John 10:10 (NKJV)

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

Joel Osteen

"Keep reminding yourself, "God takes pleasure in prospering me. I am the head and never the tail". The scripture says, "God will supply our needs according to his riches". So often we look at our situations and think, "I'll never get ahead. Joel, I'm in the projects, I'll never get out". No, it's not according to what you have, it's according to what he has. The good news is God owns it all. One touch of God's favor can blast you out of barely enough and put you into more than enough. God has ways to increase you beyond your normal income, beyond your salary, beyond what's predictable.

"Now, quit telling yourself, "This is all I'll ever have. Granddaddy was broke. Mom and daddy didn't have anything. My dog's on welfare, my cat's homeless". Let go of all that and have an abundant mentality. "This is not where I'm staying. I'm blessed, I'm prosperous. I'm headed to overflow, to the land of more than enough"."

Joel Osteen

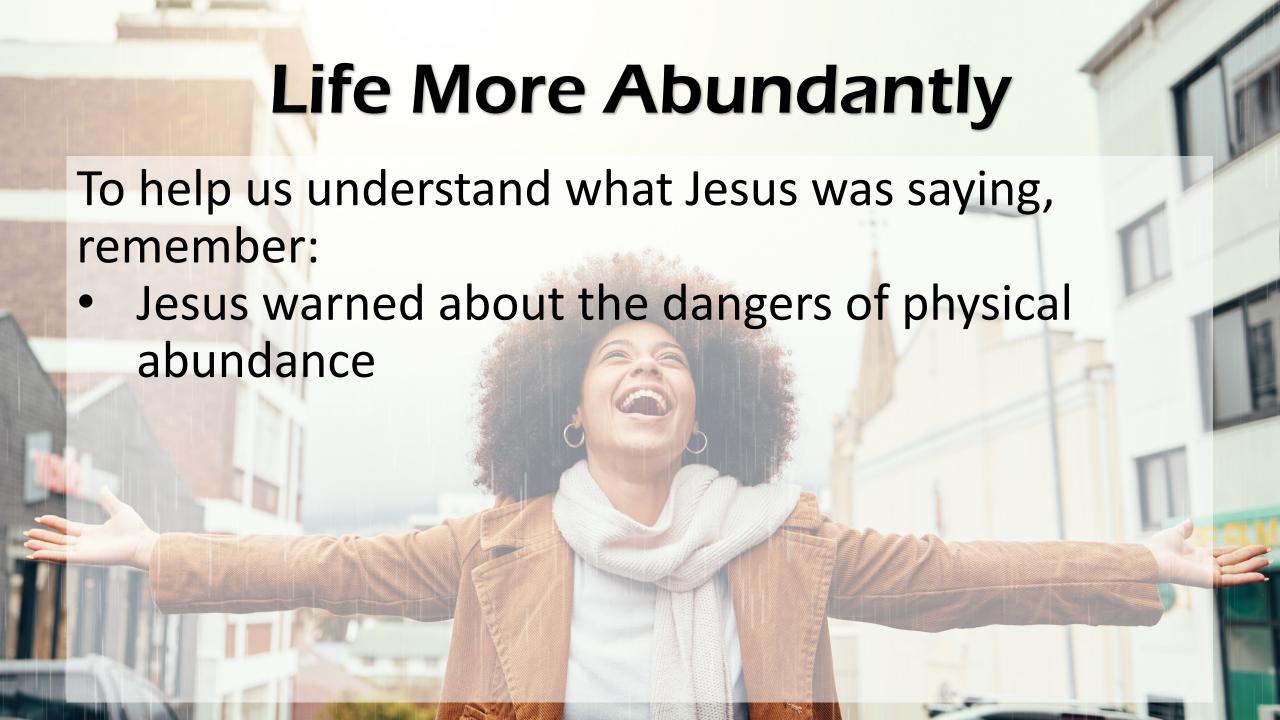
"You are not going to settle for beans and rice. You are not going to get stuck in the land of barely enough, or the land of just enough, but you're going to keep praying, believing, expecting, hoping, dreaming, working, being faithful until you make it all the way in to the land of more than enough.

