

“Living the Good Life”

by Bill Crews

I thought I was already living the good life. My life is hid with Christ in God (**Colossians 3:3**), and Christ is my life (**Colossians 3:4**). Christ came that men may have life and have it abundantly (**John 10:10**), and this refers to something much greater than mere physical life. Not only do I have physical life; I have that life Christ came to give, and the promise of life to come (**1 Timothy 4:8; 2 Timothy 1:1**). The life of Jesus is manifested in my body (**2 Corinthians 4:10-11**).

But there are apparently many people who do not think that I am living the good life. One evening, while driving home, I noticed, in front of a popular place of entertainment, the words on a lighted portable sign. They said: *“Live the Good Life.”* Above that was the line: *“2/1 Happy Hour 4-6 p.m.”* Below it, in very large letters, was the word – *“DANCING.”* So here is someone telling me that to “live the good life” I should come to this “happy hour,” buy two drinks for the price of one, and dance. No thanks. I learned long ago that many people do not know what a good life is. I suspect that the owner also feels that if you will frequently patronize his business, you will be helping him to *“live the good life.”* But the truly good life is not to be found in alcoholic drinks, on a dance floor in a night club, or with a large income.

The Bible says that *“the mind of the flesh is death”* (**Romans 8:6**) or *“to be carnally-minded is death.”*

Man’s way of *“really living”* is a way of gratifying all the passions and desires of his flesh and totally ignoring the needs of his soul or spirit. The one who gives himself to worldly pleasures is actually dead while he lives (see **1 Timothy 5:6** and also read the story of the prodigal son in **Luke 15:11-32**). The good life the world wants me to live brings dissipation (of mind and body), sorrow and death.

So, to such invitations I must say, “No thank you.” I am very happy with the life I am living. God loves me and provides for me and looks after me (**Matthew 6:30-33; Hebrews 13:5-6**). Christ is my companion and guide. I have access to all spiritual blessings (**Ephesians 1:3**). I have the peace that passes understanding (**Philippians 4:7**). I am able to *“rejoice in the Lord always”* (**Philippians 4:4**). By the power of God I am *“guarded through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time”* (**1 Peter 1:5**). I can cast all my anxiety on the Lord (**1 Peter 5:7**). My name is enrolled in heaven (**Luke 10:20; Revelation 3:5**). For some time now I have been laying up treasures in heaven (**Matthew 6:19-21**). I have something to live for, and I am not afraid of dying. Won’t you join me in living the really good life?

364502