

## Grace and Faith

March 15, 2020

### *How to Win - Sermon Study*

1. Do you currently feel like you are **winning or losing** at *life*? Why? What are you supposed to do? Read **Rom 8:32-39... 1John 4:4... John 10:10... Rom 5:2,21.**
2. What **causes us to lose** a fight we're supposed to win? Read **Hosea 4:6... Luke 24:25... Eph 4:18... Heb 10:38-39.** Do you feel like a **lack of knowledge** or **unbelief** keeps you from abundant life? How?
3. Read **Col 1:9-14** and **Heb 6:11-15.** How well do you do with **patience endurance**?
4. Why do you think the devil has to **remove the seed immediately** when you hear it? Read **Mark 4:13-20** and **Heb 10:32.** How **effective** is he in doing that in your life?
5. Give some examples of how that seed is threatened **as soon as you believe.** What are some of the ways you can **protect** it? Read **Rom 1:12... Eph 6:22... 1Thess 5:11... Heb 10:25; 35-36... 2Cor 1:18-20.**
6. How does **keeping your eye on Jesus** build confidence? Read **2Cor 3:4... Eph 3:12... Phil 3:1-8... Heb 3:6... 1John 4:17.** What builds confidence in you to **keep going** and not quit?
7. Read **Mark 9:24** and **Rom 10:14-17.** How does God want to **help you** with unbelief? Do you have a tendency to ask for His help... or try to do it on your own? How's that going?

Please read entire passages of scripture to get full context. See sermon notes for more info.

# Sermon Notes

## How to Win - Heb 10:35-36

### I. Introduction

- a. how can you tell winner in WWE... one who's always losing (Hulk 1)...winner has been predetermined... HS is there to make sure (Hulk 2) ...  
Rom 8:32-39... "in all these things... we are more than victorious..."  
1John 4:4... "have already won your fight... HS in you is greater..."
- b. faith is good fight because you win... works in hope, thru love, with patience... to access power of grace (results)...  
Heb 11:1... "faith is reality of what is hoped for... proof of not seen..."  
Gal 5:6... "in Christ... what matters is faith working thru love..."  
Heb 6:12... "imitate those... with faith and patience inherit promises..."
- c. Christians are supposed to experience abundant life...  
John 10:10... "I have come to bring life... life more abundantly..."  
Rom 5:2,21... "access by faith... into grace... results in life..."  
*zoe... full life that belongs to God; real, genuine, active; even in this world...*
- d. not every believer does... why do some lose a fight they're not supposed to (ignorant, unbelief, quit)... want to know how to win... pray...  
Hosea 4:6... "My people destroyed... for lack of knowledge (rejected)..."  
Luke 24:25... "foolish (don't understand)... slow of heart to believe..."  
Eph 4:18... "excluded from life... because of ignorance, hard heart..."  
*agnoia... lack of knowledge...*  
*porosis... make heart dull; stubbornness; cover with a callus...*  
Heb 10:38-39... "not those who quit and are destroyed..."

### II. How to Win

- a. tell me if you've heard before... keep eyes on Jesus... get weary, quit, lose hope when we don't... winning requires patient endurance... happens over time, usually thru trials and troubles, not immediate...  
Heb 12:1-3... "keep your eyes on Jesus from start to finish..."  
Col 1:9-14... "haven't stopped praying... strengthened with all His glorious power for endurance and patience... to share inheritance..."  
Heb 6:11-15... "inherit promises because of faith and endurance... waited patiently and received what God had promised..."

**Patience! Patience! You are always in a hurry. God is not. Patience is a grace as difficult as it is necessary. And as hard to come by as it is precious when it is gained.**  
**Charles Spurgeon**

- b. when do you need patience... as soon as you believe... devil has to get seed out before it grows... fight begins immediately when you hear...  
Mark 4:13-20... "sower sows Word... satan comes at once to take it away... believe with joy, but fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's Word... others hear, but message is crowded out by worry, wealth, pleasure and becomes unfruitful..."  
Heb 10:32... "after you had been enlightened... endure hard struggle..."  
*photizo... become clear; enlighten with saving knowledge; understand...*

