

ALWAYS TRIUMPH

Prophet Russ Walden

www.propheticnow.com

God Wants You to Overcome:

[2Co 2:14 KJV] 14 Now thanks [be] unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of his knowledge by us in every place.

In our opening text of 2 Corinthians 2:14 Paul makes a statement that on its face is inconsistent with Christian teaching in the modern day:

[2Co 2:14 KJV] 14 Now thanks [be] unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of his knowledge by us in every place.

Do you know anyone whose testimony is that they always triumph? If Jesus intends for us always to triumph how come we can't find anyone who actually does? Have you ever heard preaching about God teaching you through failure? If God intends for us to triumph yet teaches us through failure, then He must have intended for believers to remain in ignorance if 2 Cor. 2:14 is true that He always wants you to triumph. What is the discrepancy here?

How does God Intend that We Learn?

There is much Christian teaching purporting that God teaches you through tribulation and suffering. Wait a minute - doesn't the Bible teach that the Holy Spirit was the Teacher? The answer might be that sometimes the Holy Spirit teaches us and sometimes it is God's will to teach us through other means such as suffering, failure, downturn or some other negative experience. Is this true? We tend to believe this because we want our struggles and heartbreaks to count for

something; therefore, we conclude that God was in the negative situation we went through because He was teaching us some lesson. If God indeed (as many allege) is teaching us through some suffering while other suffering originates as the work of Satan against us. How do we know which suffering to endure as God lovingly teaches us and which suffering, we should mount resistance to so the devil will flee from us according to James 4:7 (Resist the devil and he will flee)?

The Holy Spirit is the Teacher:

If we are going to teach you something about prevailing in Christ, we have to address these doctrines common in Christianity that sometimes God's intent is that you suffer and fail in order for something of God's character to be perfected in you or to teach you something. Consider the following verses as an illumination regarding how God teaches:

John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

If the Holy Spirit teaches you ALL THINGS then what is left over for us to learn through suffering, sickness, heartbreak or failure?

Nehemiah 9:20 You gave Your good Spirit to instruct them, Your manna You did not withhold from their mouth, And You gave them water for their thirst.

Notice even under the Old Covenant the Old Testament saints were taught to expect the Holy Spirit to teach them all the while having the experience that God did not withhold from them in any way. Christian teaching, however, is that God WILL withhold from you in order to teach you something. Does this mean that the Old Testament saints experienced a level of blessing that was removed from us in the New, allegedly better covenant?

1 John 2:27 As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.

In this verse above John makes the point that there is no need for any other teacher than the Holy Spirit and that when the Holy Spirit does teach you – He will teach you all things leaving nothing out. What can we conclude then? When suffering comes, we are in error to think that God is attempting to teach us something. You may safely resist the devil and see him flee from you when life tries to put on you what the Cross is intended to take off of you (including sickness, poverty, calamity, disease, etc.). You must get this down on the inside of you, or you will never have the clarity to know whether to submit to a trial allegedly coming from God or resist a trial used by the enemy that if you oppose him, he will flee.

What Does it Mean to Prevail in Christ?

What is the definition of the word “prevail?” If we are going to do it or experience it, we should know what it actually means. The word prevail is a Latin compound word meaning to “prove something or someone more powerful than opposing forces...” It comes from two words in Latin meaning to “have power before.” In other words, when you prevail in Christ, you meet the enemy attempting to enter your life with the power of God and turn Him back before he has the opportunity to do you damage. My wife Kitty makes the statement “we pray before we get in trouble.” That is what prevailing is all about. It isn’t about going and getting some power from God after the trouble comes but meeting the enemy with the power of God already inherent in your life in Christ and turning him back at the gate.

It is God's Will that We ALWAYS Prevail:

Is it God’s promise that we prevail? Let us look again at our opening verse:

[2Co 2:14 KJV] 14 Now thanks [be] unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of his knowledge by us in every place.

God is on the inside of you is with the intent to ALWAYS cause you to triumph. Not sometimes or occasionally but always and in every place. On the mountaintop, He wants you to triumph. In the valley of despair, He wants you to triumph. The word

triumph here means “to make noise in victory...” It was initially the name of a hymn sung by pagans in a yearly procession in honor of Bacchus, the Greek god of wine. That is interesting because wine in the New Testament is a metaphor of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Paul is making a direct connection between noisy triumph and the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life.

