



I. GOD'S PROMISE OF VICTORY FOR ME

GOD SPECIALIZES IN:

Turning messes into miracles

Trials into triumphs

Tragedies into testimonies

And victims into victors!

Author Unknown

Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 (NLT)

II. THREE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS ABOUT REVELATION 20:1-3

1. What is the 1000 years or millennium?

- A symbolic picture of the spiritual reign of Christ

2. When does the millennium occur?

- We are living in the millennium— the time between the first and second coming of Jesus

3. How will Satan be bound in the millennium?

- Satan will be limited but not powerless
- Satan will not be able to deceive the nations as he has in the past

This "binding" happened during the earthly ministry of Jesus and symbolizes how Satan would not be able to stop the spread of the gospel

III. HOW THE CHURCH IS VICTORIOUS – REVELATION 20:4-15

1. Satan can never defeat the church (v.1-3)

Together they will go to war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will defeat them because he is Lord of all lords and King of all kings. And his called and chosen and faithful ones will be with him.”

Revelation 17:14 (NLT)

2. Christians who have died are reigning with Christ right now (v.4-6)

- **Who are the people reigning with Christ?**

To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Revelation 2:21 (NIV)

Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him.

2 Timothy 2:11-12a (NIV)

- **When are they reigning with Christ?**

There are two resurrections in scripture:

1) Spiritual

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection.

Romans 6:3-5 (NIV)

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:1-5 (NIV)

2) Physical

“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.

John 5:28-29 (NIV)

Born twice—die once
Born once—die twice

3. Satan and his forces of evil will be eternally defeated (v.7-10)

You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (NLT)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband... Then one of the seven angels who held the seven bowls containing the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come with me! I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." So he took me in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and he showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

Revelation 21:1-2,9-10 (NLT)

4. All evil will be judged and destroyed (v.11-15)

The books that will be opened:

- **The Book of Life (Psalm 69:28; Revelation 3:5; Philippians 4:3; Luke 10:20; Hebrews 12:22-23)**
- **The Bible (John 12:48)**
- **The Book of Records (Psalm 139:16)**
- **The Book of Remembrance (Psalm 56:8)**

IV. PRACTICAL TRUTHS I LEARN FROM REVELATION 20

1. Revolutionizes my view of death

2. Renews my commitment to fight the spiritual war on earth

The saddest symptom about many so-called Christians is the utter absence of anything like conflict and fight against spiritual apathy in their Christianity. They eat, they drink, they dress, they work, they amuse themselves, they get money, they spend money, they go through a brief round of formal religious services once or twice every week. But of the great spiritual warfare - its watchings and strugglings, its agonies and anxieties, its battles and contests - of all things they appear to know nothing at all. Let us take care that this case is not our own.

J. C. Ryle

3. Reorients my perspective on suffering

So we do not give up. Our physical body is becoming older and weaker, but our spirit inside us is made new every day. We have small troubles for a while now, but they are helping us gain an eternal glory that is much greater than the troubles. We set our eyes not on what we see but on what we cannot see. What we see will last only a short time, but what we cannot see will last forever.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NCV)

4. Reminds me why God delays Christ's return

But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be found to deserve judgment. Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live...

2 Peter 3:8-11a (NLT)