

"YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH" . . . John 8:32

Christian Voice

How To Live A Victorious Christian Life

Peace

JAMES FARHAM

A young football player was walking down Main Street one day. Tidy he was kicking everything in his path. His foot hit a small weather-worn pouch. He sacrificed only a glance since he was going to play ball. The game seemed to be all that mattered to him. Just as he turned the corner, he thought again of the leather pouch. Quickly his feet led him back to the spot where he had kicked the leather. A second look showed him that it was a change purse. When he opened the pouch, to his surprise, there was a thousand dollar bill.

Great riches are often to be found in a second look. Therefore, take a look at these words that are so familiar to your eyes. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Sophomores, you have spent nearly eighteen months here. Freshmen, you have been here almost nine months. Could it be that you haven't taken that second look? Look once again at the opportunities that you have had to make the greatest decision of your life. Surely you have looked many times at education. You have taken a second look at the football field, at the basketball court, at the baseball field, at the student center, and all the good times in life. But have you taken that second look at the opportunities in morning watch, in Sunday prayer meeting, in assemblies, in the student revival, and in Christian fellowship. Have you taken a second look at that radiant Christian who has by his life shown you there is something greater in living?

As a friend who loves you, I beg of you to take a second look at the riches that are found in Christ as he has been magnified here on this campus.

By WRAY HILL

One of the problems facing Christians the world over is "how may I be victorious in my Christian living?"

I propose an answer to that problem: (1) put first things first. The divine order of importance should be observed, namely: God, first, others, second, and self, last. (2) The person must have a vital experience with the Lord. The order of events must be straight. It should be facts, faith and feeding. Many times people depend upon feeling of salvation instead of faith. What are the facts? The facts necessary for salvation are: realization of need for salvation, seeing one as he is; a sinner condemned to die, hearing the gospel story of the Saviour who has come to redeem man, accepting Christ as Savior by faith. (3) After salvation a Christian should be flexible in the hands of God. He should pray and live the life of obedience. "Thy will and not my will be done." (4) Let Christ through the Holy Spirit make you like himself. This process is called sanctification by the theologians. It consists of pruning, crushing, smashing, chastising and filling the believer. Christ must take away all things in our lives that are not pleasing in his sight. The work of the Holy Spirit is not only to cleanse and empty the believer of evil but to abide and dwell in him. All the believer has to do is to let God's "axe" fall where it will and be clay in the hands of the potter. (5) The Christian must learn and accept that good works do not produce salvation but are a product of it. Man in his vileness has no good except that which God has placed in him. Likewise the Christian cannot have good works unless the Holy Spirit works them through him. (6) The Christian should be a tool in God's hands. He must use what God has given him and be willing to be used by God. (7) In dealing with people the Christian should always consider the good of the group instead of selfish interest as long as the will of the group is in the right direction. The Christian should be ready always to do service for others. He should not; however, violate the set of principles and conviction that he has and be carried by the group to questionable places and deeds. (8) The Christian should be attentive, wide awake, and "on his toes" to the call of God and do all that he can to supply those needs as God gives him strength. (9) Words that can be used by faith. "For whosoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God . . . overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." (1 John 5:1-5:10). Faith which its course will lead the Christian in the proper channels of relationship with God. Faith is increased as God illuminates the believer, and as he exercises what faith he has. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein (in the gospel) is the righteousness of God revealed from faith: as it is written, the just shall live by faith." (Romans 16-17).

Therefore the secret of a victorious life for a Christian is in faith. Faith is the characteristic which reveals that the Christian believes God, obeys him, and accepts his word as valid and puts what God reveals to him into practice.

JANET ENGLAND

Two artists were given paints and were asked to put on canvases their interpretation of peace. When the pictures were finished they were hung side by side in the gallery. The first is a lovely cottage, sheltered by the cloudless, blue sky. The sun almost touches the mountains in the background giving them a golden halo. A brook that runs slowly by the cottage seems to flow from nowhere giving the whole picture the look of contentment.

In the second painting the skies are dark and thunder-clouds hover over the earth. Lightning streaks and the rain falls giving us the feeling of turmoil and confusion. Peace? How can this picture portray peace? But wait! We look more closely at the picture and we see a white dove perched under the big rock cliff. It looks content and safe from all the dangers of the storm.

Yes, this is the kind of peace you and I experience when we are sheltered in the love of Jesus Christ. Each of us has our own troubles and heartaches but we all can find refuge in our Savior. We, as the little dove, are safe.

Days are passing swiftly and the end of this school year is almost here. Still, there are those on our campus that have not experienced this "peace that passeth all understanding" in their hearts. It's here and it's yours and mine only for the asking.

Oh, the peace that Jesus gives—
Never dies, it always lives—
Like the music of a psalm,
Like the glad eternal calm,
Is the peace that Jesus gives.

Social Highlights

M. STONE

Hello Christian friends. Here I am again with some news on what the Christians on our campus are doing in their social lives.

Lets look in on the social that Mr. Morrisset's Sunday School class gave on Saturday, March 28. Around thirty students piled into a large truck and left our campus at five o'clock that afternoon. They then proceeded to Brackett's Fish Camp which is just a few miles from here. When reaching their destination, all of the students got involved in a softball game. The game was called off after three innings because it proved to be a little too cool for this outdoor game. It was time to eat anyway, so they made their way inside to the tables. The hungry athletes had their choice between chicken or fish. It was a hard choice because both specialties looked too good to pass up. After all had completed this meal, they gathered around the fire place. With full stomachs but happy hearts, they managed to play a few games and sing a couple of songs before departure time.

Now, as if this wasn't enough to complete an evening, it was decided that they should go skating before calling it quits. Finally, when they grew tired of picking each other off of the floor, our adventurous little students returned to the campus. The next day I asked one of the students if he had a good time. His answer was: "I'm a little full in one place and a little sore in another but all-in-all I had a wonderful time."

That's about it for now, Christians: I'll be seeing you around.

The Touch Of Spring

NADA HESTER

"This is my Father's world"—how conscious we are of this truth as springtime, with all its freshness and beauty, magnifies its Creator, Spring. That little six-letter word embraces so much. Some people define Spring merely as another season of the year; others say Spring is the time when a young man's thoughts turn to what the girls have been thinking of all winter. In reality spring is a time of life—a time when the seed which has been lying dormant thru the winter, bursts forth in a blossom pure and fragrant. This plant life embodies the handwork that only a Master could perform.

Is the power for such performance limited to plant life? Is not God, the Creator of all life, able to perform such artistry upon mankind?

God is still the same God that took a warped and destructive life and made it into a flaming missionary in the person of Paul.

And, if we so desire, God can make our lives over into a flaming missionary. Love that true beauty. As we delight in springtime, let us pray this little prayer:

"God, who touchest earth with beauty,
Make me lovely, too.
With Thy Spirit re-create me,
Make my life anew."