## THE LORD HAS TRIUMPH GLORIOULSY! PARTS 1 & 2

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"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 <u>victory</u>. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy <u>victory</u>? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the <u>victory</u> through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

(This first part was preached in the AM Service) I would like to speak this morning on the subject of: The Lord Has Triumph Gloriously! Of course I've taken the words from Exodus 15:1 & 21 where these words are the words of the song sung at the crossing of the Red Sea in Exodus 15 which no doubt is a type of our redemption also. This phrase is repeated at the commencement of this blessed song and the end of the song of Moses where they sing joyfully and thankfully, "...I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously..." Thus the title to my message THE LORD HAS TRIUMPH GLORIOUSLY! Oh my dear ones how much more should we be singing the song of the redeemed with a greater joy than those in Exodus 15 because our deliverance is more than physical it is eternal! Therefore all those in Christ this morning should with an abundant thanksgiving and with a heart saturated in immense gratitude knowing that our Lord Jesus Christ has TRIUMPH GLORIOUSLY in His death, burial and RESURRECTION which is the keystone and foundation of our faith and hope.

1 Corinthians 15 is all about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ where we have been given a living hope, that is, a lively hope a real hope, a know so hope of our own salvation and therefore secures a future physical resurrection by our bodies one day, because of Christ's defeat of Satan, Sin and DEATH itself. Thus, in 1 Corinthians 15 the resurrection of Christ is the overwhelming theme and therefore Paul concludes the chapter with those blessed words which I read as our main text signifying our VICTORY, and therefore, THE LORD HAS TRIUMPH GLORIOULSY! "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. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:54-57.

May I borrow from the words of David this morning of what he said hundreds of years ago, I say this to you also morning regarding our victory because of the resurrection, "...he hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure: for this is all my salvation, and all my desire..." That last phrase, "...for this is all my salvation and my desire...", this is so true because of the certainty and veracity of the resurrection of Christ in His glorious

triumphant work over Satan, sin and death which gives us the victory! Notice again that Paul has very carefully and methodically set forth our victory in what Christ has wrought for us at the cross and His triumphant rising from the grave which signifies and testifies to the satisfaction of the Father. Romans 4:24 & 25, "But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; 25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification."

Yes, FOR THIS IS ALL MY HOPE AND MY SALVATION, because of what Christ accomplished by His death burial and resurrection and thus this victory is given to us, that is, we have this victory presently, so that we can say with an assurance cemented in hope and without a doubt declared in FAITH, it is mine! You see, even at this very present moment I have this hope of a future heaven and future resurrection, how about you, do you have this hope? We have this hope, because of what Paul says there in verse 57, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." It is a done deal; this is all my HOPE and MY SALVATION! Titus 3:7, "That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Romans 5:1 & 2, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." 1 Peter 1:3, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

In verse 57 it says again, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Notice how Paul first gives thanks to God for the victory and then informs us that we are also recipients of that victory. The word giveth in this text is the Greek word, "Didomi" which basically means to give something to someone for their advantage, to bestow a gift, to grant and let one have something, to give over, to deliver into one's care and or to commit or administered something to someone. It is the same word used in Romans 4:24 & 25, "But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; 25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." It's the word delivered in verse 25. This word giveth in 1 Cor.15:57 is in the present tense and active voice, which expresses and or represents an ongoing action continually. This is why I said earlier it is ours presently right now, if we are in Christ. It is in the active voice wherein God is the subject and therefore God is the Actor in this action. God has done and is doing the work and we are the recipients or beneficiaries of this spiritual blessing. As though Paul is saying there is a victory going right now presently, in other words we can enjoy the victory now even before the future resurrection. It's like knowing the score at the end of a game, before the game starts. It says, "...which giveth us the victory..." Not, he will give, but ours presently He giveth us the victory, if it said will give, it would be in the future tense; amazingly this means that the resurrection of our bodies

which is yet future is already a victory given to all believers in Christ! What is given to us? The VICTORY! The word victory is the Greek word, '*Nikos*' which means to have the victory, that is to be conquerors, it basically means to utterly vanquish! This present victory is given to us through our Lord Jesus Christ. In our immediate context death and sin are mentioned, but we know through other verses also that this includes Satan, thus Satan, sin and death have been conquered and have been defeated. Christ in His death, burial and RESURRECTION has been victorious over them and He gives us the victory!

