

24 December 2017

## The actions of a believer (Pt.11) Live in the knowledge of our victory through Christ.

This is our eleventh and final study on this topic. We previously covered the need for a believer to live in the knowledge of the destroyer's device of destruction, and the armour and weapons that God provides believers to defend themselves. This study from the scriptures will establish that God has given Christians the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ – over sin and over death.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

### 1. Live in the knowledge that death is swallowed up in victory.

"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" (1Cor.15: 54). See also Is.25: 8.

For the believer – where is the sting of death? where is the victory of the grave? (1Cor.15: 55) – for Christ "hath abolished death" (2Tim 1:10)?

### 2. Live in the knowledge that we have victory over sin.

"The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law" (1Cor.15: 56). See also Rom.6: 7.

If death is swallowed up in victory and the sting of death is sin then we have hope of victory over sin when we are obedient to God's word, and –

- use the weapons of our warfare and the armour that God provides for the battle, and
- give **not** Satan an advantage by making provision for the flesh (Rom.13: 14), and
- crucify the flesh with the affections and lusts (Gal.5: 24 & Col.3: 5) – daily (1Cor.15: 31), and
- walk in the Spirit and not fulfil the lust of the flesh (Gal 5:16).

### 3. Live in the knowledge that God gives us victory through Jesus Christ.

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1Cor.15: 57).

The victory over sin and death is through our Lord Jesus Christ – through **His** resurrection from the dead. "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection" (Rom.6: 5).

#### Additional comments

"And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and...having the harps of God" (Rev 15:2), c.f. – "And he laid hold on...the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years...And cast him into the bottomless pit" (Rev.20: 2 & 3).

#### Applying the teaching to our life today.

A common quote – "in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

#### Question to think about.

If death is as certain for Christians as the heathen then where is the victory for Christians?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

Our enemy is destroyed through the Lord Jesus Christ when Satan is thrown into the bottomless pit (Rev.20: 2), and "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death". Our bodies still go back to the dust (see Gen.2: 7 c.f. Gen.18: 27), but we have victory when we pass "from death unto life" (1Jn.3: 14).

We are to live in the knowledge of our victory through Christ – the victory over sin and death. It is Christ's victory over death that enables believers to share in His resurrection when their bodies give up the ghost, for then they will be passed from death to life. Let us, as believers rejoice in the victory we have through Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen!