

Victorious

- ❖ You and I have victory in Christ Jesus – Rom. 8:31-32; 1 John 5:4; Joshua 10:8
- ❖ We are overcomers because of what Jesus has done for us – John 16:33
- ❖ It is crucial that we understand who we are in Christ and what He has done for us – Eph. 1:15-23
- ❖ Our victory is distinct from the world we live in
 - Though we experience the everyday life challenges of the world, we have a hope that the world does not have – Rom. 8:11
- ❖ We all can have victory when we experience the liberating power of Jesus -
 - Once were bound but we have been loosed to serve the Lord – Gal. 5:1
 - Once were lost in in sin but now free to serve the Lord – Rom. 6:6
- ❖ Our freedom is not a show but a reality because God really wants to use us
 - Ask the blind man in John 9:1-3
 - Ask Lazarus in John 11:38-44; 12:1-3
 - Ask Paul in Acts 26
 - Ask me today
- ❖ Because our victory is not of this world, it can not be understood by many of this world
 - World wants an image of victory, but God wants you to know the surety of victory
 - David did not look like he could have victory against Goliath – 1 Sam. 17:26-39
 - Israel did not look like it would have victory at Jericho – Joshua 6
 - Elisha did not look like he had victory when surrounded by Arameans – 2 Kgs. 6:14-17

From Sunday's Message – Victorious Praise (Mat. 21:7-15; Luke 19:

- ❖ The importance of Nisan
 - The Passover lamb – Exo. 12:3, 6; 12:21-23
 - Why? Exo. 12:12; 12:42
 - Passover is celebrated on Nisan 15 since then
 - Jesus is the Lamb of God – d
- ❖ Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey on Nisan 10 – John 12:13; Psa 118:22-25; Mat. 21:8
 - Donkey hadn't been used before – Mat. 21:1-3; Zech. 9:9
 - Jewish tradition that if Jerusalem ready for the Messiah, He would come in on a stallion – but if not ready, He would come in on an ass
 - On that day, Jesus deliberately arranged the event to present Himself as Messiah – Mark 11:1-10
 - On that day, Jesus welcomed praise (Luke 19:38-40) instead of quieting it (Luke 5:14 and 8:56)
 - On that day, Jesus made special reference to importance of that day (Luke 19:41-42)

Takeaway Points

- ❖ When you know who Jesus is, don't wait for others before you acknowledge Him as King and Lord
- ❖ Make sure you value Him with what you have – Mat. 21:7-8; Luke 19:36
- ❖ Now is the time to praise God for what He has and is doing for you
 - Up until this point, Christ has not wanted or allowed them to praise Him, but something's different on this day...
 - They praised Him asking Him to save now (Hosanna)
 - We can praise Him because He has already saved...
 - AS GOOD AS ADVANCED PRAISE CAN BE, IT PALES IN COMPARISON TO PRAISE FOR WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE....
- ❖ It's time to shake this world with our praise of God
 - Jesus Shook the Whole City – Mat. 21:10
 - Moved (seio) – to shake, agitate, cause to tremble
- ❖ Don't let rocks do your job – Luke 19:40
 - The rocks are ready without hesitation to praise Him. What about you?

Victory after Defeat

- ❖ Believers are not immune from suffering loss or defeat – Job 1:1-21
 - Children and Possessions – 1:13-21
 - Health – 2:1-10
 - Going through is never easy – Job 3
 - Grieving and being accused by so called friends – Job 4-12
 - Rebuking the naysayers and shifting the narrative – Job 13-41
 - God brings about victory – Job 42

- ❖ Some of the greatest people that God used suffered defeats along their journey
 - David
 - Bathsheba – 2 Sam. 11-12
 - Elijah fell apart but got back up – 1 King 17
 - John Mark left Paul and Barnabas when things go difficult – Acts 12:11-13, 25; 13:1-5, 13 (caused division between Paul and Barnabas – Acts 15:36-41)
 - Peter denied Christ –
 - From: Mat. 14:28-29; 16:16
 - To: Mat. 26:34-35; Mark 14:66-72

- ❖ You can look like a champion to the world and be defeated in the sight of God

- ❖ You can suffer minor defeat on your way to ultimate victory
 - Got an F in a class but still graduated

- ❖ God uses defeats to:
 - Reach us -
 - Teach us – Joshua 7:1-13
 - Prepare us – 1 Chronicles 15; 2 Sam. 6:12-14
 - Build us
 - Look at the later Peter – Luke 24:34; John 21:15-17; Acts 2:14-36

