



The Key to Victory

The Christian Dilemma

- To live in Romans 8 one day, and Romans 7 the next
 - To be on a Mountain top today, then in a Valley tomorrow
 - To be in the Promised Land today, then back in the Wilderness tomorrow
 - To live in Victory today and Defeat tomorrow
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Why is it so difficult to live a Victorious life in the Promised Land?

SIN

God promises us that it is possible to live a Spirit Filled Life in victory over sin. But how?

The Fight Against Sin

Romans 7:23-24

²³ **But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind**, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴ **O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?**

1 Corinthians 15:57

⁵⁷ **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

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- Romans 7 identifies the wretched condition of man and our need for victory over sin.
 - We are talking mainly about sins of the mind or thoughts.
 - After Paul being one of the most anointed men God has ever used, cries out in desperation, he gives us the answer to his question.
 - Jesus Christ is the one who “GIVES US THE VICTORY”.

Two Types of Sins

• Outward Sins

- Mark 7 ²¹ For from within, **out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, ²² thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness.**
- These are the sins that the eye of man can see.
- We are all familiar with these sins, but most of these sins are dealt with upon Salvation. The Christian life is a battle primarily with Inward Sins.

• Inward Sins

- Sins of the mind and our thoughts are what dog the life of the Christian.
- Anger, grudge bearing, unforgiveness, criticism, gossip, pride, greed, etc.
- These are the sins that rob the Christian of victory.
- This is not about sinless perfection, suppression using willpower or getting a perfect understanding of the doctrine. This is about the outcome.
- It's better to be right in the heart and wrong in the doctrine than visa versa.
- Just because you don't outwardly show these thoughts, doesn't mean anything if you are thinking them on the inside.

How do Thought Explosions Happen?

- One minute you are joyful in the Lord and enjoying fellowship, the next minute someone criticizes you or gossips about you or does something that offends you and instantly the old man comes back about there is an explosion.
- When this happens, we lose the victory we had and now you need to get right with God when this happens by confession and repentance.
- Victory is not in a doctrine or an experience, but in a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- This is a battle where you don't need to fight
- **The Battle is not yours, it's God's – this is the most important principle of winning the spiritual battles.**
- Stand still. Trust. Let God lead the battle and live out through you

How did Joshua Take Jericho?

- **The Commander of the Army of the LORD**
 - **Joshua 5** ¹³ And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “Are You for us or for our adversaries?”
 - ¹⁴ So He said, “No, but **as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.**” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped,
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Joshua 6 ² And the LORD said to Joshua: “**See! I have given Jericho into your hand,** its king, *and* the mighty men of valor. ³ You shall march around the city, all *you* men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. ⁴ And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall **march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.** ⁵ It shall come to pass, when they make a long *blast* with the ram’s horn, *and* when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; **then the wall of the city will fall down flat.**

How did Joshua Take Jericho?

**Joshua Trusted God
to Fight the Battle**

Video – Joshua – 4 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruqGz1480uc>

You Can't Fight Satan

- Willpower is not strong enough to fight Satan
- You need someone stronger than Satan to do your fighting for you.
- Little Girl in Sunday School
 - The teacher asks a little girl, where is Jesus
 - Little girl answers, “He’s in my heart”
 - The Teacher asks “what are you going to do when Satan comes and knocks on the door of your heart?”
 - Little girl answers “I’ll send Jesus to the door”
- You may think you are strong and smart and can use your own willpower to overcome battles. Satan will beat you every time in your own strength.
- The Little Girl’s answer is the only way to win the battles.

Let Jesus Fight Your Battles

- Have you ever had someone else take a fight off your hands when you couldn't win on your own?
- Have you ever lived for one hour without committing any deliberate, conscious sin?
- Yes
- Therefore if Jesus can keep you for one hour, He can keep you for one day, but you need to stay connected to the Power Source. You need the power of the Holy Spirit.

Let Jesus Fight Your Battles

- **“As long as the Iron is in the fire, the Fire is in the Iron”**
 - <https://www.caltech.edu/about/news/how-iron-feels-heat-45656> - Iron remains a mystery to scientists.
- **As long as Peter kept his eyes on Jesus, he walked on the water. When he took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink.**
- **It's a MOMENT BY MOMENT EXPERIENCE**

The Victorious Life

- How do we live it? We Can't. Only Jesus Can.

1 Corinthians 15:57

57 But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Jesus Christ lives the victorious life through you.
- It's the outliving of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

The Victorious Life

- You received Jesus Christ as your saviour upon salvation .
- But have you received Jesus Christ as your Victor and let Him reign on the throne of your heart?
- **To win the battle against Satan and Sin, you must first Surrender to Jesus.**
- **Whatever your sin is, Trust Jesus to deliver you from it.**

The Battle is not Your, But God's

2 Chronicles 20

- ¹ It happened after this *that* the people of Moab with the people of Ammon, and *others* with them besides the Ammonites, **came to battle against Jehoshaphat.** ² Then some came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, “**A great multitude is coming against you** from beyond the sea, from Syria; and they are in Hazazon Tamar” (which *is* En Gedi).
- ³ And **Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD,** and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. ⁴ So Judah gathered together to ask *help* from the LORD; and from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

The Battle is not Your, But God's

2 Chronicles 20

- ¹⁰ And now, here are the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir—whom **You would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them and did not destroy them—** ¹¹ here they are, rewarding us by coming to throw us out of Your possession which You have given us to inherit.
- ¹² O our God, will You not judge them? **For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You.”**

The Battle is not Your, But God's

2 Chronicles 20

- ¹⁴ Then the Spirit of the LORD came ...Thus says the LORD to you:
- **‘Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's. ¹⁶ Tomorrow go down against them... ¹⁷ You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!’** Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD *is* with you.”

The Battle is not Your, But God's

2 Chronicles 20

- ²⁰ So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness...Jehoshaphat stood ...²¹ he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying:
 - “Praise the LORD,
For His mercy *endures* forever.”
 - ²² **Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people** of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, **who had come against Judah; and they were defeated....**
 - ²⁴ So when Judah came to a place overlooking the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; **and there *were* their dead bodies, fallen on the earth. No one had escaped.**

That's The Way We Fight Our Battles

**You just keep doing
the Trusting, and Let
God do the Fighting!**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WamhEa4M7us>