"Now, there's nothing wrong with beans and rice, nothing wrong with surviving, but God wants you to go further. God wants you to set a new standard for your family. He's an overflow God, a more than enough God.

Joel Osteen

"Jesus told a parable about a prodigal son. This young man left home and blew all of his money, wasted his inheritance, and decided to return home, and when his father saw him, the father represents God, he said to the staff, "Go kill the fatted calf. We're going to have a party". The older brother was upset. He said, "Dad, I've been with you this whole time and you've never given me a skinny goat".

"Let me ask you, do you have a fatted calf mentality, or do you have a skinny goat mentality? Do you think beans and rice are good enough, or do you say, "No, I want some enchiladas. I want some fajitas. I want some sopapillas"? Listen, you can live off of bread and water. You can survive in the land of barely enough. We can endure the land of just enough, just enough to make it through, just enough to pay my bills this week. But that is not God's best. Your Heavenly Father, the one that breathed life into you, is saying, "I've got a fatted calf for you. I've got a place for you in the land of more than enough"."

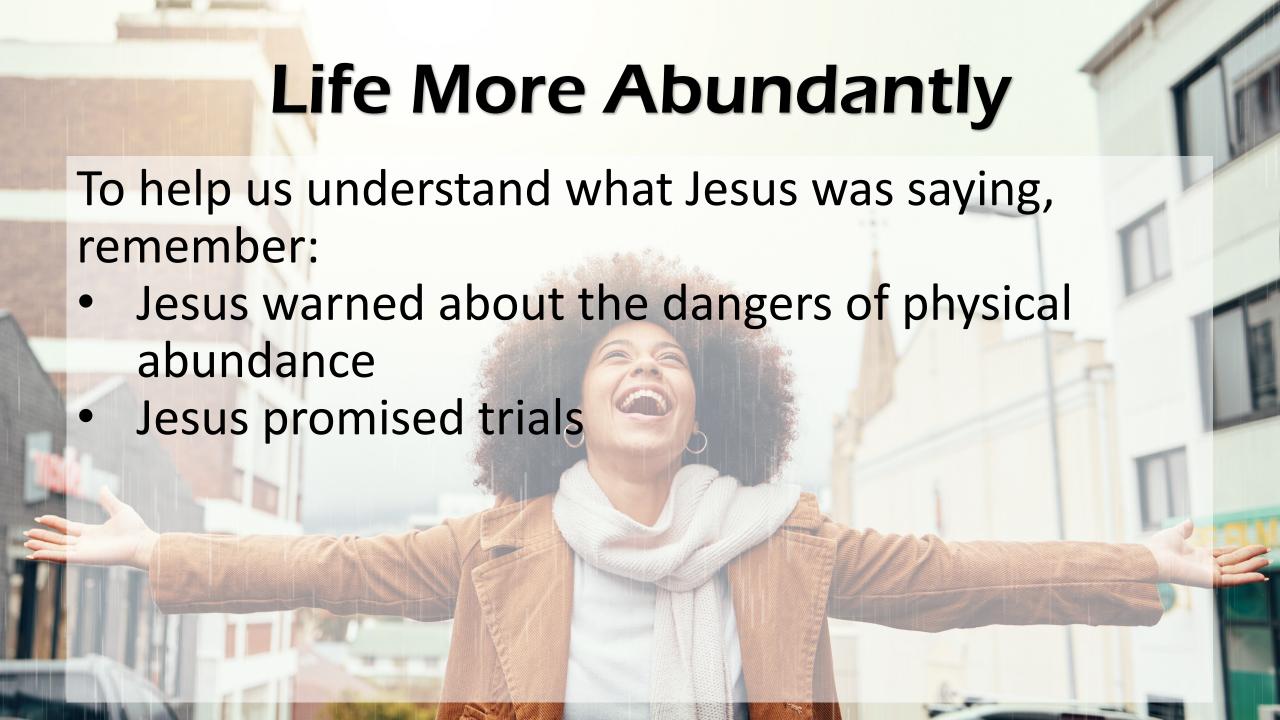


Matthew 19:16-26 (NKJV)

"Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." Hé said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.""

