

# HOW TO WIN IN THE VICTORIOUS LIFE

7/24/22

## HOW TO AVOID CAPTURE

### Colossians 2

<sup>8</sup> See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

<sup>9</sup> For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

<sup>10</sup> and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;

<sup>11</sup> and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

<sup>12</sup> having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

<sup>13</sup> And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, <sup>14</sup> having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us *and* which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

<sup>15</sup> When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

## HOW TO WIN

<sup>16</sup> Therefore *1. Remember who we are in Christ (2:9-15)*

let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day--

<sup>17</sup> things which are a *mere* shadow of what is to come;

but the substance belongs to Christ.

*2. Avoid legalistic influence*

<sup>18</sup> Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize  
by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels,  
taking his stand on *visions* he has seen,  
inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,      3. Avoid mystical influence

<sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the head,  
from whom the entire body,  
being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments,  
grows with a growth which is from God.

4. Do life with Jesus together

<sup>20</sup> If you have died with Christ to the elementary principles of the world,  
why,  
as if you were living in the world,  
do you submit yourself to decrees,  
such as,

<sup>21</sup> "Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!"

<sup>22</sup> (which all *refer to* things destined to perish with the using)—  
in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men?

<sup>23</sup> These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom  
in self-made religion and self-abasement  
and severe treatment of the body,

*but are* of no value against fleshly indulgence.      5. Examine motives

**3:1** If then you have been raised up with Christ,  
keep seeking the things above,  
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

<sup>2</sup> Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

<sup>3</sup> For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

6. Focus on heaven

<sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,  
then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

7. Live for His coming

<sup>5</sup> Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead  
to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed,  
which amounts to idolatry.

8. Keep killing lust and greed

<sup>6</sup> For it is on account of these things that the wrath of God will come,

<sup>7</sup> and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

9. Develop God's perspective on sin

<sup>8</sup> But now you also, put them all aside:  
anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth.

10. *Never act in anger*

<sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another,  
since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices,  
<sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self who is being renewed  
to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him  
<sup>11</sup> -- *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction*  
*between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised,  
barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman,  
but Christ is all, and in all.

11. *Practice integrity*

<sup>12</sup> And so,  
as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved,  
put on  
a heart of compassion,  
kindness,  
humility,  
gentleness  
and patience;  
<sup>13</sup> bearing with one another,  
and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone;  
just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

<sup>14</sup> And beyond all these things *put on* love,  
which is the perfect bond of unity.

12. *Practice the virtues of love*

<sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
to which indeed you were called in one body;  
and be thankful.

13. *Let our unity in Christ dominate our thoughts*

<sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you,  
with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another  
with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs,  
singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

14. *Meditate on and share Scripture*

<sup>17</sup> And  
whatever you do in word or deed,  
*do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

15. *Live in the authority of The King*