

1 COR15:1-8; 50-58

NO MATTER WHAT YOU'VE GONE THROUGH, WEAR YOU HAVE BEEN, WHATEVER YOU ARE FACING, I HEAR THE WORD: VICTORY!

JESUS' VICTORY, THIS VICTORY HE GIVES TO US IS FOR

THE SEEN AND UNSEEN

THE NOW AND THE NOT YET

THE HERE AND THE LATER

ROMANS 5:6-11

TRUTH: JESUS CAME AND DIED AT THE RIGHT TIME, SHOWING US GOD'S LOVE, THAT EVEN AS A SINNER WHO DESERVES GOD'S WRATH HE CHOSE TO COME AND DIE SO THAT WE CAN BE RECONCILED TO GOD!

RECONCILED: GREEK: 2644. Katallassó: primarily means to reconcile or to restore a relationship to a state of harmony, to restore to a position of favor, involves a change from enmity to friendship, emphasizing the removal of the barrier of sin and the establishment of peace.

TRUTH: RECONCILIATION IS CHANGING THE POSITION FROM AN ENEMY TO A PERSON WHO RECEIVES FAVOR.

Isaiah 59:2

THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF SIN:

HEBREW: KHATA OR 2398. CHATA חָטָא: Literal Definition: to miss, go wrong, sin

GREEK: 266. HAMARTIA ἡμαρτία, ας, ἡ: missing the mark; hence: (a) guilt, sin, (b) a fault, failure (in an ethical sense), sinful deed. forfeiture because missing the mark.

1 John 3:4

Romans 3:23

1 John 1:8

ROMANS 5:12-13

Romans 6:23

Revelation 21:8

BUT JESUS:

ROMANS 5:18-21

GOD LOVES US SO MUCH THAT HE CHOSE TO COME AFTER US IN THE FORM OF JESUS CHRIST...

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

BUT NOW WE GIVE HIM GLORY BECAUSE HE WON THE VICTORY OVER DEATH, HELL, AND THE GRAVE, AND HE GIVES THAT VICTORY TO US!

BUT...

THERE'S A PROBLEM!

SOME OF US ARE ASKING THE QUESTION:

WHAT VICTORY? BECAUSE I DON'T SEE IT.

TO BE CLEAR: FOR A LITTLE WHILE WE MUST FIGHT... THE DIFFERENCE IS WE KNOW WHO ULTIMATELY WINS... BUT WE HAVE TO STAY FOCUSED ON THE PRIZE.

THE AUTHOR OF HEBREWS PROVIDES ENCOURAGEMENT AS HE EXPLAINS THE CHRISTIAN LIFE:

HEBREWS 11:39-40 HEBRWS 12:1-2

TRUTH: THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS LIKE RUNNING A RACE. IT STARTS WITH SALVATION, ACCEPTING, BELIEVING, AND REPENTING, BUT THEN IT REQUIRES LIVING A LIFE RUNNING TOWARDS THE PRIZE, THAT IS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE VICTORY!

TRUTH: THE PERFECT EXAMPLE WE HAVE IS THE ONE WHO RAN AHEAD OF US, AND WON THE RACE FOR US... JESUS! WHO RAN FOR THE PRISE THAT WAS BEFORE HIM!

WHAT WAS JESUS' PRIZE???? YOU!

JOHN 3:16-18

A RACE HERE ON EARTH IS A COMPETITION AGAINST OTHERS TO WIN SOME KIND OF TEMPORARY VICTORY...

1 Corinthians 9:25

A PERISHABLE WREATH: A "crown" of leaves... Something that feels good in the moment but doesn't matter and certainly doesn't last. This is what the enemy offers... temporary pleasure rewards.

JESUS PROMISES IMPERISHABLE CROWNS: A reward at the final judgement of the world.

James 1:12

1 Peter 5:4

AFTER JESUS WAS CONDEMNED TO DIE AS THE CROWD CHEERED TO PILATE TO CRUCIFY HIM, THE ROMAN SOLDERS TOOK HIM AND BEGAN TO MOCK HIM...

MATTHEW 27:27-31

JESUS, GOD, STEPPED OUT OF GLORY, CAME AS A SERVANT AND WAS MOCKED WITH A CROWN OF THORNS PRESSED INTO HIS BROW.

REVELATION 4:9-11 AMP

THE VICTORY HAS ALREADY BEEN WON, BUT THE ENEMY HASN'T YET BEEN FULLY DESTROYED...

BUT IT WILL!

1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-26; 50-58

BUT WE HAVE TO CHOOSE TO REPENT AND ACCEPT HIS FREE GIFT OF VICTORY RIGHT NOW:

REVELATION 20:9-15