

A. B. SIMPSON

Life
MORE
ABUNDANTLY



WHITAKER
HOUSE

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Holy Bible. Scripture quotations marked (ASV) are taken from the American Standard Edition of the Revised Version of the Holy Bible.

Boldface type in the Scripture quotations indicates the author's emphasis.

LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY:
A 31-Day Study of God's Greatest Gift

ISBN: 978-1-62911-294-7

eBook ISBN: 978-1-62911-295-4

Printed in the United States of America

© 2015 by Whitaker House

Whitaker House
1030 Hunt Valley Circle
New Kensington, PA 15068
www.whitakerhouse.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data (Pending)

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical—including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system—without permission in writing from the publisher. Please direct your inquiries to permissionseditor@whitakerhouse.com.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 **W** 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15

CONTENTS

Introduction	5
1. The True Purpose of Life	7
2. Losing One's Life	9
3. Coming Short.....	12
4. Eternal Life.....	14
5. Spiritual Life	16
6. Spontaneous Life	19
7. The Christ Life.....	22
8. Christ for the Mind	25
9. A Higher Physical Life.....	28
10. The Spirit-Filled Life.....	31
11. Resurrection Life	34
12. Transfigured Lives	37
13. Radiant Lives.....	40
14. The Victorious Life	43
15. More than Conquerors	46
16. Getting the Best of Trouble	49
17. Getting the Best of Misfortune	51
18. Getting the Best of Circumstances.....	54

19. Getting the Best of People.....	56
20. Turning Everything to Account for God.....	59
21. The Double Portion.....	62
22. Caleb's Inheritance	65
23. True Greatness.....	68
24. Last Strongholds.....	71
25. Effectual Prayer	74
26. Faith's Challenge.....	77
27. How Great Is Your God?.....	80
28. A Larger Vision	83
29. A Great Ambition	86
30. Living Our Bibles.....	89
31. The Master's "Well Done"	92
About the Author.....	95

INTRODUCTION

*“I am come that they might have life, and that they might
have it more abundantly.”*

—John 10:10

What is life? It is not hard to tell what life does; but what life is, no human definition has yet satisfactorily explained.

The lowest form of organic life in the vegetable kingdom marks the beginning of a new world in nature. The tiny moss on the summit of the mighty mountain, if it could speak and think, might say, “I am greater than this mountain, because I have organic life. The mountain is an inert mass. I spring from a living seed. I grow by a vital process. I drink in nourishment from the air around me and the soil beneath me. I bear my little bud and blossom and leave behind me a living seed that will propagate my kind and give to me through my fruit a perennial life. I live.”

The smallest insect on the topmost branches of that magnificent palm tree can look down with just pride on the vegetable kingdom and say, “I am greater than this palm and all the flowers and forests of this land, for I have animal life. I am conscious of my existence, but this palm tree is not. If it were cut down, it would not know it; but I know the joy of living and the pain of suffering. In a still higher sense, I live.”

The little child can look up at the mammoth elephant or the noble horse and say, "You could destroy me by the faintest effort; but I am greater than you, for I have intellectual life, I have human life, I have immortal life, I have a life that can be educated until I shall master the elephant and all the strength and cunning of the animal world, and assert my lordship over the whole realm of nature. In a still higher sense, I live."

The most humble and uncultured saint—perhaps a poorest new convert in the jungles of Africa, or a lowly laborer, toiling in some factory or mine—can look in the face of the most brilliant human genius who knows not God in personal faith and fellowship and say, "I live in a higher world than you, for I have spiritual life, I have eternal life, I have a life that death cannot destroy and sin cannot defile and judgment cannot dismay and eternal ages can never end. I have everlasting life."

And yet once more I see a saint of God arise and testify to a yet higher life than all this. "*I am crucified with Christ,*" he cries, "*nevertheless I live*" (Galatians 2:20). And then as even this new life that Christ has given fails to fully satisfy him, I hear him cry yet once more, "*Not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me*" (Galatians 2:20). I have not only spiritual life, everlasting life, and the life of the heaven-born soul, but I have divine life, I have the Christ life, I have God Himself to live within me."

Beloved, was this what the Master meant when He said, "*I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*" (John 10:10)? Have you that life, and have you that life more abundantly?

If you were born to perish like the brute, you might be content with the lower forms of life; but as a child of immortality and heir of grace and glory, are you making the most of life?

DAY ONE:

THE TRUE PURPOSE OF LIFE

*“The time is short: it remaineth, that...they that use this
world, [be] as not abusing it.”*
—1 Corinthians 7:29, 31

What is the supreme significance of life? Is it a pleasant pastime, or is it a solemn probation, a swiftly passing springtime from whose wise sowing the harvests of time and eternity are to be reaped? There is the human side—the beauty, the joy, the romance, the sunshine, and the bloom; but there is the seriousness of life’s conflicts—death’s tragedy and eternity’s mighty issues. No man can make the most of life until he has looked all these things in the face and learned the highest meaning of the old motto *Dum vivimus, vivamus*:

Live while you live, the epicure would say,
And seize the pleasures of the present day;
Live while you live, the sacred preacher cries,
And give to God each moment as it flies.
Lord, in my views, let both united be:
I live in pleasure when I live to thee.¹

1. Philip Doddridge, *Epigram on His Family Arms*.

An old writer compares the worldling to a child sitting on the branches of a fruitful tree, growing over an abyss and thoughtlessly eating the fruit, while two worms, called Day and Night, were slowly eating through the branch, until it suddenly fell and plunged him in the abyss. No man can safely give his supreme attention to earthly things until his eternal interests are insured.

The people that are wasting the springtime of life in thoughtless pleasure may well be compared to the crew of a shipwrecked vessel who were thrown upon a fertile island and succeeded only in saving their cargo of wheat and bringing it ashore. The wise ones suggested that they should plant it in the fertile soil and assure themselves of future supplies, but as they were about to engage in this wise provision and provision, one of the company returned from an excursion over the hills with the report that he had found a gold mine of inexhaustible wealth. Immediately they all started for the mine and spent the summer in amassing enormous fortunes meanwhile feeding upon the wheat, which they should have planted.

Suddenly, the winds of autumn began to blow, and they awoke with a start to find their food supply well-nigh gone. They eagerly began to plant the remaining seed, but it rotted in the furrows, and they were left to die of starvation, surrounded by millions and billions of worthless gold.

Dear friend, are you wasting life's supreme opportunity like them? Someday, will you hear the blasts of life's autumn moaning over your despairing deathbed "*The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved*" (Jeremiah 8:20)? No wise man will go to sleep knowing that the insurance on his property has lapsed without immediately renewing it. And no sane mortal will venture to leave his soul without that divine insurance of which he can say, "*I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day*" (2 Timothy 1:12).