



LIFE & GODLINESS

“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”

Romans 6:11-13

“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

2 Peter 1:3-4

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”

Galatians 5:1

The Christian is to be yielded as an instrument of righteousness unto God. The Christian must be deeply concerned about his life for the glory of God.

Read **2 Peter 1:1-4** and answer the following questions:

What has the believer escaped? _____

What has the believer been given?

By whose power have these things been given? _____

The believer must be careful not to become entangled again with the yoke of bondage. The word “*entangled*” means to be “*held in, ensnared in.*” The word “*bondage*” is a reference to one who is a slave. The believer must not become ensnared again as a slave to sin.

Before salvation we were the servants of _____.

Romans 6:20, “*For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.*”



The believers who have been made free from sin are become the _____ to God.
Romans 6:22, *“But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.”*

In this lesson we concerned ourselves with life and godliness. The Christian is to live victoriously in Jesus Christ. There are too many defeated Christians who are missing a wonderful opportunity to live an abundant life.

Victory is not found in the absence of trouble; it is found in the presence of Jesus Christ.

I. WE MUST IDENTIFY THE ENEMY

There are three enemies that oppose Christian living and godliness. Each one of the enemies will rob the believer of the joy of the Lord.

Let's Identify the Three Enemies:

- First, the World
- Second, the Flesh
- Third, the Devil

A. Enemy One – The World

What is the world?

The word “world” speaks of the “world system” which is organized on selfish principles, improper motives, ungodly standards, and is opposed to the things of God.

Jesus said that His kingdom was not of this _____.

John 18:36, *“Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.”*

What is the world's sentiment toward Christ? _____.

John 15:18, *“If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.”*

Who does the world love? _____.

Why does the world hate the Christian? _____.

John 15:19, *“If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”*



Friendship with the world means _____ with God.

James 4:4, *“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”*

How does the world oppose the believer?

The world has a strong influence upon our lives. The world entices the Christian away from God.

1 John 2:15-17, *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”*

According to **verse 16**, what does the world use to influence the believer?

The lust of the _____.

The lust of the _____.

The _____ of life.

Why did Demas forsake Paul? Because he _____ this present world.

2 Timothy 4:10, *“For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica...”*

B. Enemy Two – The Flesh

What is the flesh?

When Bible speaks of the “*flesh*,” we are referring to the sin nature. Another expression used in Scripture is the “*old man*,” the corrupt Adamic nature within every man. This flesh only produces wickedness. We must come to an understanding that our flesh is incapable of producing righteousness.

Yielding to the flesh produces _____ and _____.

Romans 6:19, *“I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity...”*



Does anything good come from the flesh (sinful nature)? _____.
Romans 7:18, *“For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.”*

How does the flesh oppose the believer?

What causes the war in our members? _____.
James 4:1, *“From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?”*

What is contrary the one to the other? _____.
Galatians 5:16-17, *“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”*

The Spirit and the flesh are in constant conflict. The lustful nature is always seeking immediate satisfaction, while the Spirit is seeking lasting satisfaction.

The law of sin is in our _____.
Romans 7:23, *“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.”*

C. Enemy Three – The Devil

Who is the devil?

The devil has several names ascribed to him in the Word of God. He is called:

- The Tempter
- The Accuser of the Brethren
- The Prince of this World
- The Father of lies

To the believer, the devil is called the _____.
1 Peter 5:8, *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”*

The devil is actively working to oppose God and His work. He is a relentless adversary!



How does the devil oppose the believer?

The devil will T _____ the believer. The devil will often use the world to entice the believer.

1 Thessalonians 3:5, *“For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.”*

The devil uses W _____ against the believer. The word “wiles” speaks of “crafty deception.”

Ephesians 6:11, *“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”*

The devil uses F _____ D _____ against the believer.

Ephesians 6:16, *“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”*

The devil uses P _____ against church leadership.

1 Timothy 3:6, *“Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.”*

Now that we have identified these three enemies, we can move on to consider how we are able to have the victory over them.

