

140122w The Perpetual Victory Parade

Introduction:

- Tracy Elliot Reap - Photographer. Taking pictures of wildlife in Africa. She was told by her guides that “if while photographing Elephants that a leopard came out and crouched down towards her, she was not to run away. If you run away the leopard will attack and kill you. You must run at the animal. If you do it will run away.” **Application:** Believers need to understand that illustration when the adversary the devil comes crouching down towards you. We are to run at him. He is more scared of us than we know.
- *In the Messiah, in Christ, God leads us from place to place in one perpetual victory parade.* 2 Cor 2:14 Message Bible.

1. In Christ Is the Victory!

a. In Christ is the victory! Why?

i. Col 2:15 *In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.* NLT

1. disarmed - *apekdýō*. dyo means to arm. apek means exactly the opposite. “In the NT this occurs only in Col. 3:9, where it has the strong sense “fully to put off” with no possible return to the old state. Jesus disarmed spiritual rulers and authorities in high places.
2. The cross is the place of victory. “In Christ” is more than just a theology! It is to be a reality in the life of the believer.
3. To shame: *deigmatízō*. This rare word means “to exhibit,” “make public,” “bring to public notice.” In Mt. 1:19 Joseph does not want to expose Mary by having her appear publicly. In Col. 2:15 Christ makes a public exhibition of the vanquished forces, not just by proclamation, but by public display, as in a triumphal procession.¹ Ie. This is all the more reason to believe for visible, viable supernatural healings and miracles that testify of Jesus Christ and defeat the powers of darkness.

ii. In Him the promises live. 2 Cor 1:20 *For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.* NLT

b. In Him is more than a magic phrase! Acts 17:28-29 *For in him we live and move and exist. As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’²⁹ And since this is true, we shouldn’t think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone.* NLT I have to meditate on this truth until I possess it in my heart and not just my head. We have to work this like Joshua did in Joshua 1.

c. A side note of being in Him is praise! When you are truly walking in the revelation of being (in Him) you naturally are a praiser! You actually walk like you are in a perpetual victory parade. The more I know of Him the more I praise and worship. I adore Him. My adoration naturally leads me to praise Him.

i. Ps 63:1-3

ii. Ps 76:1-3 *God is honored in Judah [praise]; his name is great in Israel. ² Jerusalem [Peace] is where he lives; Mount Zion is his home. ³ There he has broken the fiery arrows of the enemy, the shields and swords and weapons of war.* NLT When we praise, God inhabit that praise and we are ‘in Him’! Firey darts get stopped, enemy swords and shields get shattered.

iii. 2 Chron 20:3, 15. The battle is God’s, when we are in Him.

2. It Is God Who Leads Us

a. The word translated triumph, literally means to be lead in triumph. Therefore it is God’s way of leading His people...in triumph! There is no other way for God to lead those who are in Christ. If you do not quit you win!!!

¹ Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.

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- b. Our topic is spiritual warfare and those who wish to enlist in the Lord's army do not want to fight this fight on your own. You want to be lead by the Spirit of God. "In Messiah, in Christ...under His leadership we go from place to place in one perpetual victory parade.
- c. We are lead by His Word.
 - i. His word is Spirit and it is Life - Jn 6:63; it is also the Sword of Spirit which is the Word of God. Eph. 6:17
 - ii. *His word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.* Ps 119:105. 1 Chron 14:8-ff. David is looking for the Lord leadership in fighting the Philistines. David speaks of God of having broken through like a wall of water. 2 Chron 20:3, 15 Jehosaphat calls on the Lord before doing battle. He ends up putting the singers in front of the army. The Ammonites and Moabites end up killing each other.
 - 1. We need the light of the Word because men love darkness because their deeds are evil. Jn 3:19
 - 2. Most horror movies happen in the darkness. Why? Because evil is associated with the darkness. Jesus throws unholy men into outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
 - iii. His word will not return void - Is. 55:11 *It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it.* NLT
 - iv. Proverbs 6:22 speaks of being lead by the word of God. David to Solomon.
- d. We are lead by God. Ps 23 The Lord is my Shepherd/He leads
 - i. nahal - to lead with care.
- e. We are lead by the Spirit. Ro 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.* NKJV see also vs 16. Sons of God gives me identity! It matters whose 'kid' you are. Zechariah 2:8 says that I am the apple of His eye.

3. I Am A Winner

- a. More than a conquerors: Romans 8:37 *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.* NKJV
 - i. conquer - hypernikao = nikao is a conquer. Put the prefix hyper in front of it and you have a hyper-conquer! More than just a conquer.
- b. The OT equivalent is Ez 3:8-9. *But look, I have made you as obstinate and hard-hearted as they are. ⁹I have made your forehead as hard as the hardest rock! So don't be afraid of them or fear their angry looks, even though they are rebels.*" NLT God is saying you are more fierce than they!
- c. He is an overcomer who believes that Jesus is the Son of God! That is the victory that has overcome the world. 1 Jn 5:4-5 *For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?* NKJV
- d. Rev 2:11 from the Message: *"Are your ears awake? Listen. Listen to the Wind Words, the Spirit blowing through the churches. Christ-conquerors are safe from Devil-death."* Message
- e. *But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory [making us conquerors] through our Lord Jesus Christ.* Amplified Bible 2 Cor 15:57
- f. It is God trains our hands for war. see Ps 144:1
 - i. Note that it is God who trains
 - ii. Note that it is in the high tower from which we fight. He is the One in whom we take refuge!