

# The Victory is Ours!

by

Mark A McGee

The Victory is Ours!

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## God Is A Winner and So Are We!

“Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, Who cover *Yourself* with light as *with* a garment, Who stretch out the heavens like a curtain. He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters, Who makes the clouds His chariot, Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. *You who* laid the foundations of the earth, So *that* it should not be moved forever.” Psalm 104:1-5

Do you sometimes wonder whether the struggle of life is worth the struggle? Do you wonder if you can make it until the end? Do you wonder if you can really achieve all that people expect from you? Do you wonder what will happen if you don't meet all their expectations? And what about God's expectations? How do we deal with that?

One of things I love about the Bible is that it is honest about everything – including life's struggles. Look at the lives of the greatest saints in God's Word and what do you see? People who struggled and suffered in life. Their struggle and suffering were often because of their own mistakes, but people also suffered through no fault of

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their own. They often suffered because of their faith in God.

So, what are we to make of life? What does God want us to take away from all this? In this brief series of GraceLife Thoughts, I'd like us to consider several facts that can help lift our eyes upward and outward and give us hope for today and every day.

### **1) God is a Winner!**

He wins every time.

The True and Living God of Creation is a winner! He is clothed with honor and majesty. He stretches out the heavens like a curtain. The clouds are His chariot. He walks on the wings of the wind. He laid the foundations of the earth. Inspired poetry paints a beautiful picture of the Omnipotent God Who is forever victorious.

This winning God is our God. If anyone has doubts about whether God will be victorious in all He plans and does, turn to the back of the Book and see. He wins!

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell

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with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:1-4

## 2) God’s children are winners!

Our heritage and legacy is victory. Before we look at some of the specifics about being a winner, read this amazing declaration about many of God’s people and think about what they went through in serving God.

I find it very helpful to slow down when reading about people in the Bible and consider how they lived their life one 24-hour day at a time. Even though we often see snap shots of people’s lives in the sense of milestones, their lives were made up of the same 60-seconds-per-minute and 60-minutes-per-hour that we live our lives. Think about how similar we are and that we too can truly live for God.

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

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By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, 'and was not found, because God had taken him'; for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as *in* a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born *as many* as the stars of the sky in multitude—innumerable as the sand which is by

the seashore.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly if they had called to mind that *country* from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country*. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*, of whom it was said, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called,' concluding that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, *leaning* on the top of his staff.

By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw *he was* a beautiful child; and

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they were not afraid of the king's command. By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them. By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry *land*, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days. By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.

And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings,

yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, *in dens* and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 11:1-40; 12:1-2

This remarkable TRUE story about God’s people begins with faith in God and has no ending with Christ Who is at the “right hand of the throne of God.” Let us do as they did, “let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith.”

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## How To Live The Victory

The people of God are winners! They won through faith, through believing in the Word of the Omnipotent God. We have that same legacy of faith. We win because we believe. We are the children of God by faith. We were called into fellowship with Christ by the Faithful God. We are co-heirs with Christ by faith. We have the Holy Spirit of God living in our hearts by faith. We accomplish great things in the name of Jesus Christ by faith.

Faith is how God's children live. It's not just how we're saved. The Apostle Paul wrote this in Romans – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” The children of God are “the just.” They live “by faith.” That is our lifestyle. It begins with faith: “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law...”and ends in faith: “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

Our faith does not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God! “And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the

power of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:4-5) Our faith is something this world does not and cannot understand. It is beyond their comprehension how a group of people can give themselves to an unseen power with complete faith in what God said. They think us unwise and foolish, even a bit strange. However, we know and are fully persuaded that God will do what He said He will do.

“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:33-39

“Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works,

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but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 1:8-13

The next time you go to church, look around at the people who are there. You will see a group of winners. They may or may not have that appearance on the outside, but inside they are winners. Remember your heritage: “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”

### **3) The Victory is Ours!**

It belongs to us. Claim it!

God is a victorious God and His people are a victorious people. It is our heritage, our legacy, to be victorious. What does that mean?

- We have victory over death!

“Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Death scares people ... and for good reason! Death is the end of life as most people understand it. However, for Christians death is a doorway to immortality. Death is swallowed up in the victory Jesus won on the Cross and from the grave. We have victory over death because of Christ's Victory over death. We know our labor on earth is not in vain. Everything we're doing for God now has great, eternal

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value. That's why Paul told the Corinthians to be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

## How To Prove The Victory Is Ours

It's an easy thing to say that Christians are a victorious people, but how do we prove it? What is there about our lives that shows the victory we claim in Jesus Christ? What's the measuring rod for spiritual victory?

We often hear non-Christians say that if being a Christian is like that person (and they point to someone who identifies themselves as a Christian), they want no part of it. Why would they say that? If our life is victorious, why wouldn't people want to live it? Good question.

“He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; *He is* a shield to those who walk uprightly; He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints.” Proverbs 2:7-8

“He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.” NIV

Experiencing and expressing victory during our lifetime on earth is a total dependence on God's wisdom and guidance. Notice the four steps Solomon shared about having victory in life.

- God stores up sound wisdom for the upright
- God is a shield to those who walk uprightly
- God guards the paths of justice

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- God preserves the way of His saints

Keep in mind that Solomon is writing to his son and telling him to “incline” his ear to wisdom, “apply” his heart to understanding, “cry out” for discernment, “lift up” his voice for understanding, “seek” wisdom as silver, and “search” for wisdom as for hidden treasures – “Then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God” (Proverbs 2:1-5). Solomon says that is because “the Lord gives wisdom” and “From His mouth come knowledge and understanding” (Proverbs 2:6).

The process of living victoriously begins by being “upright.” The Hebrew word is *yashar*, an adjective, and means “to be straight as a road, even, level, right, pleasing, correct.” Some English translations use the word “righteous” for *yashar*. That is the life God has called His people to lead – upright, righteous, straight, pleasing, correct.

However, how can anyone be *yashar* when the Bible says, “There is none righteous, no, not one. There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.” (Romans 3:10-12 – also see Psalms 14 and 53)

Paul answered his own question a couple of chapters later in Romans:

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. But the free

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gift *is* not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift *is* not like *that which came* through the one who sinned. For the judgment *which came* from one offense *resulted* in condemnation, but the free gift *which came* from many offenses *resulted* in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) Therefore, as through one man's offense *judgment came* to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act *the free gift came* to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Righteousness is a "gift" God gives to those who agree with Him about their sin and His Son. It is not something we deserve or can earn. I can't go up to God and demand it. I must bow humbly before Him and ask for mercy and forgiveness. It is in that act of humility and His generous Grace that we gain tremendous wisdom.

Sound wisdom is kept in store for the righteous. There is no sound wisdom kept in store for the unrighteous. Prior to Solomon telling his son how sound wisdom is kept in store for the righteous, he said this about those who lack wisdom - "fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Proverbs 1:7) and "fools hate knowledge" (Proverbs 1:22). Solomon also wrote – "fools die for lack of wisdom" (Proverbs 10:21).

God is a "shield" to those who walk uprightly. The Hebrew word translated "shield" is *magen* and comes from the word *ganan* (to defend, cover, surround). The *magen* (shield) was a strong covering to a soldier. He depended on it to keep him alive during fierce battle. God is always our "shield" as we battle with the enemy of our soul. Jews still use the word *magen*. *HaMagen* (The Shield) was a Jewish defense group in Palestine during World War I. The famous Star of David in Hebrew is *Magen David* (Shield of David).

God "guards" the paths of justice. The Hebrew word "guards" is *natsar* and means "to watch, guard, protect." What does He guard? The "paths of justice." These are the paths that His children walk. It is a godly attribute to care about justice because that is the path God has given us to walk. God is a God of perfect justice and we are His children.

God also "preserves" the way of His saints. The Hebrew word "preserves" is *shamar* and translates as "to keep, guard, protect, watch." It's the same word translated as "keep" in Genesis 2:15 –

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“Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.” God gave Adam the job of *shamar* the garden – keep, guard, protect, watch over. Though Adam failed miserably at protecting the garden and his wife, God never fails to guard and protect His children as they live their lives in this world (the way of His saints).

