

Victory Of The Cross

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost" (St. John 19:30).

*"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, **and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.** Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth: and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:5-11).*

We understand, true self-abasement is **to be obedient with all the heart to the voice of God, the Word of God.** Only the Word attributes can submit to all the Word of God. The way up goes down!

"And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted" (Matthew 23:12).

Through Jesus' death at the cross the devil was made to nothing, to naught. A stop was put to his game. Satan is no more than bluffing or deceiving. **Legally he has no more power over the children of God, the seed of Abraham,** and no more claim to us. This can we say, too, when JESUS CHRIST is living in us (Romans 8:9), or when we are in Christ Jesus (I Corinthians 1:30-31), who says about Himself, *"... for the prince of this world... hath nothing in me" (St. John 14:30).*

This way it is also with the redeemed, for Satan has no more entrance to the heart of our soul. God's Word says in Hebrews 2:14-16,

*"...that **through death he might destroy him** that had the power of death, **that is, the devil;** and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed, he does not give aid to angels, but he does give aid to the seed of Abraham."*

But God be thanked, that we were the servants of sin, but being then free from sin, we became servants of righteousness (Romans 6:15-19). **Jesus has conquered the devil, death, and hell**, and says,

"Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death" (Revelation 1:17-18).

Jesus has the key of David "that opens, and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man opens" (Revelation 3:7 and Isaiah 22:22).

Jesus came to destroy and annihilate the works of the devil (I John 3:8). This happened at the cross of Calvary. He accomplished it. And to the true believers, this inheritance will be given freely. It is, and will be, bound to faith (Romans 4:16).

At the cross, Jesus conquered:

- v the thrones (the devil - Isaiah 14:12-14),
- v the dominions (Psalms 22:13-22),
- v the principalities (= supernatural powers). See also Daniel 10:13, how the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood the angel Gabriel;
- v the powers (demons and unclean spirits),
- v the rulers of this darkness,
- v the spiritual wickedness in high places.

He - JESUS CHRIST - created all things that are in heaven and in earth, both the visible and the invisible things, whether it be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers. All things are created by Him and for Him.

And He is before all things - He triumphed over all these forces and powers (also powers of sickness) at the cross of Calvary (Col. 1:16-17).

This way He was set over every power, every dominion, and over every name (Eph. 6:10-12; Eph. 1:19-23). He totally disarmed the dark forces, and subjected them under His feet (His body)!

The devil and his subjects are disarmed for the true believers that are and abide in Christ Jesus (John 15:5). They have no more weapons. Only with the weapons that the sons of God let him have through unbelief, the devil is able to defeat them. For sin is, because they do not believe on Me, said our Lord Jesus (John 16:9).

After Jesus totally disarmed and exposed the principalities and powers, He put them on show openly, triumphing over them by the cross (Col. 2:13-15).

The cross declares that God's work of redemption is finished. The redeemable family of God - the sons and daughters of God - have been redeemed, made whole and set free (John 19:25-30). Redemption means ransom: A ransomed person is a delivered person. Redemption means to return to the original state where you once have been, back into the garden of Eden.

What happened therefore at the cross of Calvary?

Think of it: Our faith is the victory! (I John 5:4).

- JESUS redeemed and released the faith seed of Abraham from the bondage and dependence of Satan, from the slavery of sin, and delivered us from the fear of death; Romans 6:17-18; Hebrews 2:14-15 even as JESUS delivered the saints of the Old Testament from the prison of death, of Hades, and brought them with Him to glory. Ephesians 4:7-8
- JESUS forgave our sins, and for never more He will remember our sins (Jeremiah 31:34; Isaiah 43:25). In Him we have forgiveness of our trespasses through His blood. This causes a release and liberation with all those that accept His Word - Himself. Colossians 1:14; Ephesians 1:7; Revelation 1:5-6
- JESUS purged our conscience from dead, evil works, and from all the desire after sin. I John 1:7; Hebrews 9:11-14; Hebrews 10:1-2
- JESUS ransomed and redeemed us with His precious blood from the curse, from the punishment of the Law, in having become a curse for us, so that the blessing of Abraham in Christ Jesus would come to the nations, and we should receive the promise of the Spirit by faith. Galatians 3:13-14; I Peter 1:18-19; Matthew 5:17-48; Romans 8:3-4
- JESUS perfectly fulfilled the Law of God for us, so that the right (the just demand of the Law) was fulfilled in us which don't walk after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1-4; Matthew 5:17-48; Galatians 6:2; I Corinthians 9:21
- JESUS paid the price (the consequence), that is **the penalty** for our sin. We all have sinned, and were therefore submitted to death. Only One (one man) never sinned, and He could therefore pay the price for us in our stead. This was God Himself in His Son. For He by the grace of God tasted death for everybody (Heb. 2:9), the sentence is served. We are free! Death means separation from God. He has suffered in our stead that terrible separation from the Father when He exclaimed: *"My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Mat. 27:46)*. He, the sinless man, was hanging there like a godless man, like the meanest sinner, so that we may see, He would never fail nor forsake us. Isaiah 53:6; Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23; Heb. 13:5-6; Rom. 8:38-39

The Bible says: The chastisement of our peace was upon Him! What was the chastisement, the penalty? - His bitter suffering and dying! Jesus took our judgement on Him - the wrath of God poured over Him, until He tasted death in our stead. The Bible says: Death is the wages of sin. Jesus has paid the high price for us! What was the price? - The precious, worthy blood of an undefiled Lamb. It was God's Own Blood; Jesus as the Lamb of God shed His holy, divine blood - God as a Lamb (John 1:29). God Himself was in Christ, and reconciled the world with Himself! Jesus was made sin for us (II Cor. 5:18-21).

