

## Victory in Jesus; 1 John 5:4-5

- I. The Old, Old Story
  - a. "I heard and old, old story"
  - b. This truly is the old story; 'beginning of time' old
    - i. Even before the beginning of time
    - ii. Ephesians 1:3–4 (ESV) <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love
  - c. And while we are focusing on the 'victory' we cannot forget that it is only because of God's love that we have this victory
- II. Repent
  - a. "Then I repented of my sins and won the victory"
  - b. Luke 5:31–32 (ESV) <sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."
  - c. I have often talked about the definition of repentance; not only stopping what you are doing, but also doing the opposite
    - i. A change of mind', also with the nuance of 'remorse' (as regret for shortcomings and errors <sup>1</sup>
    - ii. I have often counseled those who have issues with addiction that until you want to change, you won't
    - iii. Until we 'change our mind' about sin, we will continue in it
    - iv. Until we have remorse for sin, we will continue to be trapped in it
    - v. Until we have regret for sin, we will continue to be enslaved to it
    - vi. Acts 20:20–21 (ESV) <sup>20</sup> how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, <sup>21</sup> testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
  - d. Repentance (changing you mind about God, about sin) is so important
    - i. Repentance gives us victory!
    - ii. Luke 15:7 (ESV) <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
    - iii. Acts 17:29–30 (ESV) <sup>29</sup> Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,
    - iv. Luke 13:1–5 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> William Arndt et al., [\*A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature\*](#) (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 640.

And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

e. “Victory in Jesus, my Savior forever”

### III. Healing

a. “I heard about His healing, of His cleansing power revealing”

b. Make no mistake, we all need healing

- i. We have all sinned, but the good news is that we are justified by the Grace of God through Jesus’ sacrifice (Romans 3:23)
- ii. We all deserve death (which is what sin brings to us), but God offers us eternal life in Jesus (Romans 6:23)

c. This healing, this cleansing comes from the precious blood of Jesus, “of His precious blood’s atoning”

- i. Leviticus 17:11 (ESV) <sup>11</sup> For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.
- ii. In Genesis 15, God ‘cut’ a covenant with Abraham
- iii. Genesis 15:17–18 (ESV) <sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,
- iv. Ephesians 2:13 (ESV) <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- v. 1 John 1:7–10 (ESV) <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

d. Jesus’ blood washes our sins away!

- i. “He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood”
- ii. Colossians 2:11–13 (ESV) <sup>11</sup> In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,
- iii. Our immersion (plunged me to victory) is our cleansing (beneath the cleansing flood)

- iv. As we are buried under the water we call out through faith in the powerful working of God
- v. 1 Peter 3:21 (ESV) <sup>21</sup> Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
- vi. If it is not through faith, then it is nothing more than a bath!
- e. Every time someone is immersed into Christ, we witness this victory!

IV. Victory in Jesus

- a. “My Savior forever, He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood”
- b. Are you victorious (or are you mired in your sins)?
- c. You can only receive the Victory by the atoning blood of Jesus
- d. Take the plunge (to victory)!