind, strength to overcome sin and all forms of evil is released and does not fail to manifest. Don't just know and memorize this scripture, let it renew your mind completely. Change the picture in your head about your self as far as sin is concerned. Victory is only possible when this is done. That is God's plan and method for victory in his kingdom. Seeing yourself as a sinner because you fall into sin from time to time will never give you victory over sin. You must see yourself as free and dead to sin even now, that is what will guarantee your practical victory over sin.

This is true about every other thing, virtue or blessing in Christ. All are obtained by faith and faith alone. This higher life is by faith. That is why it is necessary that once a man comes to Jesus Christ, his assignment and preoccupation should be studying to discover the life he has received from Jesus in order for his mind to be renewed, reprogrammed, and adjusted to this new life. Without a new mindset, you can't live this life of Christ.

Rom 12:1-2

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

NIV

Eph 4:22-24

22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

NIV

You can't be thinking like a sinner and expect to live holy. You can't be thinking like the world and expect to act like a member of God's kingdom. You can't hold on to the opinions and views of the world and expect to live successfully as a child of God. You can't think like the devil and expect to live like God. The Kingdom of God is different in principles and rules from the kingdom of this world and the devil. You have to think like God to talk, relate, behave and act like God in all things. And you need to know the will, mind and principles of God to think like God. That is why the bible was given to the church. That is why God anointed and commissioned Pastors and Teachers to teach and build his people in his will and word. This calls for persistence and dedication in studying and meditating on the word of God, and attending of church meetings and services with the intent to learn more in order to manifest more the life of Christ in this natural world.

CONCLUSION

If you have not accepted this higher life, I encourage you to open up today and accept this higher and superior life of Jesus which will make you a winner all your life and place you

above all that is of this earth. The life of Christ is not bondage as some think; it is the best thing that has ever happened to man. It is the best life any man can have and live. Drop that thing you call life and accept this higher life today. Life is not all about sex, booze, parties and money, it is a lot more. Evil power from the devil is not what you need. When all is over on earth, what will your life beyond the earth be like? Will you be able to bear the torture and pain of the Lake of fire for ever and ever? Think again and make a wise decision. It may cost you all you think you have going for you at the other side, but it is worth it. It cost God the life of his one and only son Jesus Christ to open the door for all of us to have this life. It is that important to God, therefore, it should be important to you also. Receive him now into your life. Take this higher life that God offers you for nothing but repentance and humility. Pray this prayer now aloud and be saved:

Oh God, I come to you as a sinner. I confess all my wrong beliefs and doings. I turn from them now to you to save and keep me from evil all the days of my life. Forgive and receive me into your kingdom as your son. Give me your life, nature and Spirit. I renounce the devil and all his evil ways. I break all covenants with the devil in Jesus name. Thank you for forgiving me and making me your son in Jesus name.

If you have prayed this prayer with all you heart, I welcome you to the kingdom of Christ. Write me and tell me about your decision and I will get back to you and send you some materials that will help you succeed in your walk with God. Join a local bible believing and charismatic church near you and tell the Pastor you have just accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord and they will help you grow. If you are close to any of our churches, join us and let the pastor know about this decision you have made today. God bless and keep you in His love for ever.