What is the result of what God does for us? “Then you will understand righteousness and justice, Equity *and* every good path” (Proverbs 2:9). Isn’t that amazing! God guides us, shields us, guards us and preserves us and we get the blessing of understanding righteousness and justice, equity and every good path. Awesome!

## How To Have Victory In Every Area Of Our Life

We can experience victory in every aspect of life. That includes personal and interpersonal matters of life: personal habits, addictions and illness, family problems, struggles at school and work, conflicts with friends and neighbors, crime in our neighborhoods and streets, wars and rumors of wars. No matter what you're facing now or will face in the future, you can have victory. God holds victory in store for His children. He is our shield. He guards our path through life.

How do we have victory in every area of life?

- We have victory in battle!

“There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD. The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the LORD.” Proverbs 21:30-31

NIV - “There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the LORD. The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the LORD.”

We experience victory in life's battles. If life were easy and we had no natural predators, we could take it easy and just wait for God to take us to Heaven. However, we know that's not reality. Real life is filled

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with dangers and battles on every side, around every corner. Those dangers and battles lead us into a special relationship with God our Father. We need Him to win. Victory rests with the Lord!

Think about the battles you've faced in just the past week. How many have you fought? One? Two? Ten? Twenty? Every Christian faces dozens of battles every week. If we try to fight them alone, we will eventually collapse because the burden is too great, the battles too numerous. We will NEVER have victory if we face life's battles alone. One of the joys, one of the benefits of being a child of God through faith is God will fight our battles for us and with us.

There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan on earth or in heaven that can succeed against the Lord. That's a fact! You and I can prepare ourselves for the battles of life, but victory rests with the Lord. He will fight and win for us. Remember our legacy, our heritage? We are saved by faith and we live by faith. It is God's Power demonstrated through faith that wins the battles of life.

Who are we fighting? Paul tells us we have three powerful enemies in life: the flesh, the world and the devil. (Ephesians 2) That's the fight you and I have 24 hours a day. Our final victory comes the instant we step from the mortal body to the immortal body, the second the corruptible puts on incorruption. Until that day, we fight three powerful enemies: the flesh within, the world without and the devil who surrounds.

How do we win those battles?

- We have victory over the world!

“Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” 1 John 5:1-5

We win through faith! Faith has always been the key to victory. Nothing has changed from thousands of years ago. We may think we're better off now because we live in the “modern” world, but that's a cloak of confusion Satan has thrown around us. Mankind's belief that we are a better society because of knowledge, technology, travel, science, rapid communication and so-called modern conveniences is just a cloak over our eyes and minds to hide the fact our society is just as lost and in need as we have ever been in the history of the human race.

Victory over the world comes to those who are “born of God.” The

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victory that overcomes the world is God's Power and our faith. That simple first step of every Christian in believing that Jesus is the Son of God is where the victory over the flesh, the world and the devil begins.

So how do we take faith and turn it into victory?

- We receive the victor's crown by competing correctly!

“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.” 2 Timothy 2:1-5

NIV - “Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules.” (vs 5)

We are victorious in every battle when we compete according to the rules. It's that simple. Victory is measured by what God says is victory. The flesh, the world and the devil tell people victory is one thing, while God says it's another. Victory in life is not based on

competing by the rules of the world, but by God's rules. We win because we follow the lead of the Winner! God tells us how He measures victory, then tells us the rules of engagement. We learn how to fight against the temptations of the flesh, the battle against the world and the spiritual war waged in the heavenlies by studying God's Word carefully to understand the rules, then competing according to those rules.

Understand the battlefield. Wage war based on God's rules of battle. Remember that the horse is made ready for battle, but victory is the Lord's.

Here are some of the rules for waging a victorious battle today and the rest of your life.

“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.” 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

“Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed. And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren;

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but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort. If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but dotting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings,

and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen. Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.” 1 Timothy 6

“I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the

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righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” 2 Timothy 4:1-8

- We have victory in Jesus!

*“O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever, He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood; He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him, He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.”*

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