- c. as soon as you get a dream, vision, revelation... as soon as you start to have hope... as soon as you begin to understand... a fight begins... more likely to quit early on... roots not down deep enough (sapling/oak)...
- Rom 1:12... “encourage you in your faith... be encouraged by yours...”
- Eph 6:22... “sent him for this purpose... to encourage you...”
- 1Thess 5:11... “encourage each other... build each other up...”
- Heb 10:25... “don’t neglect meeting... but encourage each other...”
- d. as soon as you believe, all \_\_\_\_\_ breaks loose... believe in healing, get sick... believe in tithing, bills pile up... believe in giving up DP, someone gives you 6-pack... all happens after things become clear...
- e. don’t throw away your confidence... easy to do when bad stuff happens (Indians HR)... endurance (108 yrs) is necessary (Cubs win)...
- Heb 10:35-36... “don’t throw away confidence (faith)... which has a great reward... you need endurance to receive what was promised...”
- 2Cor 1:18-20... “as surely as God is true... Jesus never wavers between yes and no... He is the divine yes... all of God’s promises have been fulfilled in Him... that is why we say Amen... giving God glory...”
- f. when difficulty comes... devil wants you to throw away hope (confident expectation of good)... no hope, no faith, no grace, no results...
- Rom 12:12... “rejoice in hope... patient in trouble... persist in prayer...”
- Rom 15:13... “God of hope fill with joy and peace... as you believe...”
- g. keep your eyes on Jesus... only His promises are true...
- Jam 1... “ask in faith, don’t doubt... doubter not receive anything...”
- 2Cor 3:4... “have confidence toward God thru Christ...”
- Eph 3:12... “boldness, access, confidence thru faith in Him...”
- Phil 3:1-8... “do not put confidence in your efforts...”
- Heb 3:6... “hold on to confidence and hope in which we boast...”
- 1John 4:17... “have confidence... for we are as He is in this world...”
- h. want to win, but just don’t believe yet... ask for help... hear, believe, receive... hang in there... encourage others to hang in there... good fight because you win (TR quote)... pray...
- Mark 9:24... “I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief...”
- Rom 10... “can’t believe without hearing... without preacher...”

## Complete

Col 2:9-10... *you are complete in Him...*

All the attributes of Christ, as God and man, are at our disposal. **All the fulness of the Godhead**, whatever that marvellous term may comprehend, **is ours** to make us complete. He cannot endow us with the attributes of Deity; but He has done all that can be done, for He has made even His divine power and Godhead subservient to our salvation.

His omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence, immutability and infallibility, are all combined for our defence. Arise, believer, and behold the Lord Jesus yoking the whole of His divine Godhead to the chariot of salvation! How **vast His grace**, how **firm His faithfulness**, how unswerving His immutability, how infinite His power, how limitless His knowledge!

**All** these are by the Lord Jesus made the pillars of the temple of salvation; and all, without diminution of their infinity, are **covenanted to us as our perpetual inheritance**.

The fathomless love of the Saviour's heart is every drop of it ours; every sinew in the arm of might, every jewel in the crown of majesty, the immensity of divine knowledge, and the sternness of divine justice, all our ours, and shall be employed for us. The whole of Christ, in His adorable character as the Son of God, is by Himself made over to us most richly to enjoy.

His wisdom is our direction, His knowledge our instruction, His power our protection, His justice our surety, His love our comfort, His mercy our solace, and His immutability our trust. He makes no reserve, but opens the recesses of the Mount of God and bids us dig in its mines for the hidden treasures.

*All, all, all are yours*, saith He, *be ye satisfied with favour and full of the goodness of the Lord*. Oh, how sweet thus to behold Jesus, and to **call upon Him with the certain confidence** that in seeking the interposition of His love or power, we are but asking for that which He has already faithfully promised.

Charles Spurgeon  
Morning and Evening Devotional – May 18<sup>th</sup>

## Promises

Num 11:23... *you shall see whether My word shall come to pass...*

God had made a positive promise to Moses that for the space of a whole month He would feed the vast host in the wilderness with flesh. Moses, being overtaken by a fit of unbelief, looks to outward means, and is at a loss to know how the promise can be fulfilled. He looked to the creature instead of the Creator.

But **doth the Creator expect the creature to fulfil His promise** for Him? No. He who makes the promise ever fulfils it by His own unaided omnipotence. **If He speaks, it is done...** done by Himself. His promises do not depend for their fulfillment upon the co-operation of the puny strength of man.

We can at once perceive the mistake which Moses made. And yet how commonly we do the same! God has promised to supply our needs, and **we look to the creature to do what God has promised** to do; and then, because we perceive the creature to be weak and feeble, we **indulge in unbelief**.

Why look we to that quarter at all? Will you look to the top of the Alps for summer heat? Will you journey to the North Pole to gather fruits ripened in the sun? Verily, you would act no more foolishly if ye did this than when you look to the weak for strength, and to the creature to do the Creator's work.

Let us, then, put the question on the right footing.

**The ground of faith is not the sufficiency of the visible means for the performance of the promise, but the all-sufficiency of the invisible God, who will most surely do as He hath said.**

If after clearly seeing that the onus lies with the Lord and not with the creature, we dare to indulge in mistrust, the question of God comes home mightily to us. *Has My arm lost its power?* May it happen, too, in His mercy, that with the question there may flash upon our souls that blessed declaration, *thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.*

Charles Spurgeon  
Morning and Evening Devotional – June 8<sup>th</sup>