

## *Are You a Victorious Christian?*

For many Christians the answer is a resounding, “No.”

Ever since they heard of the fullness of the Spirit, the baptism in the Spirit, Christian victory, transformed living, the deeper life, sanctification or Christian holiness; they have hoped that somehow “it would take”.

They're a bit like a couple wanting children. They think perhaps she's pregnant. They hope she is, but it just never materializes. Once or twice she was but the baby miscarried. Once the baby even survived the pregnancy only to die as soon as it was born, as though afraid to face the light of day in the big wide world.

And by this time the would-be parents are ready to give up. The emotional trauma of hope and disappointment, hope and disappointment, hope and disappointment just isn't worth it.

### **My Heart Goes Out**

Yes, my heart goes out to all such.

And the more so in the spiritual domain, because what they will be for all eternity is being determined. It is not merely to be or not to be but what to be for all eternity that is being determined – for themselves first and for the hundreds or even thousands of others to whom their influence may ultimately extend.

How I pray that this leaflet may fall into the hands of many who are about to give up the quest for spiritual victory and of many who have long since given up, and reawaken hope in both.

Oh, how I pray, my dear friend, that you may not give up.

My friend, you've made some serious mistakes. You've looked in the wrong place for victory.

You've been given some wrong information. You've been led to expect too much and hope too little.

You've not been taught to pay the tremendous price that all must pay who would walk the path of victory.

Nor have you been told how to get on, or stay on that path.

### **Only One Path**

But there is only one path and only one Way onto it.

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life –and not only for salvation but for victory too.

He is our hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

He is our all (Colossians 3:11).

So it is to *Him* alone we must look for victory: --“*Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith*” (Hebrews 12:2).

He does not offer you perfect spiritual success in this life. The great St. Paul in prison for his faith had still to write, “*Not that I have already attained, either am already perfect . . .*” (Philippians 3:12a).

Christ Jesus our Lord offers you Himself. He gives you the opportunity of learning to depend on Him, and draw on Him, to an increasing degree. He gives you the opportunity to look to Him, seeing in His face “*the glory of the Lord,*” being thereby “*changed into the same image from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord*” (II Cor. 3:18 with 4:6).

### **A Price to be Paid**

There is a price to be paid, for we who would follow on to know the Lord must be “*always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body*” (II Cor. 4:10). We must be prepared to die to ourselves, our hopes, our pleasures, our desires, our ambitions, our loves that we might live to Him and His praise and His glory alone.

But perhaps you say, “I’ve heard it all before. It is high blown theory without any basis in reality.”

Oh, you’re wrong, my friend, you’re wrong. You need to look up! *We look not at the things that are seen but at the things that not seen: for the things that are seen are temporal, but the things that are not seen are eternal. We all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord*” (II Cor. 4:18 & 3:18).

## **Spend Time with Him**

So start today spending time beholding *“the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ”* (II Cor. 4:6). Spend much time daily alone with Him, seeking Him alone in secret prayer not for any of His gifts nor even for spiritual victory –just for Himself.

Look in His face. Love Him, Worship Him. Praise Him. Adore Him. Rest in Him. Trust Him. Depend on Him. Rejoice in Him. Thank Him. Honor Him. Glorify Him.

Let Him be God. Look lovingly into His face. And I promise you, you give Him your time and devotion hour after hour, day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, and He will change you from glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord. This is not an easy path to glory. But anyone who ever offered you one is lying to you.

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