**HOW MEN SHOULD LIVE FOR CHRIST TODAY**

**Psalms 143:10**

**Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness**

**INTRO:**

**II Corinthians 5:15** [**And *that* he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/2-Corinthians-5-15/)

**1. Are you living victoriously? Or, are you living in vain?**

 **a. If you are living for the Savior, you are living victoriously!**

 **b. If you are living for self, you are living in vain!**

**2. II Corinthians 5:15** [**And *that* he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/2-Corinthians-5-15/)

 **a. “And that he died for all,” - Christ died for everybody.**

 **b. “that they which live” - This refers to those who are saved; these are they that are spiritually alive!**

 **c. “should not henceforth live unto themselves,” - If we are saved we are not to live for Possessions, Pleasure, Popularity, Pride, or Positions. (When we make these things our only focus in life, then it is sinful because our focus is not on Christ.)**

 **d. “but unto him” - We as Christians are to live for the one who died for us and arose for us!!**

**3. We are bombarded everyday with the possessions, the pleasures, the popularity, the pride, and the positions of the world and the wicked. It grabs your attention, and it’s message is repetitive and alluring.**

**4. However, you can live for Christ in this day we are living!**

 **a. You can live Holy!**

 **b. You can live Honest!**

 **c. You can live Humble!**

**\*\*Let’s look at How Men Should Live for Christ Today!**

**I. MEN SHOULD KEEP LOOKING**

 **Hebrews 12:2 “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith . . .”**

**Micah 7:7 “Therefore I will look unto the Lord”**

 **A. When Everything is Wicked**

**\*\*When you see wicked . . .**

 **1. Self**

**Psalms 51:1-3 1** [**Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-51-1/)

**2** [**Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-51-2/)

**3** [**For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-51-3/)

**\*\* Some folks cannot live for Christ because they are too busy living in sin! When you see yourself as wicked, the best thing you can do is look to Christ!**

 **2. Souls – When those around you are wicked, look to Christ so you can still live for Christ!!**

 **3. Sin - When you see the wickedness of sin abounding among your family and friends, look to Christ and have faith in a wonderful Savior!!**

 **4. Spirits - When people have wicked spirits, they are mean and hateful and some even go to church! Wicked spirits are developed because someone is living for self and not the Savior. They are more interested in power, positions, pride, popularity, pleasure and possessions, but do not engage with these people; instead, look to Christ!**

 **5. Satan - When you see that wicked Satan working and you start weeping, brush back the tears and look to Christ! He knows how to handle the devil!!**

 **B. When Everything is Wrong**

 **“Jesus is right for whatever is wrong in your life.”**

**\*\*When the car doesn’t work, the appliances all quit, the kids won’t mind, the spouse isn’t being fair, the boss keeps fussing, the co-workers won’t cooperate, the dog keeps barking, and the cat just died, look to Christ and keep living a Christian life for Him!!**

 **C. When Everything is Well**

**David said, “Bless the Lord, O my soul.”**

**\*\*When all is well with your heart and home, keep looking to Christ and live for Him!!**

 **D. When Everything is Wonderful**

**\*\*When the message, the meeting, and the mountain-top is wonderful, keep looking to Christ and live for Him!!**

**II. MEN SHOULD KEEP LEARNING**

**Colossians 3:16 “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom”**

 **A. Read the Word**

 **\*\*It cannot dwell in you unless you read it!**

 **B. Remember the Word**

 **1. Study it. 2. Sponge it.**

 **C. Respond to the Word**

 **How?**

 **1. Apply (Make it apart of your life.)**

 **2. Act (Make it your life!)**

**III. MEN SHOULD KEEP LEANING**

**Proverbs 3:5 “Trust the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding”**

**\*\*Lean not on power, positions, possessions, pride, popularity, or even pleasures. All those things will let you down!**

**\*\*Lean on the Savior, the Scripture, and the Spirit!!**

 **These things will . . .**

 **1. Load you up with praise!**

 **2. Lift you up with power!**

 **3. Love you up with peace!**

**SONG: Learning to lean, I’m learning to lean.**

**I’m learning to lean on Jesus**

**Finding more power than I ever dreamed**

**I’m learning to lean on Jesus!!**

**\*\*The only way you can live for Jesus in this modern wicked world is to lean on Jesus!!**

**IV. MEN SHOULD KEEP LIFTING**

**\*\*Let us lift up Jesus and He alone!**

**Philemon 1:20-21 “. . .** [**in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, *so* now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Philippians-1-20/)

**21** [**For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Philippians-1-21/)**”**

 **\*\*Lift Jesus up and make Him . . .**

 **A. Above**

 **1. Above the Carnality**

**\*\*If we are going to live for Christ, He has to be lifted up so high in our lives that we keep our eyes on Him and not the carnal worldliness and wickedness.**

 **2. Above the Concerns**

**\*\*Every time you have a concern, lift up Christ above the concerns.**

 **3. Above the Crowds**

**\*\*The crowds are going to Hell without Christ. Don’t let the crowds crowd Christ out of your life! Lift Him above the crowds and keep your eyes on Him.**

 **B. Apparent**

**\*\*Is Christ so lifted up in your life that it is apparent that you have a life of prayer, a life of peace, a life of praise?**

 **C. Attractive**

**\*\*We have something the world does not have; we have Christ! If we lift Him up, He will attract the world!**

 **1. Lift Up His Goodness**

 **2. Lift Up His Greatness**

 **3. Lift Up His Grace**

**V. MEN SHOULD KEEP LOVING**

**\*\*Don’t stop loving the Lord! Love Him and follow His commandments!**

**Ephesians 5:2 “And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and given himself for us”**

**\*\*If we live for Christ in this modern day, we must show our love . . .**

 **A. For the Savior**

 **B. For the Saints**

 **C. For the Sanctuary**

 **D. For the Sinner**

**CLOSE**

**What time we have here on earth, we better live for Christ now while we can!**

**You say, “I can’t do it preacher, you just don’t understand everything that is going on in my life.”**

**No I don’t understand what is going on in your life, but I do understand that the Bible tells us not to live for ourselves, but rather live for Jesus.**

**He would not have said it if it could not be done. You can forsake your sinful living and living in sin, and you can live for Jesus!**

**Look to Christ, Learn from Christ, Lean on Christ, Lift Up Christ, and Love as Christ in order to live for Christ.**

***ONLY ONE LIFE***

 ***“Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life’s busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will really last.***

***Only one life, yes only one,
Soon its fleeting hours will be done;
Then, in ‘that day’ my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgment seat;***

***Only one life, the still small voice,
Gently pleads for a better choice
Bidding me selfish aims to leave,
And to God’s holy will to cleave;
Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will really last.***

***Only one life, a few brief years,
Each with its burdens, hopes, and fears;
Each with its clays I must fulfill,
living for self or in His will;***

***When this bright world would tempt me sore,
When Satan would a victory score;
When self would seek to have its way,
Then help me Lord with joy to say;***

***Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will last.***

***Give me Father, a purpose deep,***

***In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;
Faithful and true what e’er the strife,
Pleasing Thee in my daily life;***

***Oh let my love with fervor burn,
And from the world now let me turn;
Living for Thee, and Thee alone,
Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne;
Only one life, “twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will really last.***

***Only one life, yes only one,
Now let me say,”Thy will be done”;
And when at last I’ll hear the call,
I know I’ll say “twas worth it all”;***

***And when I am dying, how happy I’ll be,
If the lamp of my life has been burned out for Thee.”***

***Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will really last.***