

Our **GOAL of LIFE** to **LIVE** is first and foremost that “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself*” Luke 10:27, Deut. 6:5. As a result then the Lord says “*do this, and you shall LIVE*” Luke 10:28.

But the battles of life with the flesh and the enemy become even greater as you make Luke 10:27 your priority. The **GOAL** of the enemy, Satan, and his fallen angels, is always at work in your **LIFE** to deter your course of progress even using the Word of God to place doubts in your mind as the difference between right and wrong. “The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing” – Stephen Covey.

I have found that the **Spirit of Heaviness**, that I wrote about last week, has aggressively attacked itself on me and I am in a continuous battle not only within myself but with **LIFE** all around me and obviously with a majority of the populous of our Nation and even the World. Covey observes with regard to the COVID 19 “that It seems like the devil has gotten a foothold of division amongst God’s people. There are the go-to-Churcher’s vs. the stay-at-homers. There are the maskers vs. the anti-maskers. There are the Vaccinators vs. the never-Vaccinators. The attacks are vicious, and the words are harsh on all sides of the arguments. Social media amongst many Christians has devolved to a new level of ugliness. Pastors have jumped into the mix, confusing their roles, thinking that they are doctors and scientists. This leads to confusion for many in the church. Some people ignore their doctors’ medical advice on theological grounds. Meanwhile, the world is looking in and thinking, ‘There go all those Christians again’ – laughing to themselves and writing the Church off as irrelevant. All the while, Satan is sitting back and laughing. Why? His greatest ally in keeping people from the truth of Jesus the Christ is an ineffective Church. When we are fighting each other, we are as ineffective as it gets.

What a great story of what can happen when we trust God. Sadly, though, in these times the Church is not the one marching to battle. We are the ones fighting each other in the valley. So, when those who are anti-Church and anti-God prepare to battle against the Lord’s people on the issues of freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and gender issues, they find the Church already defeated – torn to pieces by one another”.

We must move forward at a set pace making decisions, actions, and observe reactions of interaction with others – toward observing effects. We grow through effects and even failures. The enemy will attack our forward motion with opposition. Moving backward is never an option. The prophetic purpose of God in our **LIFE** – is to first **LIVE** the **LIFE** He has for us. We must have patience to see the outcome of that process. We have to be led by the Spirit into a God ordained **LIFE**. He leads us from destiny to destiny to our final destiny or end of life. We must never confuse that in faith we will prevail in the end—which we can never afford to lose—with the discipline to confront the most brutal facts of our current reality, whatever they might be.

The Bible is very clear, the **Spirit of Heaviness** is connected to depression, therefore depression is a spirit, and the root cause of depression is a dysfunctional connection with God. As Christians we need to continuously renew our minds in Bible study and prayer as well as focus on positive good things. Dwelling with worry on things that we cannot control and that’s probably ninety percent of what we worry about, we pull ourselves down with stress and resulting depression. Rom 12:2 says, “*And do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove that the Will of God is that which is good and acceptable and perfect*”. When our mind and heart are downcast the **Spirit of Heaviness** brings a heavy, oppressive feeling causing a darkness like a heavy burden or cloud to envelope

us. We begin to doubt our faith and God's relationship and love for us. We want to isolate ourselves from others and then a loneliness followed by mental turmoil involving confusion, agitation, anxiety, depression, and fear set in. To kick off this suppression we must acknowledge that fear is not of God and remember 2 Tim 1:7 "*For God has not given us a **Spirit of Fear**, but of power and love and of a sound mind*".

Our circumstances will always be in a state of "up and down" but keeping our mind on Jesus the Christ with thanksgiving in all circumstances we can shake the negative attacks of the mind, will, and emotions. The more we thank Him again and again and particularly for our salvation the more we release the stranglehold of selfness and let the sunshine in from the Son. That is what the world needs to see. When the world sees our love for one another, they will recognize that there is a better way to live than how they have been living. That is when we will be a light in this world. That is when we will be offering hope to the hopeless. That is when we will be taking those who are dead and showing them how they can find **LIFE**. That is when we will be keeping the main thing the main thing.