Now, we know that since the fall of Adam all of these 3 Satan, sin and death have been victorious and successful over the whole human race, except for one man, yea the GOD MAN, Jesus Christ! Because of the victory of Christ over Satan, Sin and death, Paul speaks in languish of present victory, let's read it again in the context, notice also that the word Victory is used 3 times and is the same Greek word 'Nikos', perhaps it's used 3 times to show: Christ's VICTORY over SIN; Christ's VICTORY over DEATH and Christ's VICTORY over SATAN! "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. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Again, Paul speaks in the sense that Christ has already vanquish these 3 enemies, that is; SOMETHING has already happened to these 3 enemies, they have already been defeated by our Lord Jesus Christ, this again is the hope and faith of our salvation. The sting of death has been removed, Christians should not fear death, I don't fear death, now I might fear dying, that is, the way or the instrument that is used when I may die, I would not like to die in a fire, my mom suffered for years with cancer in awful pain, I would not want to be buried alive, you see I might fear dying, but I do not fear death, only because I have the victory that Christ has given me!

Jesus Christ by His death, burial and RESURRECTION defeated His enemies and our enemies Satan, sin and death. When Christ was crucified and buried Satan thought he had succeeded and finally accomplished his long purpose of destroying the promise seed, which would destroy the work of God in salvation. He had tried again and again and again throughout the centuries for from the beginning, he deceived Eve and Adam willfully partook of the fruit. Then Satan tempted Cain to kill Abel the promise seed, but God gave them SETH. Satan led the world in awful sin and wickedness that led to a worldwide flood, but Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD! Satan let Abraham in unbelief to bear Ishmael, but God miraculously gave him the promise seed in Isaac. Satan let Joseph brothers to sell him into slavery but God saved the promise seed from starvation by Joseph's faithfulness. Satan tempted caused David to commit a sin worthy of death, but God gave him a repentant heart. Satan tempted Herod to murder all babies two years and

under, but God protected Christ, by causing Joseph to flee to Egypt. Throughout the ministry of Christ how often did Satan try to kill Christ and then he caused Judas to betray Christ which led to the crucifixion and for 3 days Satan, death and sin had a victory party of a supposed victory, Satan thought he had triumphed over Christ as he had tried again and again for 4000 years to destroy the seed of Christ and now thought he had finally succeeded in defeating the PROMISE SEED. He kept telling death and sin bragging over and over again that his diabolical planning had finally paid off. The victory party went on for 3 days and early on the third day; they couldn't believe their eyes as our LORD Jesus Christ rose from the death as the hymn by Robert Lowry says:

Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes, He arose a Victor from the dark domain, And He lives forever, with His saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior;

Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus, my Lord!

Death cannot keep his Prey, Jesus, my Savior; He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,

He arose a Victor from the dark domain, And He lives forever, with His saints to reign.

He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Low in the grave He laid, Jesus, my Savior, Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!

Yes, Jesus Christ won the VICTORY over SATAN, sin and death by His RESURRECTION! We'll look at a couple of texts that shows Christ triumphant VICTORY over Satan, sin and death and then we'll close with a text from Job to make application. We'll probably only have time for the first text and then the second one tonight.

Our first text is in Hebrews 2:14 &15 it says, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." Thank God for the incarnation of Christ, Christ took upon Himself the nature of man, of course without sin and in His incarnation He would fulfill the will of God by dying and yea resurrecting by conquering sin, death and the devil himself!

