Victory Over Sin Sermon Series Lesson 9 – Endurance, Gold, True Education, & Medical Missionaries Bible Sermon Notes by Pastor O. Cary Rodgers, Jr.

The world and sports value competition, points, speed, metals, trophies, victory, and championships. Athletes from various sports invest a lot of time and training to perform in their sport at the highest levels. Some get up at the crack of dawn until the sunsets, training, practicing, planning, and strategizing ways to beat their opponents. In basketball, they train how to make more baskets. In football, they train how to make more touchdowns. In soccer, they train how to make more goals. In boxing, they train how to make more knockouts. In baseball, they train how to make more strikeouts. In track, they train how to get faster. In the end what did they gain? Can they all be winners? Can they all win the championship? Do they all get metals at the Olympics? Can they all get the trophies? In the end, there is only one first place? There is only one champion? There is only one gold metal? 95% or more will never win a championship or win first place, but they still put their all into something that will fade away, rust, break, or be forgotten. The few that won the championship in the past are a faded memory. Their trophies collect dust.

What does the Bible say concerning this?

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- 24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.
- 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
- 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:
- 27 **But I keep under my body, and bring** *it* **into subjection**: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Athletes striving to be champions are temperate and dedicated to get a corruptible prize where there is only one winner. God's faithful, on the other hand, are striving for an incorruptible gold metal, a crown of righteous and of victory! All who put their bodies under subjection of the health message; all who put their flesh under the blood of righteousness; all who strive to live in the spirit and walk in the spirit of holiness; all who are obedient to God's Ten Commandments; all who remain faithful; all who share hope of glory in a dark world; all who remain on the Mountain of Truth; all who share the three angels' message; all who deny worldliness and live godly; all who are humble; all who have the faith of Jesus; all who have the Father's name written in their foreheads; all who have a decisive victory over sin WILL stand around the heavenly throne of the Lamb and receive golden crowns of victory! All the faithful will win. There will be no second or third place, silver or bronze metals. All the faithful will receive the GOLD!

What does Jesus say to those who are prepping for this crown of Victory?

Matthew 24:12-13

- 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.
- 13 But he that shall **endure unto the end**, the same shall be saved.

What does Jesus mean by "endure unto the end"?

Endure (Greek) hupomenō (hoop-om-en'-o):

- Stay under subjection of the Holy Spirit
- Remain in the present Truth
- Bear the testing trials
- Have courage in adversity
- Persevere in the face of difficulty
- Have Patience
- Suffer for the sake of Christ

All who "endure unto the end" will finish the race and be saved in the kingdom of God.

We are at war with the kingdom of darkness as a light to the world. The only weapons of our war are prayer and the Word of God. We must endure as a good soldier for Jesus Christ.

2 Timothy 2:3-4

- 3 Thou therefore **endure hardness**, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
- 4 No man that **warreth** entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

When we finish the race. When we have won the war through the blood of the Lamb, we like Paul will proclaim:

2 Timothy 4:7-8

- 7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:
- 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a **crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that **love his appearing.**

We train not to get more baskets, touchdown, goals, knockouts, or strikeouts. We train, work out, sacrifice, plan, and strategize for the coming of the Lord and sharing the everlasting gospel to the every nation, language, kindred, and people. Our love for the truth is greater than Satan's hate of the truth.

What do Olympics and worldly Championships mean to God? NOTHING....

It does not matter how many victories, championships, metals, and trophies you have won on this earth, the ONLY victory that Heaven values is the victory over sin and worldliness through the blood of the Lamb.

"It is written" was the main weapon for VICTORY in the warfare against Satan temptations in the wilderness.

Matthew 4:1 - 10

- 1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
- 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.
- 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

[Satan who tried to disquise himself as a friend and helper to Jesus. He tempted Jesus to doubt who He is and His mission to save the world from sin.]

4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

[Jesus knew it was Satan behind the disguise.]

- 5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
- 6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
- 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

[Jesus states His divinity that He is God, Lord, self-existing One.]