Prevailing Believers are Noisy Believers:

Are You in Trouble? Time to get Noisy!

When is the last time you confronted the enemy and gave him an obnoxious, noisy reply? What is your response when trouble looms near? Do you start wringing your hands, looking around for help? Or do you get noisy?

“Devil - Is that ALL you’ve got?”

Or as David when he faced Goliath:

[1Sa 17:26 KJV] 26 ...for who [is] this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

When David faced Goliath, he spoke with audacity and forcefulness as you should likewise when you are facing trouble:

[1Sa 17:45-47 KJV] 45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle [is] the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

God wants you to get noisy and to get bold in the face of challenge. Many times, we falter and suffer defeat because we surrender to despair before the first volley was fired. Get noisy when Satan attacks your life!

Where Does Your Authority Come From?

Jesus made an encompassing statement to His disciples in Luke chapter 10:

[Luk 10:19 KJV] 19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Did you see what was said there? NOTHING shall by ANY MEANS hurt you. He left no room for any thoughts of “unless God wants you to learn something...” Notice also that nothing shall by any means hurt you not because of something God would do for you but because of something Jesus gave to you. This is important because many times we get in trouble, and we look up waiting for God to do something while the enemy pillages our life.

Did you know that sometimes sheep will stand and look up into a rainstorm and actually drown unless the shepherd comes and gets them? Don't be a dumb sheep. Do you want to have the experience in life that NOTHING shall by ANY MEANS hurt you? Then take what Jesus gave you in Luke 10:19 and act on what He gave you in Luke 10:19 and see what happens next.

Conclusion:

What are we to take away from what Jesus said in Luke? He gave us POWER. That is an interesting word. If we are going to have what Jesus gave us, we better understand what it is.

There are two words for power Jesus used in His teachings. One word was *dunamis* meaning raw power, and the other was *exousia* meaning influence or privilege. In Luke 10:19 the word used is *exousia* meaning influence or privilege.

When you are moving in the DUNAMIS of God, it is a raw and powerful experience like putting your hand in a 220-volt power line and getting an 8.9 on the Richter scale experience in God. This isn't what Jesus is talking about in Luke 10:19. The word *exousia* in Luke 10:19 has no emotional quotient to it. It is merely Jesus giving you authority and jurisdiction over anything that might hurt or harm you. It is like

having a license to drive. Your license gives you EXOUSIA or privilege to drive regardless of your emotional condition at the time.

Your driver's license works for you whether you feel like it or not. The authority you have in God is like that. You may not feel like driving, but you have the privilege to drive whether you are excited about it or not. You merely act on the privilege your license gives you and get in your car and go. Can you imagine psyching yourself up every morning before you get in your car to drive to work? We know that isn't necessary. We need to know that God's power works just like that. Psyching yourself up or working up some emotional state is not faith it is actually a manifestation of fear.

That is another thing about exousia. Like your driver's license, it takes you somewhere. Where do you want to go in God? The power of God that the Holy Spirit gives you will take you there. When Jesus was baptized in water, the Holy Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. Why? Because that is where the devil was.

Where does power that God gives come from? From Jesus. Where did He get this power? Where did Jesus get the power to do what he did? When Jesus healed blind eyes, cast out devils, or healed the lame have you noticed He was always undoing something that Satan did first? This tells us something about where He got His power. Where did He get His power?

[Rom 1:4 KJV] 4 And declared [to be] the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Jesus got His power from the Holy Ghost. He was declared to be the son of God by the indwelling of the Holy Ghost in His life. That word declared is a surveying term for when a surveyor declares a piece of ground and its boundaries. Jesus didn't stake out His territory based on his virgin birth or his sinless life. Jesus' virgin birth never worked a miracle. Jesus' sinlessness never worked one miracle. Why? Because if Jesus miracles came from His sinlessness or virgin birth that power could never be made available to you and I. Jesus limited Himself to only exercising power by the Holy Spirit that He then gave to you and me. This is why He didn't work any miracles during the first 30 years of His life. It was only once the Holy

Spirit came upon Him at His baptism that He began to work miracles by the same Holy Spirit that He then imparted to you and me to do the same things.