Christ in His incarnation lived a sinless life and kept the law perfectly to remove its sting and therefore removing its curse for all those whom He saves, He partook flesh and blood so that through His death and resurrection Christ would destroy death and the devil. Christ rendered Satan powerless, that is, Christ brought to naught the one who had dominion over death. John MacArthur says, "The only way to destroy Satan was to rob him of his weapon, death—physical death, spiritual death, eternal death. Satan knew that God required death for us because of sin. Death had become the most certain fact of life. Satan knew that men, if they remained as they were, would die and

go out of God's presence into hell forever. Men cannot escape after death. And for just that purpose Jesus came....Satan's weapon is extremely powerful. But God has a weapon even more powerful—eternal life—and with it Jesus destroyed death....The resurrection of Jesus Christ provides the believer with eternal life. It is the only thing that could ever have done it. Death is the power of Satan's dominion, and when Jesus shattered Satan's power He also shattered his dominion."

The phrase "...he might destroy..." is the Greek word 'katargeo' from the prefix KATA which intensifies the meaning and ARGEO which means to be idle, it comes from ARGOS which means to render ineffective or inactive. The word **ARGOS** itself is from A = without or no + **ERGON** = which means work. When combine it means to render powerless, therefore when applied in our text it means that through Christ's work our LORD literally destroyed the devil's power over death as being totally inactive. The word means to do away with, to put out of use that is; being inoperative. This is what our LORD did for us; this is the VICTORY for all who are saved, the victory is GIVEN TO US in Christ! This week we had Elizabeth's funeral and I made reference to this text in my message on Tuesday, this is the reason our dear sister is in heaven, because Christ rendered Satan powerless over the death of His saints, that was all those that die in Christ do not fear death, because translates us to eternal glory and yes that is a glorious victory given to us by Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ put away or out of use in the sense that Christ abolished and caused the power of the devil over death not to function. The phrase "...he might destroy..." therefore can also be translated "to render powerless." Our Lord's death, burial and resurrection overthrew Satan's power over death, as Spurgeon says, "That, through dying, he might overthrow Satan's power for all who trust him. By his own death, Christ broke that evil power which brought death into the world with its long trail of woe. He did this, not by his example, not even by his life, but by his death." Albert Barnes says, "The word "destroy" here is not used in the sense of "closing life," or of "killing," but in the sense of bringing into subjection, or crushing his power. This is the work which the Lord Jesus came to perform - to destroy the kingdom of Satan in the world..."

Interesting that the word power here in Hebrews 2:14 is not the Greek word, 'dunamis' that is power where we get our English dynamite or 'exuosia' with means authority, but the Greek word, 'kratos' which means strength or might, that is the power to rule, control or have dominion over with supreme sovereignty. From Precept Austin's Web page, "Krátos denotes the presence and significance of force or strength rather than its exercise. It is the ability to exhibit or express resident strength."

One writer says, "Next to God, death is the most powerful thing in the universe, no one can turn death away." When Jesus Christ resurrected from the grave He tore the bars away from death, took away its sting as He conquered death and also brought to naught the power and dominion of the devil. Kenneth Wuest in his Greek word studies says, "Satan had the power of death, not in the sense that he had power over death, but that he had the sovereignty or dominion of death. The Greek word here is kratos, which means "power in the sense of dominion." His dominion over the human race was in the form of death. That dominion is now broken."

In our Lord Jesus Christ's resurrection, He took away the power, dominion and authority from death, hades and the devil himself. As though Christ stood eye to eye with death and said to death as it says there in Hosea 13:14, "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction..." This is why Christ says in Revelation 1:18, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." I love the way one writer put it, "Because man fell into sin, death came into the world and is now working on earth to gather up all of mankind. Death resembles a dustpan used to collect dust from the floor, and Hades resembles a trash can. Whatever the dustpan collects is put into the trash can. Thus, death is a collector and Hades is a keeper. Death and Hades tried their best, but they could not keep Christ in their domain. Praise the Lord, death is subject to Him and Hades is under His control. Hallelujah! Christ has the keys of death and Hades." Amen and Amen to that! Therefore again it says in Hebrews 2:14 &15, "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

To fear death is a very natural thing to all born into this world. This is so true especially **If you are without Christ, you have reason to be afraid** because the word of God says: "It is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment" (Heb. 2:15). Soon you and I must die and the question is ask again: Are you prepared to MEET God at death? I found this little poem, like to share with you

"Please view my grave as you pass by, For as you are so once was I, And as I am soon you must be, So make your plans to follow me."