Matthew 13:22 (NKJV)

""Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful."

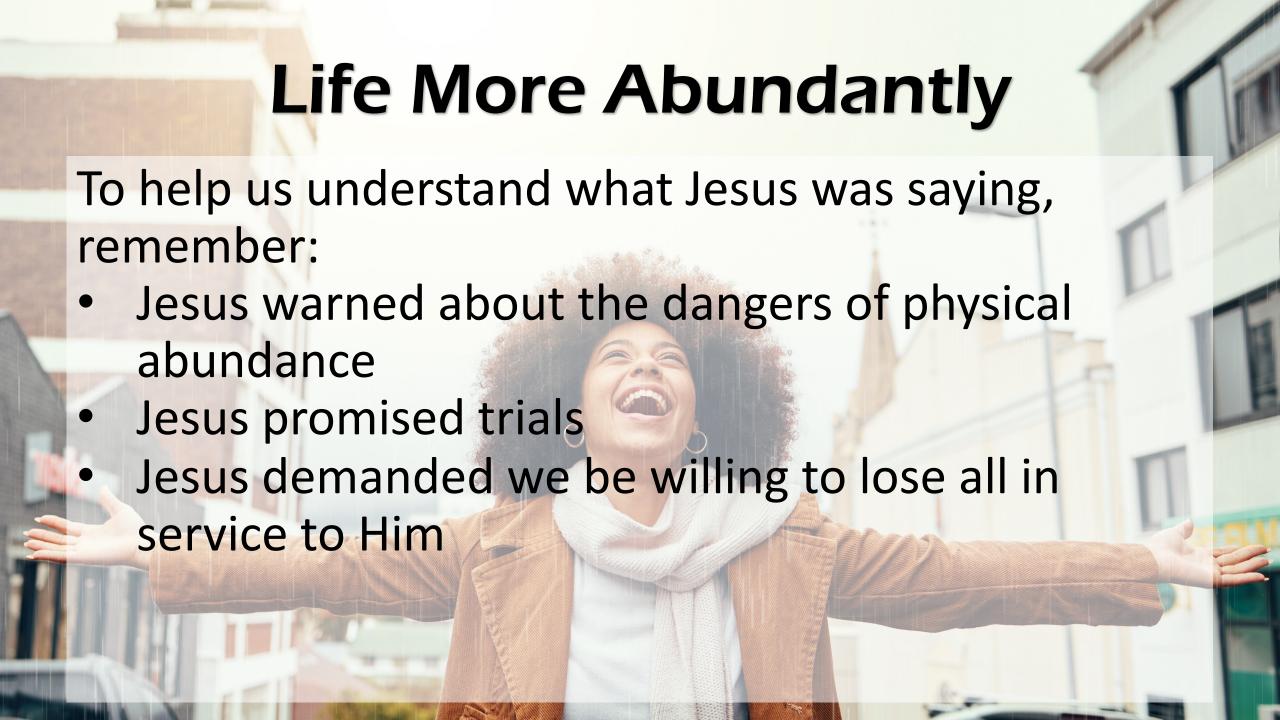


John 15:19,20 (NKJV)

""If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also."

John 16:33 (NKJV)

""These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.""



Matthew 10:37,38 (NKJV)

""He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. "And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me."

Luke 18:28-30 (NKJV)

"Then Peter said, "See, we have left all and followed You." So He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, "who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.""