In the Old Testament the price was the blood of an innocent animal, yet there was no redemption or deliverance by that, but only a covering of the committed guilt (Heb. 9:12-14; I Peter 2:22-24; Ezekiel 18:20). But Jesus has tasted death for everybody (Heb. 2:9). By His death Jesus has destroyed death itself, and has brought life and incorruption into light for His family (II Tim. 1:10).

No-one was worthy, no-one could pay the price, for all have sinned and owed death - only Jesus was the sinless Lamb of God, and He was found worthy (Rev. 5:1-6).

JESUS reconciled us with the Father, making peace through the blood of His cross. II Corinthians 5:19; I John 2:2; Col. 1:19-20; Eph. 2:13-17

JESUS paid off our debt. Our handwriting of ordinances which was a barrier for our salvation, was nailed to the cross and blotted out, that means made invalid. Now we are no longer debtors but creditors, owners of the richness and properties of God. By the sealing of the Holy Ghost we already did receive the down payment, the deposit of our heavenly heritage.

Colossians 2:13-15; Ephesians 1:13-14; II Corinthians 1:20-22

JESUS justified us through His divine blood and by His Spirit (by His life). He who did not know sin, was made sin for us, so that we might be made God's righteousness in Him.

I Corinthians 6:11; Romans 5:9-10; II Corinthians 5:21

JESUS through His Own Blood prepared the way for us, so that we could follow after Him on the royal avenue, and enter into the sanctuary. Philippians 4:13; Hebrews 10:19-22; Isaiah 35:8-10

JESUS sanctified us by His Blood.

Hebrews 10:10,14; Hebrews 13:12

- JESUS brought us back to the family of God, and adopted us as sons and daughters of God by His blood.
Galatians 4:1-7; Romans 8:15
- JESUS at the cross brought back the unity between God and man. God Himself dwells by His Spirit in human beings which are born again from above. God Himself wanted to return to the heart of man. This happened at Pentecost: God as a Pillar of Fire divided Himself into fiery tongues among His church and took habitation in them.
Romans 6:1-11; John 17:22-26; I Corinthians 6:19-20; Acts 2:1-4
- JESUS by His blood at the cross made a new, better covenant (New Testament) with His family.
Hebrews 12:25; Matthew 26:28; Heb. 10:11-22; Heb. 13:20-21
- JESUS healed us of our diseases, sufferings and sorrows.
Isaiah 53:4-5; I Peter 2:24
- JESUS bore our grieves. Isaiah 53:4
- JESUS by His sacrifice perfected us for ever. Hebrews 10:14
- JESUS saved us from the wrath to come, because God's wrath was carried out on Him in our stead. I Thessalonians 1:10; Isaiah 63:1-3
- JESUS delivered us, acquitted us from judgement, because His Word-body was already judged on Calvary. Therefore, all those which accept all of His revealed Word are free from judgement. HE has set us free from the power and strength of sin and of death (Romans 6:6-8). Therefore there is no more condemnation for them that are, and remain, in Christ Jesus. He broke the power of sin (of unbelief). Thus your sin, if you confess it, will also be broken on the basis of the blood of Jesus Christ. Romans 8:1-2; John 5:24.
- JESUS gave us His wonderful, glorious life - eternal life. The blood-cell of God was broken on Calvary, and His divine life, His blood, was given to the true believers by His Spirit, the Holy Spirit.
John 11:25-26; John 3,16; John 5:24
- JESUS through His death at the cross made us heirs of God, and His joint heirs. Through the death of the testator, the testament is now fully in force. Hebrews 9:15-18; Romans 8:17; Galatians 4:1-9

Through the cross of Christ, our old man, also called our old (first) husband (Romans 7:1-6), is crucified with Him. Our old denominational husband (also the worldly nature) died, and we are married again with Jesus Christ Himself.

Therefore Apostle Paul could exclaim,

"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world" (Galatians 6:14).

Only those which were in Christ, and therefore have been baptized into His body (I Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:19), have by grace got part at this redemption blessings. There all of the redeemable children of man are contained (Eph. 1:3-4).

Now, what remains for us to do? - Confess always the victory of the cross with your own lips. Confessing means, to say the same what the Bible says. Jesus Christ is the high priest, the advocate of His own Word. Therefore we want to hold to that victorious Word- (Rock-) confession by the utterance of our own lips (Heb. 4:14-16). These redemption blessings we will receive by accepting them by faith, then confessing them, and act and react accordingly. Then they will get manifested and visible in His time (Ecclesiastes 3:1-11).

When we, with simple faith of the heart, confess the victory of the cross of Jesus Christ and act accordingly, we will experience by ourselves how JESUS - our apostle and high priest of our profession - will see to it that we will be blessed in our confession (Heb. 3:1).

All the time let us look at the glory of the Lord, which is in the Word of God. Let us admire and marvel at the inconceivably glorious victory on Calvary, happily worshipping and praising our great overcomer JESUS CHRIST. Confessing that victory as being real, we will realize how we, by the Holy Spirit, are transformed into the same Word-image that we behold and confess with our own lips (II Cor. 3:17-18).

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (unto healing, redemption, deliverance) - Romans 10:8-13.

Yea, our Lord is rich unto and against all that call upon Him, in confessing His Word, which means His Name (Rev. 19:13 and Matthew 10:32).

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