In regards to sin the Bible says, "The wages of Sin is DEATH," and "The soul that sinneth shall die." We will all die but please understand that death will not end your existence. If you die without Christ, you will stand before a holy, just, and righteous God in judgment and every sinner who dies without Christ shall reap the exact penalty due to your sin by the HOLY infinite and just God and no one will escape the awful penalty in hell, if you die without CHRIST!

As we have read in 1 Cor.15:54-57, for the believer, however, things are far different. We just read in Hebrews 2:14-15, where we are told that great purpose of our Savior's incarnation was that he might destroy Satan and deliver His people from the fear of death.

As we have seen this text tells us that the Lord Jesus Christ came into this world for this purpose, that he might "deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

So where do you stand before God this morning? Oh I beseech you even now, come in repentance towards God and if faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Cor.6:2, "(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)" Come to Christ now as I pray: (This concludes our morning service)

(The Evening service begins here) Our second text I want to consider is in Col.2:12-15, "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Again, Christ by HIS resurrection has defeated Satan, sin and death!

Paul reminds us here of being baptize after salvation that is; being raised from the dead through the operation of God, that is, through the work or energy of God's sovereign power in regeneration. Paul reminds us at the end of verse 12 about the resurrection, that all of this is centered on the fact that Christ was raised from the dead. He also reminds us that Christ took those things that were contrary to us and took it out of the way and nailing it to the cross. In very simple terms Christ paid our sinful debt as He defeated sin and put it away from us as far as the east to the west, cast our sins into the depths of the sea and what blows my mind is that He would not remember our sins any more, yes, let the redeem of the Lord say so, the LORD has TRIUMPH GLORIOUSLY!

The last part of verse 14, "...and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross" The word took in the phrase, "...and took it out of the way..." is the Greek word, 'Airo' which means to lift up, to bear away or to take away. I believe it's the same word in the Septuagint in Isaiah 53:11, "He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities." It is the same Greek word in John 1:29, "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." It is also the same Greek word in 1 John 3:5, "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins..."

Again in Col.2:14 the word took, '*Airo*' is also in the prefect tense which speaks of a completed action in the past with the present results and effects showing forth that the work of Christ on the Cross was a once and for all completed work. Therefore, our sin debt is totally cancelled and taken away because it was paid in full and therefore has produced a permanent and glorious eternal effectual effect that it can never be charged against us. This is why we can say presently, we are victorious; we are more than conquerors through Christ. Romans 8:37 & 38, "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." WHAT ABOUT YOU THIS EVENING CAN YOU SAY THAT YOU HAVE THIS VICTORY GIVEN TO US IN CHRIST?

Col.2:14 & 15, "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Not only did our Lord Jesus Christ take our sins and

nailed them to the cross, but in the process also spoiled the power of Satan by triumphing openly over him. Christ "...spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." He spoiled principalities and powers, that is; Christ disarmed the rulers and authorities, and He totally defeated Satan and his demons openly and triumphed gloriously before them. The word spoiled here does not mean, like when we use it of food that spoils or of a child who we would say he or she is spoiled, no it means to plunder victorious over a foe. The word spoiled is a compound Greek word, 'apekduomai' from apo & ekduo which give the idea of complete removal, that means to strip off clothing as to undress or disrobe, to completely put off that is, totally separating one's self from what is put off. This is also in the aorist tense which means that it speaks of a past completed action, that is; once and for all our Lord Jesus Christ, HIMSELF, HE HIMSELF did the work as HE totally disarmed principalities and authorities or as one would say, He totally disarmed all "right & might!" Vine says, "Now this act on the cross and in His death was the consummating triumph over the gathered hosts of the powers of darkness acting under Satan."

