

Abound Super-Abound

(*ἐπερίσσευσεν* = 'aiperisevsen')

Abound, overflow, to be abundantly furnished with, to have in abundance, to exceed a fixed number of measure, to be left over and above a certain number or measure, to turn out abundantly for, to furnish one richly so that he has abundance, to make excellent.

Ephesians 1:7,8... "*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace, which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence.*" The NIV says, "... *The forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.*"

Both translations suggest 'great generosity' on God's part. The Greek word rendered "*abound*" (lavished) elsewhere in Scripture is also translated "*abundance*", and it means to '*super-abound, have in excess, great surpass, acquire an exceeding measure, or greatly excel*'. This word implies that there is no restraint, and whenever it is used in the context of God's '*fatherly nature or love*' it serves to guarantee blessings that overtake us - *truly abounding blessings!*

The same root word appears in John 10:10, "*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.*" A literal translation could read.... "*And that they may have it superabundantly.*"

Looking at the broader definition of this word, we can clearly see that the Lord was telling us that He came in order that we may have a life that is overflowing with blessings. Also, that it will be an '*extraordinary life*' where there is always a surplus, where we constantly have '*over and above*' or '*more than enough*'.

This is definitely no commonplace life. There are no skimpy measures in this kind of life – it is over and above everything that we may hope, think or imagine!