

The Identity of Christ's Victory Over Satan (Matt 4:11; Lk 4:14,15)

- There is a sameness in the temptation, weaponry and victory of Christ with us.
- The reward Christ experienced after the victory is the reward we experience.
- We continue with Him in His temptation and victory and receive His kingdom
- Christ overcame and we overcome in Him: compare rewards in Revelation
- Opening scene – “not live by bread alone” **Rev 2:7 - To one who conquers, I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.**
- Closing scene “Worship me, I will give you kingdoms of the world:
Rev 3:21 The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered & sat down with my Father on His throne.

I. Successful Conflict Followed by Increased Comfort

- Matt 4:11: Show a double comfort and encouragement: **1) Satan leaves Him**
- Weary soldier has time to breathe, rearrange his garments and armor
- Mature saints know such times of conflict will come (Ps.71:11; 3:1; 118:13)
- Their safety is to retreat into the camp with the Captain of their salvation (Ps:3:3) who is also their strength and the song of their salvation (Ps. 118:14)
- Devil is compelled to leave them for a season & the Lord commands a calm
- But not merely negative relief: **2) The angels came and ministered to Him**
- Such is the privilege of the first born among the brothers & we are His heirs
- Heb 1:14 speaks of the sometime unnoticed blessing of ministering angels
- Evil spirits retire and the blessed heavenly hosts tend needy saints (Ps 34:7,8)

II. There is Also Increased Usefulness along the Way (Luke 4:14, 15)

- After His victory, Jesus goes forth into Jerusalem in the power of the Spirit
- Though He has the Spirit without measure, the Spirit is more powerfully seen
- Tone of His teaching echoes with victory: “glorified by all in the synagogue”
- People are stunned with the authority in his teaching, not knowing such power
- Enduring and overcoming temptation in Christ, inevitably we can expect and count on God's power to help us fulfil the ministry He has for us (Col 4:17)
- We will live by the Word (Matt 4:4) experience a life of greater energy
- We will depend on the Spirit for larger measures of strength & He will give it