THE CHRISTIAN’S VICTORY IN CHRIST OVER THE WORLD

I John 5: 3 – 5; Rom. 8:37; I Cor. 15:58
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INTRODUCTION

1. These passages teach that God through our Lord Jesus Christ gives the Christian VICTORY OVER THE WORLD.
2. The Christian can overcome the world by his FAITH (I John 5:4).
3. Christians today need their faith strengthened for the times in which we live.
4. I want to present some lessons that will help strengthen OUR FAITH, and encourage us in our duty – and help us to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.
5. Today we live in TRYING TIMES FOR CHRISTIANS:
   a. Time of great WORLDLINESS.
   b. Time of much MATERIALISM.
   c. Time when men are LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES (2 Tim. 3:2).
   d. Time when men are NOT THANKFUL to God (Rom. 1:21).
   e. Time when men are UNTHANKFUL for WHAT THEY HAVE.
   f. Time when men are HEADY and HIGHMINDED (2 Tim. 3:4).
   g. Time when men have only a FORM OF GODLINESS (2 Tim. 3:5).
   h. Time of RELIGIOUS INDIFFERENCE.
   i. Time when many DENY THERE IS A GOD (Psa. 14:1).
   j. Time when millions of babies are killed by ABORTION.
   k. Time of many FALSE DOCTRINES and FALSE TEACHERS.
6. It is a time when we all need strong faith that we might be VICTORIOUS OVER THE WORLD (Rom. 4:20).
7. In these lessons we are going to study many things that will build our faith (Jude 20; Acts 20:32) and encourage us to be faithful.

I. THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN IS A VICTORIOUS LIFE OVER SIN.

a. All men have sinned (Rom. 3:23).
b. Their sins have separated them from God (Rom. 6:23; Ezek. 18:4; Isa. 59: 1 – 2).
c. Jesus came to earth to save us, and to make our victory over sin possible through His blood.
   i. He paid the penalty for man's sins (Heb. 2: 9; I Cor. 15:3; I Pet. 3:18; Heb. 7: 26 – 27; 9:26; Rom. 5: 6 – 8).
   ii. He “gave himself a ransom for all” (I Tim. 2:6; Matt. 20:28).
   iii. He became a “sin offering” for all men (II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 13: 12 – 13; Lev. 16:27; Heb. 9:24).
   iv. He opened the way back to God through HIM (John 14:6; Heb. 10: 19 – 20).
   v. In Christ we:
      2. “We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace”... Eph. 1:7; Acts 2:38.
      3. We are reconciled – Rom. 5:10.
      4. All Spiritual blessings – Eph. 1:3.
   vi. “We shall be saved by His life” – Rom. 5:10.

2. He “is the propitiation for our sins” – I John 2:2; 4:10.
   a. When a Christian sins and repents and confesses that sin, or sins, Christ’s blood appeases and renders one favorable with God again – I John 1:9.

vii. Today we are victorious over Satan by the blood of the Lamb and our faith, and are willing to stand – Rev. 12:11.

II. THE VICTORIOUS LIFE OF THE CHRISTIAN IS OPTIMISTIC
   a. God never intended His people to live a bleak life upon this earth; He intended them to be filled with JOY, HOPE, and HAPPINESS.
   b. The Christian should be exceedingly optimistic (looking on the bright side of life, expecting the best).
   c. Let us look at the reasons why:
      i. Rom. 8:28
      ii. Rom. 8:37
      iii. Rom. 8:33
      iv. Phil. 4:13
      v. Heb. 13: 5 – 6
      vi. Matt. 6:33
      vii. I John 5: 14 – 15; James 5:16
   d. The Christian is optimistic toward life and the work of the Lord.
      i. He is optimistic toward life because he believes God is with him whatever happens, and God will not forsake him – Heb. 13: 5 – 6; Matt. 6:33; Psa. 37: 25; Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4: 7 – 8; Psa. 23: 1 – 6.
      ii. He is optimistic toward the work of the Lord; He is always abounding in the work of the Lord – I Cor. 15: 58.
         1. He believes the Word will not return to God void; it will produce the effect God wants – Isa. 55: 11.
         2. He believes God gives the increase – I Cor. 3:6.
         3. He believes the Gospel is God’s Power to save men – Rom. 1: 16; James 1:21; Mk. 16: 15 - 16.

III. IT IS A LIFE OF VICTORY OVER DOUBT.
   a. There is so much doubt in the world today.
      i. Many doubt that God exists, but there is much strong conclusive evidence that He does!
         1. Rom. 1:20 – the fact something is made is certain proof there is a Maker – Heb. 3:4.
         2. Acts 14: 15 – 17; Psa. 147: 8
         3. Psa. 19: 1 – 4
         4. Gen. 1:1
         5. Psa. 14:1
      ii. Many doubt that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, but the Christian believes what the Bible says about Jesus being the Son of God.
1. Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23; I Tim. 3:16
3. Rom. 1:4
4. John 20:30 – 31
5. Matt. 3:17; Matt. 17:5
6. Matt. 16: 13 – 18
7. John 8:24

iii. Many wonder why we are here, but the Bible tells us why we are here:
1. Acts 17: 26 – 27
2. Rev. 4:11

iv. Where are we going? The Bible tells us:
1. Death – Heb. 9:27
2. Judgment – Heb. 9:27
3. Heaven or Hell – Matt. 25:46

v. Many wonder, “Is the Bible an infallible guide?” – the Bible claims to be the inspired word of God:
1. 2 Tim. 3:16 – 17
2. 2 Pet. 1: 20 – 21
4. Matt. 5: 17 – 18
5. John 12:48

