

Complete and Total Victory Over Sin

Foundation Scriptures: James 4:17; Romans 6:1-18

Introduction: God's Word has made it crystal clear about God's attitude towards sin. He HATES IT!!! Yet God loves His creation and it is His desire that we are free from sin's enslavement. We can apply six steps that would enable us to walk in complete and total victory over the power of sin:

1. Provision - God has provided us redemption and freedom from sin through the sacrifice of His Son (Matt. 1:21; 1 Pet. 2:24)
2. Decision - Once we have recognized all that Christ has done to free us from sin, we must decide of our own will to walk in this freedom. This decision is made by faith and not feelings. We believe that Christ has made us free no matter how much we feel that we are still in bondage to certain habits. (Rom. 6:11-13)
3. Possession - When we have made the decision to walk in the freedom from sin that Christ provided us through His death and resurrection, we must take possession of the promises that state our freedom from sin (Joshua 1:1-5).
4. Progression - Like the Israelites, we must learn to take possession of our inheritance (freedom from the power of sin) progressively. Once we have gained victory in one area of our life, we must place the soles of our feet on another area.
5. Resist - Just like the Israelites in Joshua's day faced opposition in their attempts to possess God's promises, we shall also face satanic opposition. We are to submit to God and resist the tempter (James 4:7)
6. Persist - As Jesus experienced in the wilderness, the tempter does not give up easily. We must persist in our resistance of him, never giving up either (see Luke 4).

Questions for study and meditation.

1. As you read James 4:17, think of a time when you did something that you knew was not right. What was the result on your conscience? What did you learn from the experience?
2. Are you struggling with a sinful habit right now that God has been convicting you about?
4. What action(s) do you plan to take as a result of your knowledge of God's Word and the sin in your life? Are you willing to make yourself accountable to another person in your church?