- ❖ Don't make things deeper than they are – just own it. – Psa. 51

- ❖ Don't exhaust yourself trying to win a battle and end up losing the war
 - Requires strategy – Pro. 16:1-3
 - Requires study – Pro. 9:10
 - Requires being principled – Mat. 5:1-12

- Requires dedication to the cause – 1 Sam. 17:28-30
- Require change –
 - Repentance means change – Acts 2:38
 - Conversion means change – Luke 22:32
 - Transformation means change – Rom. 12:1-2

- ❖ Everything that looks like a defeat isn't
 - Jesus being denied by men – Isa. 53-5
 - A view around David's table – Psa. 23:5
 - Joseph's journey – Gen. 50:20-21

- ❖ What about death
 - Can be a great victory or the ultimate defeat – it's up to you – John 11:25-26; 8:51; 1 Cor. 15:42-45; Psa. 49:15
 - For the believer, it's a crossover to life – John 5:24; Hos. 13:14; 1 Cor. 15:54-55
 - For the unbeliever, it's eternal destruction and damnation – 2 Thes. 1:6-10; Mark 16:16

Are You Speaking Victory?

The Power of Our Thoughts

- ❖ We should never underestimate the power of our thoughts
 - Our thoughts lead to what we establish
 - Our thoughts either paralyze faith or activate faith

- ❖ Our words are indicative of our thoughts
 - This is where the defiling takes place – Mat. 15:11

- ❖ Our actions are motivated by our thoughts
 - Stop expecting to walk in victory when all your thoughts establish defeat – Pro. 15:28; Pro. 18:21; Pro. 21:23
 - We must bring out thoughts under control –

- ❖ It is difficult to think higher when you live lower
 - Low expectations – Pro. 10:28; Acts 3:5; Eph. 3:20; Heb. 10:35-36
 - Low self-esteem because you don't know what God's thoughts are concerning you – Jer. 29:11; Phil. 4:13; Jer. 1:6-8; 1 Pet. 2:9
 - Low standards – 2 Cor. 10:12
 - Hanging out with regressive thinkers – Pro. 22:24; 1 Cor. 6:9; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 2 Tim. 2:21
 - Not going anywhere
 - Don't want you to go anywhere
 - Don't even try to honor God
 - Excuse makers

- ❖ God Wants our Thinking Aligned with Him
 - Our "form" matters – Romans 12:1-2
 - Con (with - Merriam Webster Dictionary) – conform: with the form of this world
 - suschematizo (soos-khay-mat-id'-zo) to fashion alike, conform to the same pattern; to fashion self according to
 - Trans (on or to the other side of : across : beyond – Merriam Webster Dictionary) – Transform: beyond this world
 - Not conforming requires transformation (met-am-or-fo'-o: to transfigure) but how?
 - Renewing (anakainōsis: renovating) of the mind

- ❖ Separation is not only recommended but required to grow in Christ – 2 Cor. 6:14-18

- **You may not be able to leave the place but you can leave the space – Acts 19:19; James 1:14-15; 1 Cor. 6:18; Rom. 1:21-28**
 - Running is not the solution. Embracing the challenge and speaking life is the answer
- You have to learn to take the trash out - Eph. 4:17-32 (esp. vs 27-30)

The Revolutionary Mind of Christ

- ❖ Challenges what can be done – Eph. 4:23; Mat. 14:22-33; Mark 9:23
- ❖ Challenges when it's too late – John 11:39
- ❖ Challenges what God can use us to do – 1 Cor. 15:9
- ❖ Challenges what is most important – Heb. 13:5; Col. 3:1-2
- ❖ Calls us to simply want to please God – Psa. 104:34; Psalm 40:8; Luke 22:42
- ❖ Calls for not seeing yourself like the world you live in – Rom. 12:1-2
- ❖ Calls for confrontation where fear is more convenient – Eph. 6:20; 2 Tim. 1:7
- ❖ Calls for faith that God – Heb. 11:6; Mark 11:22

How Do I Speak Victory?

- ❖ Speak to God more than I speak about the challenge – Phil. 4:6
- ❖ Step back and answer these questions -
 - What just happened
 - What am I really dealing with here
 - What does God say about it
 - What do I want to come out of this
 - What scriptures do I need to confess
- ❖ Speak it when I don't feel it – Deut. 20:1-4; Rom. 8:37
- ❖ Speak it when I can't see it – Exo. 14:13; Psa. 108:13
- ❖ Speak it because I know it – 1 Cor. 15:57