

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to be carnally minded?
2. What does it mean to be spiritually minded?
3. How do we mortify the deeds of the body?
4. With what perspective does the Apostle Paul consider sufferings in verse 18 and why?
5. How do we live a victorious Christian life?

SUMMARY:

To live a victorious life we must win the battle over our own flesh. If Christ is in us, His Spirit will dominate our lives and the quickening of our mortal bodies from death to life will be automatic. If His Spirit is not dominating our lives, we are depending upon our own wisdom and minding the things of the flesh and are at enmity with God, and not subject to His influence and will automatically live in sin and death.

NOTES:

[SoF:9] We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #11

March 15, 2020

First Quarter

VICTORIOUS **[SoF:9]** CHRISTIAN LIVING

LESSON TEXT: *Romans 8:1-39*

LESSON SETTING: Written by Paul from Corinth to the Roman Christians.

TIME: Approximately 58 A.D.

I. VICTORY OVER CARNALITY. Romans 8:1-13

- A. By the Spirit of the Law of Christ. (vs. 2, 9-11)
- B. By Walking After the Spirit. (vs. 4)
- C. By Being Spiritually Minded. (vs. 6) 1 Corinthians 2:2-16

II. VICTORY OVER THE CURSE. Romans 8:14-25

- A. Made Children of God. (vs. 14-17) John 1:12-13
- B. Delivered From Bondage. (vs. 21) John 8:32
- C. Waiting in Hope. (vs. 23-24) Isaiah 25:9; Acts 1:4

III. VICTORY OVER CIRCUMSTANCES. Romans 8:26-39

- A. Help of the Spirit's Intercession. (vs. 26-27)
- B. Clinging to a Promise. (vs. 28-29)
- C. God's Working in Our Lives. (vs. 34-39)
Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:14, 16

GOLDEN TEXT: *IN ALL THESE THINGS WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM THAT LOVED US.* Romans 8:37

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Philemon 1-25

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Genesis 45:1-13; 2 Samuel 9:1-13;
Acts 28:16-31; Colossians 4:7-9

QUARTERLY THEME: Life and Writings of Paul

TOPIC: THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

INTRODUCTION:

We should understand that Philemon, the one to whom this epistle is written, was the master of the slave, Onesimus, who had been converted by the teachings of the Apostle Paul while Paul was in prison in Rome. It is a strange coincidence that Onesimus should seek out Paul and yet it is quite possible that he knew Paul because the letter indicates that Philemon was a friend of Paul's and undoubtedly had been a guest in Philemon's house.

Paul's instruction to Onesimus, if he was to enjoy the pardon of our Lord Jesus, was to go back to his master. He had run away from his duty and obligation. Paul sought to make it easier for Onesimus by writing this letter in which he told Philemon of the change wrought in the heart of Onesimus and begging him to forgive his servant. He made it plain that the relationship now was not as master and servant but as brother and brother in the bonds of Christ Jesus.

We as Christians must be reconciled to one another if there is any separation between us. If we have wronged anyone we should seek his or her forgiveness. This must be a "two-way street". Onesimus had wronged his master by running away. He as a slave was bound by law and could now be severely punished. He was willing to go back to be reconciled. By doing so, this now placed the responsibility on Philemon to forgive his servant.

We too are responsible to have forgiving hearts if someone comes to us seeking reconciliation. Even more, we ought to be able to say "I have forgiven you before you came to ask forgiveness." We should have the same compassion toward others that Christ has had toward us.

CENTRAL TRUTH: The child of God can live victoriously in every circumstance of life.

GOLDEN TEXT: *BE YE KIND ONE TO ANOTHER, TENDER-HEARTED, FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER, EVEN AS GOD FOR CHRIST'S SAKE HATH FORGIVEN YOU.* Ephesians 4:32

Again we must marvel at the pure justice, the righteousness of God's conditions for serving Him. Never does He require anything of us, which He, for Christ's sake has not in overflowing measure, done for us. "Go, and do thou likewise." (Luke 10:37) "Shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?" (Matthew 18:33)

But there is something much more than "reason" in God's plan for us. Paul wrote, "and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." (1 Corinthians 12:31) Paul could have demanded that Philemon forgive his penitent servant because it was right (vs.8). "Yet for love's sake I rather beseech thee." (vs. 9)

So it is good, right and fair, that we should forgive one another, but we should rather also do so for the love of Him, who first loved us.

Thou hast our sins forgiven,
So we, the Kingdom heirs,
As pleaseth Thee in Heaven--
Forgive our debtors, theirs. Z.H. 85:7b

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF March 16 – 22

M. Jacob and Esau Reconciled. Genesis 33:1-16
T. Joseph's Reconciliation. Genesis 45:1-13
W. David's Kindness. 2 Samuel 9:1-13
T. Onesimus and Paul. Colossians 4:1-9
F. *Philemon's Goodness. Philemon 1-7
S. *Onesimus' Conversion. Philemon 8-14
S. *Paul's Plea. Philemon 15-25

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