- 8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
- 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
- 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Praise the Lord. Verse 10 is part of the first angel's message in Revelation 14:7.

Revelation 14:7

7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

What is the promise for those who have VICTORY over sin?

Revelation 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 15:2 And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and **them that had** gotten the victory(overcame) over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

The world believes the greater the numbers the greater the success. Number of views, likes, social media friends, and subscriptions is the focus with great intensity by many. They say

how can I get more, more is their focus. They do whatever it takes for people to watch them, buy from them, like them, join their social media network. "How many views you get?" "How many likes?" How many..... Many have been Youtube stars and millionaires.

The world values numbers, but God values faith. It's not about just trying to get the numbers it is about faithfulness and obedience. Are you doing what God is calling you to do to share the everlasting gospel? Are you doing all to promote and support true education and the medical missionary work?

"Before we can carry the message of present truth in all its fulness to other countries we must first break every yoke. We must come into the **line of true education**, walking in the wisdom of God, and not in the wisdom of the world. God calls for messengers who will be true reformers. We must educate, educate, to prepare a people who will understand the message, and then give the message to the world." {Ellen White, February 6, 1908, A Missionary Education, Review and Herald}

We must re-establish true education and the medical missionary work in its fulness and repair the broken walls.

True education and true medical missionary work are not where they should be. There is a great breach in the wall. Many are following after the worldly methods rather than God's methods as outline in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

Pharmakeia, the poisonous drugging system is the counterfeit right arm of a false gospel and healing that is being used to deceive the world.

Medical missionary work using God's methods for true healing is the right arm of the true everlasting gospel.

Medical missionary work is to give people hope who are ignorant and victims of this great dark scam of a system.

In order to complete the race and have a decisive victory we are called to finish the work that has been neglected and corrupted.

"The lesson is for all in positions of trust. When God opens the way for the accomplishment of a certain work and gives assurance of success, the chosen instrumentality must do all in his power to bring about the promised result. In proportion to the enthusiasm and perseverance with which the work is carried forward will be the success given. God can work miracles for His people only as they act their part with untiring energy. He calls for men of devotion to His work, men of moral courage, with ardent love for souls, and with a zeal that never flags. Such workers will find no task too arduous, no prospect too hopeless; they will labor on, undaunted, until apparent defeat is turned into glorious victory. Not even prison walls nor the martyr's stake beyond, will cause them to swerve from their purpose of laboring together with God for the upbuilding of His kingdom." {Ellen White, Prophets and Kings, p. 263.1}

"In every place the sick may be found, and those who go forth as workers for Christ should be true health reformers, prepared to give those who are sick the simple treatments that will relieve them, and then pray with them. Thus they will open the door for the entrance of the truth. The doing of this work will be followed by good results." {Ellen G. White, Evangelism p. 516}

"Thus saith the Lord: "Buildings will give character to My work only when those who erect them follow My instruction in regard to the establishment of institutions. Had those who have managed and sustained the work in the past always been controlled by pure, unselfish principles, there never would have been the selfish gathering of a large share of My means into one or two places. Institutions would have been established in many localities. The seeds of truth, sown in many more fields, would have sprung up and borne fruit to My glory.

Places that have been neglected are now to receive attention. My people are to do a sharp. quick work. Those who with purity of purpose fully consecrate themselves to Me, body, soul, and spirit, shall work in My way and My name. Everyone shall stand in his lot, looking to Me, his Guide and Counselor.

I will instruct the ignorant and anoint with heavenly eyesalve the eyes of many who are now in spiritual darkness. I will raise up agents who will carry out My will to prepare a people to stand before Me in the time of the end. In many places that before this ought to have been provided with sanitariums and schools. I will establish My institutions, and these institutions will become educational centers for the training of workers." {Counsels on Health p. 226 -227}

Appeal:

Adventists Association of Global Evangelism (AAGE)

A network of faithful present truth Adventist and institution's mission is to reestablish true education and the medical missionary work worldwide in its fullness.

Contact Pathway to Peace Ministries for more information.