

SURRENDERING YOUR WILL

WK4: Surrender becomes Victory: Victory in Jesus

II Peter 3

04.27.25 | Pastor Randy

SERMON NOTES:

- Eugene Bartlett, Sr. wrote Victory in Jesus after being paralyzed from a stroke and two years before his death:
*I heard about His healing, of His cleansing power revealing
How He made the lame to walk again and 'caused the blind to see
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit"
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory*
- People continue to dismiss the Lord's return and seek to encourage others to live in the flesh and deny the Spirit
- Celebrating Easter last Sunday MUST be followed by surrendering your life to JESUS EVERY DAY, not just on holidays! II Peter 3:18
- 1. Grow in Knowledge of Scriptures: The Word gives you victory through TRUTH
 - a. The Old and New Testaments are true and provide promises to hold fast to and follow, II Peter 3:2
 - b. Creation is proof of God's authority: Only the Creator can determine the future of the creation, II Peter 3:5
 - c. The flood is precedence for the fire of judgement: No flood means no judgement, II Peter 3:6-7
 - d. Don't twist Scriptures to match your sin, twist your sin to surrender to Scriptures, II Peter 3:16
- 2. Grace in following: Grace balanced with Truth demonstrates your victory in following TRUTH
 - a. The Lord is gracious and long-suffering in His dealing with humanity; therefore, you should be, too! II Peter 3:9
 - b. A new heaven and new earth are demonstrations of God's grace; If there isn't redemption for our circumstances, what value is there in our redemption? II Peter 3:13
- 3. Glory in exalting the name and kingdom of God: Living like a resident of heaven now provides victory over the darkness of the current kingdom
 - a. A life of holiness and godliness is the greatest way to exalt God; your surrender is a sweet savor to your God! II Peter 3:11
 - b. A surrendered life to God's holiness brings peace; Peace is the greatest victory! II Peter 3:14
- What would it look like if we confidently followed JESUS today upon the authority of His Word and were watching the times for JESUS' return? Peter knew the difference, do you?

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GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Read II Peter 1:16-21; II Peter 3:1-7; II Timothy 3:16-17; John 1:1; Matthew 5:17. How important is the Old Testament in comparison to the New Testament? What was Jesus' role in relating the two testaments? How does the OT help us today in understanding the NT? What are some things we need to remember in OT concerning Israel versus the Church?
2. Peter wrote this second letter near his death in 64AD. As you read this chapter, how does it differ from some of his actions in the Gospels? How do you see it confirmed in the book of Acts (1-12)? From his final writing, do you see any evidence that Peter believed he was the "pope" of the church? Why is there heresy in believing that teaching? How does it take away from Jesus?
3. Read Genesis 1; Genesis 6-7; II Peter 3:1-13; Revelation 20-21. How does your belief in the flood and creation affect your belief in the judgement of God? If you can dismiss certain parts of the Bible, then you can dismiss others. The phrase in verse 16 "twist to their own destruction" has as the root the idea of strapping someone on a torture table until they say what you want them to say. How is this practiced today? What's a verse that is often "twisted" to match man's morality (or lack thereof) today?
4. Read Psalm 90:4; II Peter 3:8-10. How does the Lord's timing relate to ours? Is He governed by time like we are or does He govern time like we should? Explain. How does Ephesians 5:16 affect this passage? When God doesn't answer your prayer tomorrow, does that mean that He never will?
5. Read II Peter 3:14-16; Acts 15:25; I Corinthians 3:10; Galatians 2:11-15. Paul had called Peter out publicly for his "hypocrisy" concerning Gentiles with Jews; however, Peter is respectful to Paul when referring to him. In order for unity to exist, truth must be foundational. How can the Church today exist in unity while also pursuing truth?
6. Read I Thessalonians 5:1-4; Zechariah 14:1-8; Joel 2:30-32; Amos 5:18-20; Revelation 16:15-16; Matthew 24:29-48; Revelation 19:11-21; Acts 2:19-20; II Peter 3:10. Describe the events and significance of the Day of the LORD. How does it compare to the fact that the apostles called Sunday the LORD's day (Acts 20:7; Revelation 1:10)? How should this day affect our living today?