

# LIVING VICTORIOUSLY

## 2 CORINTHIANS 2:14-17

The resurrection is foundational to the Christian Faith. Paul taught on the resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15. In that chapter he gave us several realities if Christ did not rise from the dead.

- 1) Christ would be a liar because He prophesized many times that He would rise from the dead on the third day, 15:13.
- 2) Our Preaching would be pointless and powerless. We would be preaching a lie that would help no one, 15:14.
- 3) Our Faith would be Futile. There would be no justification by faith, no appropriation of his life by faith, no fruit of the Spirit, 15:14.
- 4) Our Testimony would be tainted and useless. Founded on a lie, it would lack validity and power, 15:15-16.
- 5) Our Sin would still be sovereign and ruling and ruining our lives, 15:17.
- 6) Death would still hold dominion over us, 15:18.
- 7) Our Future would be Fearful, because our hope of eternal life with God is gone, 15:19.

### 1. WE ARE PARTICIPANTS IN HIS VICTORY, 14A.

#### A. The Means of His Victory.

*“Now thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ...”*

*“When you were dead in your transgressions and the*



*uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.” (Colossians 2:13–15)*

**B. The Meaning of His Triumph.**

*“...who always leads us in triumph in Christ...”*

*“but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.”*

*(1 Corinthians 15:57–58)*

**C. The Music because of His Triumph.**

*“Now thanks be to God...”*

*“But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.” (Romans 6:17–18)*

*“He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; Many will see and fear And will trust in the LORD.” (Psalm 40:3)*

**2. WE ARE PERFUME OF HIS VICTORY, VS. 14B-16.**

**A. Gladdens the heart of God, vs. 14b-15a.**

*“...and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place. For we are a fragrance of Christ to God....”*

**B. Quickens the heart of the Godly, vs. 15a, 16b.**



*“...and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place. For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing; to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life...”*

**C. Deadens or Condemns the heart of the Godless, vs. 15b-16a.**

*“...and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place. For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing; to the one an aroma from death to death, to the other an aroma from life to life...”*

**3. WE ARE TO BE PROCLAIMERS OF HIS VICTORY, VS. 17.**

**A. We proclaim the Gospel with Sincerity, vs. 17a.**

*“For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity...”*

**B. We proclaim the Gospel with Authority, vs. 17b.**

*“For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God...”*

*“THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.” (Luke 4:18–19)*

*“When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.” (Matthew 7:28–29)*

**C. We proclaim the Gospel Powerfully, vs. 17c.**



*“For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ...”*

*“And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.”*  
(1 Corinthians 2:1–5)

#### **D. We Proclaim the Gospel in Accountability, vs. 17d.**

*“For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.”*

#### **MY RESPONSE:**

1. Are you living triumphant in Christ right now? Is your focus truly on Christ’s conquering power through the resurrection. Remember, He *“Always leads us in triumph.”*
2. How’s your fragrance? Are you wearing “my sin” or “my Savior” these days? Christ has an unmistakable fragrance, and you can smell it on someone who is genuinely Christlike. Unfortunately, there is a fragrance of the flesh and death that is just as obvious and offensive.
3. Do you sincerely model authenticity when sharing the gospel? Is being real one of your goals? Authenticity is coming to grips with who you are and being transparent about what your life is like beneath the polished exterior. It is painful to be real, but that is why we impact others most deeply.

**Answers:** PARTICIPANTS, Means, Meaning, Music; PERFUME, Gladdens, Quickens, Deadens, Condemns; PROCLAIMERS, Sincerity, Authority, Powerfully, Accountability.