IV. THE CHRISTIAN HAS VICTORY OVER THE WORLD

a. 1 John 5: 4 – 5

b. The Christian is IN the world, but not OF the word – John 17: 14, 16.
   i. EXAMPLE: The ship is in the ocean, but not of it. If the ocean gets in the ship it will sink.

c. The Christian is to have victory over sinful pleasure:
   i. He is not to love the world or have friendship with the world – I John 2:15; James 4:4.
   ii. In Christ the Christian can have victory over sinful pleasure:
       1. 1 Cor. 9: 27
       2. Rom. 6: 12 – 13
       3. Tit. 2: 11 -12
       4. James 1:27

iii. Examples of men who overcame temptation for sinful pleasure:
    1. Moses – Heb. 11: 24 – 26

iv. No matter how strong temptations may be, God will help His children to overcome them – I Cor. 10:13; Matt. 6:13; 2 Pet. 2:9.

v. His word helps us to have Victory over temptation – Matt. 4:4, 7,10; Psa. 119: 11.

vi. The Christian’s Hope helps give him victory over sin – I John 3: 3.


d. The Christian is to have Victory over the CARES OF THE WORLD.
   i. Jesus warns about the cares of this world choking the Word – Mk. 4:19.
ii. The daily pressures of keeping house, rearing a family, and making a living, crowds God out of the lives of many Christians.

iii. We can have victory over the cares of this world by putting the Kingdom first – Matt. 6:33.

V. THE CHRISTIAN HAS VICTORY OVER DISTRESSING CIRCUMSTANCES

a. It is inevitable that time will bring unfavorable circumstances and trials which cannot be changed:
   i. Sickness and disease
   ii. Loss of loved ones
   iii. Disappointments
   iv. Discouraging situations
   v. Betrayal of friends – Jesus was betrayed by Judas – Matt. 26: 14 – 16.
   vi. Persecution by enemies – Matt. 5: 11 – 12.
   vii. Financial backsets
   viii. Loss of health
   ix. Family troubles

b. We cannot choose what happens to us, BUT we can choose HOW it affects us.
   i. James 1:2 – 4
   ii. Eccl. 7: 2 – 4

c. Things the Christian learns from tribulations and suffering that gives him Victory:
   i. Obedience – Heb. 5: 7 – 9; 2 Cor. 12: 7 – 11.
   viii. We learn to study God's Word – Psa. 119: 67, 71.
   x. To be Humble – 2 Cor. 12:7.
   xi. Through Suffering we come to know God as we have never known Him before – Job 42:5.

VI. THE CHRISTIAN HAS VICTORY BY TAKING TIME FOR THE SPIRITUAL

a. The Christian is to be SPIRITUAL—Gal. 6:1.
   i. Spiritually Minded – Rom. 8:6; Col. 3:2.
      1. The spiritual mind thinks on these things – Phil. 4:8.
      2. “Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth” – Col. 3:2.
   ii. He is in “A Spiritual House” – I Pet. 2:5.
      1. The Kingdom or Church is not of this world – John 18: 36.
         a. It is not of this world in ORIGIN – Eph. 3: 9 – 11.
         b. It is not of this world in GLORY – I Pet. 3: 1 – 4; Gal. 5: 22 – 23.
         c. It is not of this world in its END – I Cor. 15:24.
   iii. He enjoys all SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS – Eph. 1:3.
iv. He offers up SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES – I Pet. 2:5.


vi. He sings SPIRITUAL SONGS – Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16.

b. How we are to take time for the Spiritual:

   i. Take time to talk to God in Prayer often – I Thess. 5:17; Matt. 6:6.
      1. God’s ears are open to our prayers – I Pet. 3:12.
      2. Think how wonderful it is to be able to talk to God when you want to.
      4. Our prayers avail much at His Throne – James 5:16; Heb. 4:16.

   ii. We take time for NOURISHMENT:
      1. We need to feed on the Word of God:
         a. We are to “desire the sincere milk of the Word” that we may grow – I Pet. 2:2; Psa. 19:10.
         b. We are to hunger and thirst after righteousness that we may be filled – Matt. 5:6.
         c. The Word should be sweet to us – Psa. 19:10; Psa. 119:103.
         e. The Word builds us up – Acts 20:32.

   iii. Take time for GUIDANCE:
      1. Our lives must have direction.
      2. We cannot direct our own lives – Jer. 10:23.
         b. He is God's SPOKESMAN – Heb. 1:1 – 2.
         c. He has ALL AUTHORITY – Matt. 28:18.
         d. He is LAWGIVER – James 4:12.
         e. His word will JUDGE us – John 12:48.

      4. We need time for COMPASSION:
         a. Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw great multitudes hungry for the bread of life – Matt. 9:36 – 38.
         b. Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw the widow whose son was dead in Nain – Luke 7:11 - 16.
         c. Christians are to have COMPASSION:
            i. On those overtaken in a fault and restore them – Gal. 6:1.
            ii. On those who are in sorrow – Rom. 12:15.
            iii. On those who suffer for teaching the gospel – Heb. 10:34.
            iv. They are to put on “a heart of compassion”—Col. 3:12.

         d. We need to take time for LOYALTY:
            ii. 2 John 9 - 11