II. WE MUST CLAIM THE VICTORY

The believer can live in victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil. If we ignore the enemies, then surely we have already been defeated.

A. Victory Over the World

Jesus Christ has already _____ the world.

John 16:33, *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”*

The believer has already overcome the world by _____ that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5:5, *“Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?”*



Victory Over the World by An Unwavering Faith

What gives the believer victory over the world? _____.

1 John 5:4, *“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”*

Faith is a powerful weapon in the Christian soldier’s arsenal. The Bible declares that *“faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”* The believer is to live by faith in his daily walk with the Word of God.

What passes away? _____.

1 John 2:17, *“And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”*

Victory Over the World by An Undivided Affection

The believer must set his affection on things _____.

Colossians 3:1-2, *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”*

The believer can only serve one _____.

Matthew 6:24, *“No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”*

Jesus Christ told His disciples to seek first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness. The things of the world can often distract the believer into placing his affection on temporal things.

Matthew 6:21, *“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”*

Victory Over the World by An Uncorrupted Mind

Philippians 4:8, *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”*



List the eight things given that should be the focus of the believer's mind:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

B. Victory Over the Flesh

The position of the believer in Christ is clear in Scripture: he has been crucified with Christ, that the body of sin might be destroyed.

Galatians 2:20, *"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."*

The believer in Christ has crucified the flesh with the _____ and _____.

Galatians 5:24, *"And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."*

Christ crucified the old man that the believer should no longer serve _____.

Romans 6:6, *"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."*

Victory Over the Flesh by A Spirit-Filled Life

The believer will not fulfil the lust of the flesh by _____ in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:16, *"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."*

The believer is to _____ on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 13:14, *"But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof."*

Victory Over the Flesh by A Refusal to Indulge in Lusts

The believer is to _____ from fleshly lusts.

1 Peter 2:11, *"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;"*



C. Victory Over the Devil

What the believer has in Christ is more powerful than what the world has in the devil. Consider **1 John 4:4**, *“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”*

Christ came that he might _____ the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8, *“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”*

Victory Over the Devil by the Strength of God

We are to put on the W_____ A_____ of _____.

Ephesians 6:13, *“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”*

The believer cannot stand against the devil in his own strength, he must do it in the power of God.

Victory Over the Devil by Submission to God

We are both to S_____ to God, and R_____ the devil.

James 4:7, *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”*

Our submission to God and resistance to the devil are inseparable. If we do not submit to God, than we become unable to resist the devil.

Victory Over the Devil by being Steadfast in the Faith

The believer can resist the devil by being steadfast in the _____.

1 Peter 5:8, *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

The believer is to be careful not to give any _____ to the devil.

Ephesians 4:26-27, *“Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil.”*



KEYS TO SPIRITUAL VICTORY:

ABIDING IN CHRIST

John 15:1-10

PUTTING OFF THE OLD MAN AND PUTTING ON THE NEW

Ephesians 4:22-24

CONFESSING SIN

1 John 1:5-10

PRESSING TOWARD THE MARK

Philippians 3:13-14

DEVOURING THE WORD

1 Peter 2:1-2

SEPARATING FROM THE WORLD

1 Corinthians 15:33; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

BEING FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 5:18; Ephesians 4:30-31

ESTABLISHING GODLY HABITS

Luke 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; 1 Corinthians 15:58; Ephesians 5:20



REVIEW QUESTIONS:

According to **2 Peter 1:1-4**, what has the believer be given?

What are the three enemies of Christian living and godliness?

What are the three areas the world uses to influence the believer?

Why did Demas forsake Paul? _____

What is the flesh according to the Bible? It is also called the "old man."

What does the flesh produce according to **Romans 6:19**?

Who is the believer's great adversary? _____

According to **1 John 5:4**, what is it that overcomes the world? _____

What stands in opposition to the lust of the flesh according to **Galatians 5:16**?

What must the believer put on in order to withstand against the devil?

How can the believer properly resist the devil? _____

Am I currently living in victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil?