The term use by Paul is also a military term with the idea that our Lord Jess Christ has fulfilled a complete victory which is seen in the subduing of His enemies. What a glorious picture of spoiling the enemy, Satan and all his hosts, Christ has stripped the powers of evil. Perhaps Paul is using the example that would be familiar to the recipients of this letter, where the triumphant Roman General would stripped his defeated foes by displaying control over them and lead them behind his chariot of victory in a glorious procession, this is why Paul also 2 Corinthians says that have the victory every time we share the gospel in 2 Cor. 2:14-17, "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. 15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 16 To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?" Every time we share the gospel we are victorious, we triumph in Christ, to the ones who are saved it is a savour of life unto life and to those who neglect the gospel it is a savour of death unto death, either way we are triumphant because the WORD of God never returns back void! To some the gospel is a sweet and glorious sweet smell as they partake of it and to some the gospel is awful smell to them, it is a stench in their nostrils and they want nothing to do with it. Reminds of when our daughters were younger and at home, I could be away anywhere from 5 – 6 hours and as soon as I would walk in the front door I could smell the stench of fingernail polish remover, it would almost nauseate me, I would ask them, please after your done with your nails take your little cotton balls and throw them in the outside trash can, but noooo! We know when we smell something good and when we smell something bad, because it has an effect on us, ever driven by where a skunk had been run over? Yes, we know about smells and its effects on us.

In the Roman victory parade they would celebrate gloriously as all the people would filled the streets and somewhat line up like in our parades, like the Super Bowls victors or NBA champions In the Roman victory parade as they line up the streets waiting for the general to ride upon HIS VICTORIOUS WHITE HORSE, one day we shall see our LORD coming back upon HIS White House and written upon His vesture: THE KINGS OF KINGS AND THE LORD OF LORDS! [If time: Rev.19:11-16; "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself, 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."] As the people of Rome wait for their general on the white horse they line up the streets and the way we use confetti they would use some sort of potpourri which would put out a sweet smelling fragrance that is; the fragrance and smell of victory! Anyway the parade would go on and you could feel the excitement as the chariots of victory passed by, soldiers, officers and the spoils of that defeated foe, the gold, silver and anything needful until the glorious general upon his white horse and the people went crazy in a frenzy then behind him his defeated captives openly displayed as the generals trophies in utter and total defeat to which here we can apply again verse 15 of Colossian 2, "And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Behind the general were his defeated captives as he makes an open shew of them publicly, manifesting his triumphant victory over them in totality! There they were exposed as shattered defeated and empty, as the general's final glorious triumphant act as he makes a public example of them, putting them in open shame, mocking them publically as they were made a spectacle. Now, as these defeated foes continue on, that same smell that was a sweet smelling savor to the victor, became an awful stench in their nostrils, for in reality to the defeated foe they knew it was the smell of death at the end of the parade.

What a picture does Paul display for us spiritually, we have been given the victory in Christ and Christ made a shew of them openly and triumphantly when He arose from the grave.

Now this is application of Paul in Hebrews 2:14& 15, here in Colossians 2 and in 1 Cor.15:54-57, "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. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Christ has removed the sting of death by giving us the victory over the grace by His glorious triumphant resurrection! As I conclude I want to make application of this, that is, that this truth that Paul teaches us is ours presently in that we are VICTORIOUS because HE said that the

## VICTORY is GIVEN to us!

I would like to use an old saint to make application, please turn to Job and chapter 19; I am so fascinated by the spiritual inside Job had regarding the resurrection, especially with the little light he had in comparison to great light we have in the New Testament, verses 24-27, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: 26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: 27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me."

