

VICTIMS BECOMING VICTORIOUS



Background Reading:

1 Chronicles 29:11; Romans 8:35-39; 1 Corinthians 15:57; 1 John 5:4-6

Devotional Reading:

Mark 5:25-34



Central Verse

“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:57, KJV

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:57, NIV

Key Terms

Victim Mentality—the belief that one is always a victim: the idea that terrible things will always happen to one.

Spirit Of Triumph—the activating or essential principle to celebrate victory or success with much rejoicing.

Introduction

As believers and followers of Jesus Christ, God created each believer to live in victory and to live victorious lives daily. Because the Holy Spirit lives within the believer, it gives him the authority to be powerful and enables him to do extraordinary things when he trusts Jesus. The believer must lean and depend on Jesus for He has defeated Satan and made it possible that no one will have to be a victim, but all can be victorious.

Jesus won the victory over Satan for all eternity and gave to the believer God’s goodness. The weapon of praise gives the believer a mighty breakthrough. Let us declare that our name is Victorious because names denote character.

Discussion

The believer knows that he is not perfect, but he also knows that God will perfect the things in his life that need to be perfected. Because of this knowledge, he can manage and conquer his mistakes, failures, and his breakdowns. As he studies the Bible, he reads of many characters who failed, but God helped them, and they were later used mightily by God. The believers learn from the failures of these mighty men and women of God, and this leads them to victory.

Every believer goes through tough times, they struggle and suffer things. The real problem comes when they allow the negativity of these things to get into their heart and head and produce in them a victim mentality. But if they can turn these thoughts and actions over to Jesus the Potter, He puts them back together and leads them to victory. For if the believer lives under a victim mentality it will conquer him. But if he chooses to be victorious, he becomes the conqueror. He does not have to live under the bondage of a victim mentality.

God has given every man faith, for it is by using faith in the power of Jesus Christ, that a believer can live a victorious life. The story of the Woman with the issue of blood is a good example of a person who made a choice not to remain a victim of her circumstances.

This woman had an unpleasant flow of blood for twelve years, which limited where she could go, what she could do, and who she could be with. This condition drained her of her resources, her family, and her friends. It limited her relationships with other people. For twelve years she was a victim of this condition. But she decided to move forward by decreeing and declaring what she would do. She had learned that true victory could not be obtained by human power alone. So, she decreed that, "if she could just get to Jesus and touch the hem of His garment, she would be made whole."

True victory comes from living a life that is rooted and grounded in faith. The believer must step out in faith and follow the path to victory. The woman knew that on her own, she could not be victorious, but she had to rely on the power of an almighty God. Twelve years of losing blood causes weakness in a person, so, this woman had to realize that God had to be her strength.

So, her faith was released in God who can keep a believer from falling. This strength that came from God helped her to make her way through the

Lesson 10 • First Week

crowd, which was not an easy job. Moving from being a victim to being victorious is not an easy accomplishment, but it is an accomplishment when a person puts his faith in God. She knew that the law declared her unclean, but she decided that I am going to touch Jesus. Sometimes the believer must stretch beyond the boundaries of reality and decide whether he would accept circumstances or press forward and believe God.

This woman had to press past personal feelings, remembering that she had been sick for twelve years which had left her weak. Anytime a person loses blood for twelve years, there will be some frailty and weakness, but she decided that she would not become a victim. Believers must remember that God has already sent the Spirit of Triumph for them. For God always causes the believer to triumph in Christ Jesus.

Then she had to deal with the scorn, the snubs, and the opinions of the church people. The disciples who were close to Jesus, did not want this woman to get near him. They were complaining about her wanting to get close enough so that she could touch his clothes. Being victorious is not for the faint-hearted but a believer must be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

She might have been fearful, reluctant, and trembling, but she had the strength and determination to change from a victim to become victorious. The believers must not allow fear to keep them trapped in a prison of circumstances, but they must know that they are mighty through God. They must remember that they have power over the enemies of their bodies, minds, and their spirits.

Conclusion

The devil wants the believers to be victims so that he can take advantage of them because being a victim causes a person to be limited in what he can do, say, or go. Time after time the enemies of Israel would conquer them and put them in bondage. They knew that if they were in bondage, they would have control of them. They could expose their children to their gods and turn them from worshipping the true and living God.

Questions

1. What makes a person a victim?
2. How can a person escape from being a victim?

Lesson 10 • First Week

3. Why did the devil want to keep Israel in captivity?

4. What made the woman with an issue of blood a victim.

Essential Thought

Victims are at the mercy of their enemies.

Conclusion