

"Victory In The Christian Life"

Text: I John 5:1-5

Intro:

-The Lord is our precious Redeemer, Saviour, and Deliverer.

-We as His people are called upon to run the Christian race, fight the good fight of faith, and be a worker for the Lord.

-There will be many battles to be fought on different battlefields.

-The Devil will use people, problems, circumstances, temptation, sufferings, and many other things to discourage us in living for the Lord.

-It is possible to strive to live for the Lord and feel defeated, miserable, failing, angry, and self pity.

-The Lord wants us to know we can experience victory.

-Let's notice in our study (1) The Meaning (2) The Master (3) The Message (4) The Models and (5) The Misconception of Victory.

I. THE MEANING OF VICTORY

-The Dictionary: Victory means to overcome an enemy.

-It also means achievement or mastery.

-It means success in a struggle or endeavor against odds or difficulties.

-In the declaration of God's Word, Apostle John plainly states victory is to overcome.

-In this case it is to overcome the world.

-We become victors by faith.

-In the Christian life you can either be a victim or a victor.

-You can be overcome by things in this life.

-The verb form of victory means to conquer, overcome, prevail.

-The Lord in His Word promises us the victory with the struggle with the flesh - See Romans 7:24-25.

-In temptation - See I Cor. 10:13.

-In the struggle with the Devil - See I Pe. 5:8-10.

-In the resurrection - See I Cor. 15:57

II. THE MASTER OF VICTORY

*The Person.

- The Master of victory is our Lord Jesus Christ.
- He is our great Saviour, Redeemer, and Deliverer.
- He fasted forty days and was tempted of the Devil.
- Matt. 4:1-11.
- In each of the three temptations, Jesus relied upon His Father, and His Word and gained the victory.

- In His life upon the earth, He was hated, beaten, misjudged, mocked, lied on and about, disbelieved, and cruelly treated by men.
- He loved men who would treat Him so.
- On the cross He prayed, "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do."
- He was crucified on Mt. Calvary for the sins of all the world.
- After three days He arose from the dead.
- He was the victor over death and the grave.
- He can talk to us about victory because He is the mighty conquerer, victor, and He can give the victory,

*The Plan.

- Jesus the glorious victor, has a plan for our victory.
- We are victors already in redemption.
- Paul tells us in I Cor. 15:55, that the grave gains no victory and death has no sting for the saved person.
- Praise the for I Cor. 15:57. - Read.
- The Christian can experience victory over circumstances, over the devil, over weaknesses, and over temptation by following God's plan for victory.

*The Problem.

- The Lord has given us the plan for victory.
- We are assured of victory, if we apply the plan for victory.
- He gave Noah the plan for the Ark and safety before He judged the world.
- He gave Joshua the plan to take the city of Jericho.
- Throughout the pages of God's Word the Lord gives the plan and principle for victory.
- The Problem is we are not willing at times to apply the

plan.

-God will supply if we will apply.

III. THE MESSAGE OF VICTORY.

*The Lord GIVES the victory.

-May we always remember the Lord is the one who gives the victory.

-We cannot obtain the victory without Him. - See John 15:5.
"...without me ye can do nothing."

-When Eleazar fought with the Philistines, "...And the LORD wrought a great victory." II Samuel 23:10

-When Shammah fought the Philistines, "...And the LORD wrought a great victory." II Samuel 23:12

-The Lord still gives and works the victory.

-He can take ANYONE who will yield to Him and make him victorious.

-The Lord gives the victory.

*The Lord GUARANTEES the victory.

-The saved person is guaranteed victory in death.

-See John 10:27-28 & John 11:25-26.

-Job could write these precious words in Job 19:25-26.

-Nearly 2000 years ago the Apostle Paul thanked the Lord for the victory in Christ. - See I Cor. 15:57.

*The Lord GUIDES to victory.

-Paul wrote of the conflict of the old man and new man in Romans 7:14-25. We won't turn there.

-This great struggle is between right and wrong, sin and righteousness, and God and the Devil.

-Paul said his deliverance came through Jesus Christ.

-Paul wrote, "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin."

-The Lord desires to guide us in victory.

-His word shows us the way. - Psalm 119:105.

-His Spirit leads and guides us and convicts us of the right way.

-We are to live in the Spirit. - Gal. 5:25.

IV. THE MODELS OF VICTORY.

- Some of the Lord's people stand out as great victors who gained great victories in the Lord.
- They overcame trials, temptation, and troubles in life.

*David's victory in faith.

- Israel was challenged by Goliath morning and evening for 40 days to send a man to fight him. - See I Samuel 17:16.
- David was sent by his father to carry food to his brothers.
- When he heard Goliath offer his challenge, he accepted it and fought the giant.
- As you read I Sam. 17:37,45-47 you will realize David was trusting the Lord completely to give him the victory in battle.

*Job's victory in patience.

- Job lost nearly everything of earthly value.
- He lost his children in death.
- He lost his wealth and possessions and servants in a short time.
- He lost his health.
- His three friends accused him of sin and his wife advised him to curse God and die.
- In all of his loss Job worshipped the Lord and blessed the name of the Lord. - See Job 1:20-22.
- Job said, Job 13:15 - "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him..."
- Job was perfect, upright, feared God, eschewed evil. Job 1:1.
- James in James 5:11, didn't write of those qualities of Job.
- James mentions the patience of Job.
- Victory often comes to those who are patient in the Lord's work, and Christian life.

*The Hebrew children's victory in conviction.

- The three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to obey the king's order to fall down and worship the golden image he made. See Dan. 3:14-16.
- They had a conviction for the truth.
- God instructed the Jewish people not to make images nor to worship any image.
- These men were in captivity.
- If they refused to worship the golden image they would be cast into the burning fiery furnace.

- Listen to the words of their conviction.- See Dan. 3:17-18.
- These men were willing to die for the truth.
- God granted them great victory out of the furnace.

*Peter's victory in repentance.

- Peter made his boast.
- He said even if all of the Lord's disciples forsook Jesus, he would not.
- He said he would follow the Lord even to death.
- Jesus told him, he would deny Him three times.
- Peter did deny the Lord three times.
- When that old rooster crowed, Peter remembered the words of Jesus. - See Matthew 26:75.
- Peter repented of his sins.
- He was grieved that he had sinned against the Lord and denied Him before men.

- You will notice a drastic change in Peter's life after this experience.
- The same man who denied the Lord stood as a monument on the day of Pentecost declaring the Lord's Word.
- This saved man had a change of mind.
- Victories are often enjoyed by the Lord's people as we repent of our sins.

*Jesus's victory in the Father's will.

- Jesus took Peter, James, and John to the garden of Gethsemane.
- He asked them to pray and went about a stone's cast away.
- He fell on His face and prayed to His Heavenly Father.
- He was about to be betrayed, arrested, tried by men, condemned to die by crucifixion, nailed to a cross and mocked by cruel men and forsaken by His Father.
- In the garden just before He would face all that would happen He prayed, "Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." - Luke 22:42
- The cup referred to God's wrath poured out on sin.
- The Bible tells us concerning Jesus, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin;" - II Cor. 5:21
- He was asking God to take it out of the way.
- The Son of God wanted the will of His Father more than anything in His life.

-Listen to His words in John 6:38, "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."

-He was completely obedient to the Father.

-His obedience was even to the death of the cross. Phil. 2:8

*These models are a few who experienced victory in life.

-They stand out as examples for us to follow and pattern our lives after.

V. THE MISCONCEPTION OF VICTORY.

*Some Christians do not think they can be victors and gain victories in the Lord.

-I am glad to say you can be victorious in Jesus.

*Some think victory is having no problems in life.

-Victory is often trusting the Lord when nearly crushed by many problems.

*Some think that victory comes without them having to pay a price.

-Victory is given when men are willing to give up everything for the Lord.

-Job gained the victory while everything was taken from him.

-Abraham gained the victory when he was willing to offer Issac, but didn't have to.

*Some think victory comes without heartache or pain.

-The greater the heartache and pain, the greater the victory.

*Some think victory is the total work of the Lord, without the effort on their part.

-David picked up five stones, ran to Goliath and used the sling shot, but the Lord gave the victory.

*Some think victory is always accompanied by joy.

-Peter gained the victory with tears,

-Job gained the victory with sorrow.

*Some think victory is measured with figures and standards of worldly success.

-Noah was only able to get seven other people in the ark.

-Stephen was stoned to death at the end of his sermon.

-Daniel was thrown in the Lion's den.

-These men were victorious, but not according to the world's standard.

*It is a great blessing to read and believe,
I Cor 15:57, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

*We can experience victory in the Christian life.