

L17: The Victorious Ambassador - 2 Corinthians 2:12-17

Introduction:

- The Suffering Ambassador
- The Hopeful Ambassador
 - Far More Exceeding and Eternal Weight of Glory
 - From Reprobate to Reigning with Him

Preview:

- Godly provision for us always to be victorious
 - The only time we are not victorious is when we are not ministering the gospel
 - Victory doesn't come solely by the results
 - Victory also comes by manifesting His knowledge

Sermon:

{2 Cor. 2:12-17} Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord, (13) I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia. (14) Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. (15) For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: (16) To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things? (17) For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

- **2:14 - "Now thanks be unto God"**
 - **"which always causeth us to triumph in Christ"**
 - **1 Corinthians 4 & 9**
 - Always causeth us to triumph
 - The triumph isn't based upon results - although there is reason to triumph when one hears the gospel and believes.
 - Instead, there is a different measurement to this "triumph"
 - **"triumph" -**
 - The Romans Ceremony - "the Triumph"
 - Public celebration to sanctify the success and completion of a foreign war
 - In the processional there were "incense-bearers"
 - It was a "savour" of victory among the victors, but there were also those captors, part of the spoils of victory, that was a seal of their ultimate perishing.

- The Triumph of Christ's Victory
 - Psalm 98:1
 - Acts 2:22-36
 - 1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (Isa. 25:8)
 - Ephesians 4:8-10
 - Colossians 2:15
 - 1 Jn. 5:4
- **"and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place."**
 - Make manifest by :12 - "to preach Christ's gospel"
 - Romans
 - God's knowledge in Christ
 - Romans 2:16 - "in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."
 - Romans 5:8 - "But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
 - Romans 8:39 - "..shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."
 - Romans 14:18 - "For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men."
 - Romans 15:17
 - 1 Corinthians 1:30, 8:6
 - 2 Corinthians 1:21, 5:19
 - Galatians 3:26
 - Ephesians 2:10
 - Philippians 3:3
 - **"His knowledge"**
 - 2 Corinthians 4:6
 - Philippians 3:8
- **2:15 - "for"**
 - **"we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ"**
 - We are a "sweet savour of Christ" not by the fulfillment of the offering of the Old Testament, that is, Christ.
 - We are a "sweet savour of Christ" by manifesting the knowledge of Him.
 - We are a "sweet savour of Christ" unto God in them that are saved and in them that perish.
 - Thus, the knowledge of Him is being manifest

- The Twofold Effect of the Gospel
 - **"in them that are saved"**
 - In them that are justified
 - **"and in them that perish"**
 - In them that will die eternally
- **2:16**
 - **"to the one we are the saviour of death unto death"**
 - To some it is foolish, a stumbling stone of offense resulting in proceeding on toward eternal death.
 - **"and to the other the saviour of life unto life."**
 - To others the message results in eternal life and glory
 - **"savour"** - that which is acceptable to God
 - 3 Parties which we are "savour" to and that we "savour"
 1. Unto God - a sweet savour of Christ
 2. Unto Saved - the savour of life unto life
 3. Unto Perish - savour of death unto death
- 1 Thessalonians 2:17-20
 - Philippians 4:1

Conclusion:

- **Triumph when we manifest His knowledge**
- **Triumph when we manifest His knowledge when we do not corrupt it**