Life More Abundantly

To help us understand what Jesus was saying, remember:

- Jesus warned about the dangers of physical abundance
- Jesus promised trials
- Jesus demanded we be willing to lose all in service to Him
- Many First Century Christians didn't enjoy physical prosperity

Acts 2:44,45 (NKJV)

"Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need."

Acts 4:34-37 (NKJV)

"Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need. And Joses, who was also named Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated Son of Encouragement), a Levite of the country of Cyprus, having land, sold it, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet."

Revelation 2:10 (NKJV)

""Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Philippians 4:11-13 (NKJV)

"Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

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I Corinthians 15:19 (NKJV)

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable."

II Corinthians 4:16-18 (NKJV)

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."



I Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"



Romans 5:17 (NKJV)

"For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)"

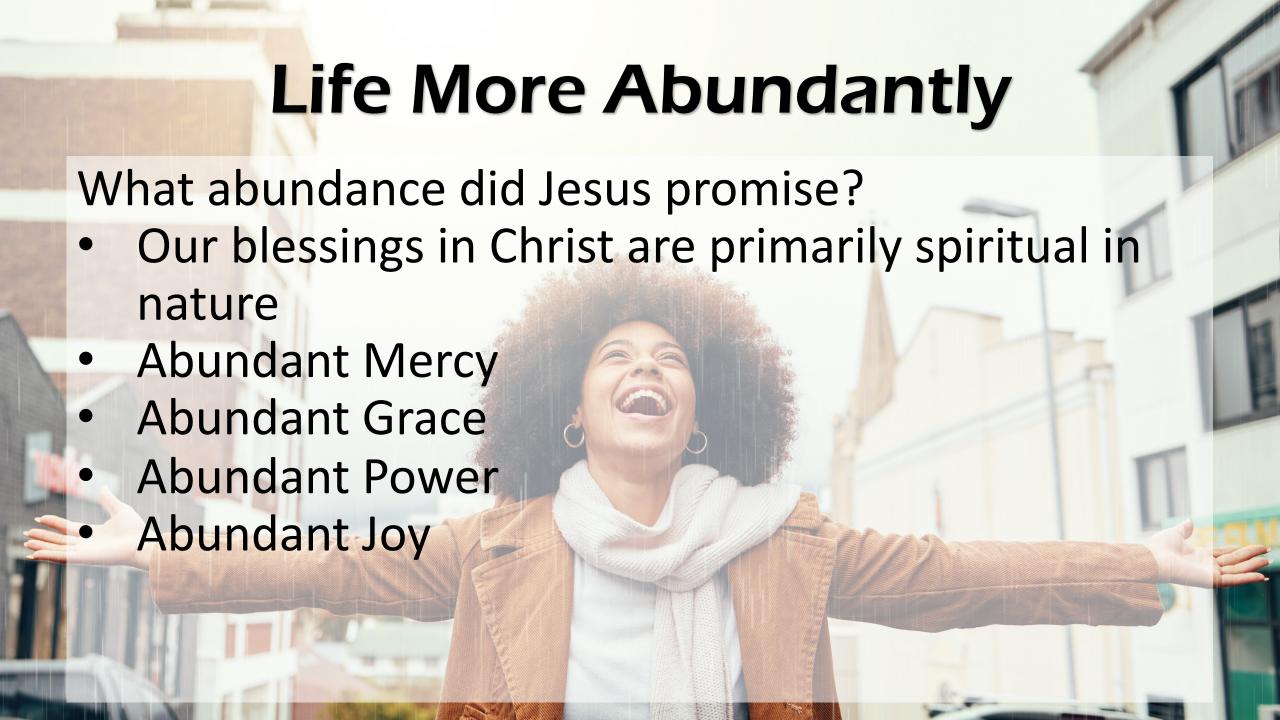
Ephesians 1:2,3 (NKJV)

"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,"



Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,"



I Peter 1:8,9 (NKJV)

"whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of your souls."

Acts 5:41 (NKJV)

"So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name."



II Peter 1:10,11 (NKJV)

"Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."



