

HOW TO WIN IN THE VICTORIOUS LIFE

Colossians 2:16-4:1

8/14/22

¹⁶ 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--

¹⁷ things which are a *mere* shadow of what is to come;

but the substance belongs to Christ.

2. Avoid legalistic influence

¹⁸ 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

¹⁹ 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

²⁰ 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,

²¹ "Do not handle, do not taste, do not touch!"

²² (which all *refer to* things destined to perish with the using)—

in accordance with the commandments and teachings of men?

²³ 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.

² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

³ For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

6. Focus on heaven

⁴ When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,

then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

7. Live for His coming

⁵ 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

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

⁷ and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

9. Develop God's perspective on sin

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

10. Never act in anger

⁹ Do not lie to one another,
since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices,
¹⁰ 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
¹¹ -- 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

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

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

12. Practice the virtues of love

¹⁵ 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

¹⁶ 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

¹⁷ 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

¹⁸ Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

16. Wives, be subject to your husbands

¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives, and do not be embittered against them.

17. Husbands, love your wives

²⁰ Children, be obedient to your parents in all things,
for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

18. Children, be obedient to your parents

²¹ Fathers, do not exasperate your children,
that they may not lose heart.

19. Fathers, do not exasperate your children

²² Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth,
not with external service, as those who *merely* please men,
but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

²³ Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men;

²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance.

It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

²⁵ For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong
which he has done,
and that without partiality.

20. Serve The Lord by obeying the boss

4:1 Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness,
knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.

21. Serve The Lord by being just