What words in these verses, these words of Job here are cemented and embedded in great faith, because he says with such confidence, "I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH!" Job's faith was strong and firm in such a holy conviction. For he says, I KNOW! It didn't make a difference what was going on in his life or what anybody thought, what anybody else believed, what anybody else said or what anybody else professed, Job proclaims powerfully MY REDEEMER LIVETH! What about you this morning do you have a redeemer? Or are you to busy wallowing in your problems and lose sight of the blessed redeemer? Do you know anything of a redeemer or are you yet in your sins? You see this is what gives us our hope and can say with Job, I know that my redeemer liveth! Do you know anything of this, or is this strange language to you? Job says I will one day behold Him with mine own eyes.

We confess, LORD Jesus you have given us the victory, You have conquered sin, You have conquered Satan and yea, You have conquered DEATH! Because Christ gives us the victory: We can now say boldly, O death, O death where is thy sting? O grave, O grave where is thy victory? Like Job, in faith we can proclaim, I know, I know, I mean I really know that MY, yes, MY Redeemer LIVETH! This is our hope, in that, not only do we have a redeemer, but our redeemer LIVES. Remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ in John 11 when he came to Lazarus grave and Martha was concerned, it says in verses 20-26, "Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, Lam the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me. though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" How about you, do you believe this? Well no question that Job believed this, for he said with an unflinching faith saturated in unwavering conviction, I know that my redeemer LIVETH! Because He lives, I will live, what hope, what faith, what confidence, what expectation!

"...And though after my skin worms destroy this body yet in my flesh shall I see God." Job knew that when he would die his body would go to the grave and that the worms would destroy his body and in the language of faith, in the word "yet", he believed that in his flesh he would one day see God. The worms would consume his body in the grave, his skin would be completely consumed and nothing left but bones, which would also decay and become dust. But as

he expresses complete consumption of his body because of death, after it has been in the grave year after year, decade after decade, score after score, century after century, millennium after millennium, nonetheless, regardless of this length of time, in faith he believed that one day his body would be resurrected from the dead. Job is speaking of a future life when his worm-eaten body that was left behind would one day be resurrected and a glorified body would robe his soul again. Job believed this for in another passage he says, "If a man die, shall he live again? All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come." Job 14:14. All because, he says with great faith, I Know that MY Redeemer Liveth! Though after my skin worms destroy this body Job says "YET" yes "YET" in my flesh I shall see God. This tiny three letter word "Y-E-T" "YET" displays mightily his faith and conviction. There is something about the word "YET," it can be used negatively, but also positively. Job uses it here positively, in glorious faith, although, the worms shall eat my flesh, "YET," or nevertheless, in spite of this, YET, YET in faith, in my flesh I shall see God.

- Reminds me of King David when he was on his death bed, as he gets ready to die, he utters his last words. He knew that his house had been in shambles, yet, nonetheless, yet, in spite of this, "YET," by the eye of faith David utters in great faith: "Although my house be not so with God; yet he hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure: for this is all my salvation, and all my desire, although he make it not to grow." 2 Sam. 23:5.
- Habakkuk going through some hard times, difficult times, trying times, and in the midst of this, like Job and David declares in glorious faith, YET, that is, nonetheless, in spite of, he utters in great faith, YET! "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls. Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places."
- David again says, I have been young, and now am old; **yet** have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Ps 37:25.
- Even Jonah in the belly of whale could proclaim such great and unambiguous faith, Jonah 2: 3-4, "For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me. Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple." Again in verses 6 & 7, "I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God. When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple."
- One more from Job, "Though he slay me, **yet** will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him." Job 13:15.
- Or as Peter in 1 Peter 1:7-9, "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold

that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, **yet believing**, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."

Again this word "YET," is the language of faith! Job, therefore knowing this says that one day he will die and the worms shall eat his body and flesh, but declares boldly, "...yet in my flesh shall I see God."

Do you have this hope, do you have this victory? Again, we see in 1 Cor.15:57 where victory is given, but in Revelation 15:3 VICTORY is GOTTEN! Rev.15: 2 & 3, "And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. 3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints."

I hope that this morning you have this victory, can you say like Job in clear language of FAITH cemented in HOLY CONVICTION?

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: 26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: 27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me."

Let's pray: