

Prophet's Column

"Victory In Christ"

By J.M. Little
Special To The Post
"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 15:57). All that I have as a believer is wrapped up in a Person. And that Person is the Lord, Himself. I have the victory over the guilt and penalty of sin because Christ died for me. There way no way I could obtain the victory over eternal punishment but by His Substitutionary work for me. Without His Substitutionary work on my behalf, I would have to pay for my own sins forever and forever throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. Just think seriously about it: if Christ had not died for me I'd be doomed to spend eternity in the Lake of Fire cut off from Christ. God is going to punish sin. Either your sin debt will be paid for in Christ, or it has to be paid by you. If your sin debt were not paid for by Christ, then Hell is your doom. It's just that simple.

Let me ask you a personal question: what does the death of Christ mean to you? Have you ever seen that Christ died for you? Now you may answer like practically 100 percent of our church members when they are asked that question: "Christ died for everyone." Alright, let me reason with you just a little; if the Lord Jesus Christ died for everyone as you say, why did He say in John 17:9, "I pray for them: I PRAY NOT FOR THE WORLD, BUT FOR THEM WHICH THOU HAST GIVEN ME; for they are thine." How are you going to reconcile that prayer of the Lord with your teaching that Christ died for everyone? Since the Lord didn't pray for the world, how are you going to make Him die for them? No soul on a religious profession without Christ can understand the great and high priestly prayer of the Lord here in John 17. You teach that Christ died for everyone and right here we have the Lord telling the Father that He was not praying for the world. How contrary can religious folks go! Now an unsaved soul will jump up and say: "Bro. Little, what about John 3:16?" Alright, let's read it: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Now, you will say: "Bro. Little, doesn't that contradict you teaching that Christ did not die for everyone?" No, let me rightly divide the Word of truth. First, you cannot teach that one Scripture contradicts another. Let me show you what you are failing to see; the word "world" is used over 300 times in the New Testament. It is used some 26 times in the 17th chapter of John. On at least 30 different occasions that the word "world" is used, it has a different meaning. Let's look at some examples: John 15:18 "If the world hate you, ye



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know that it hated me before it hated you." The word "world" there means the world of unbelievers and Christ haters. John 17:12, "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name." The word "world" there means the earth and its environment. Then in I John 2:15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." The word "world" there means "world orders" or "systems." Then again in I John 3:13, "Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you." There again the word "world" means those who hate the Lord. I could go on

giving you passage after passage to show that the word "world" has many different meanings in the Word of God. But unless the Holy Spirit quickens or awakens you (Eph. 2:1), you'll never see anything but your "easy-believingism" that Christ died for everyone. The Christ of the average pulpit is a little disappointed, tin soldier watching men and women reject him and go to Hell because they won't choose him.

But the Christ I know is Sovereign and calling out and saving His elect whom He died for and not one will hate the Lord. I could go on

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