

VICTORY IN JESUS

(I Corinthians 15:17-18)

- Introduction:
1. As Christians, we ought to be rejoicing over the victory we have won in Christ Jesus.
 2. However, sometimes I wonder if we live with the kind of joy and jubilation that we should possess.
 3. We need to maintain a healthy balance of seeing what we have accomplished as well as what remains for us to accomplish.
 4. Let's give our attention to the victory we have in Christ.

I. Victory Is Not...

A. *A Once For All Accomplishment.*

1. Christianity is not a plateau of spirituality, but a mountain of maturation.
2. (Philippians 3:12-14).
3. While we may experience "once for all" victories in the battles we fight, the warfare continues on as long as we live (Matthew 10:22).

B. *An Emotional High.*

1. Our walk with God has little to do with emotion and everything to do with commitment and choices.
2. Victory is possible in spite of our feelings and emotions.
3. Emotions are often deceptive (Proverbs 28:26; Proverbs 14:12).

C. *An Independent Achievement.*

1. Our victory over sin and death is by "*atonement*", not "*attainment*."
2. (Romans 3:10) There is none righteous.
3. (II Corinthians 5:21).
4. (Romans 8:31-39).

II. Victory Is...

A. *Being Born Again.*

1. (I John 5:4).
2. (John 3:3-5).

B. *Continuing In Faith.*

1. (I John 5:4).
2. (Galatians 5:6; James 2:24,26) Faith that obeys.

- Conclusion:
1. We have good news: Our eternal destiny is in our own hands.
 2. If we attempt to save ourselves, to win the victory by our good deeds, and moral conduct, we will lose (Isaiah 64:6).
 3. However, if we will submit to Jesus, be born again, and live a life of faith, we are promised by a God who cannot lie, that we will have the victory.
 4. What will your choice be?