



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Finished Work

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print it to study on your own or use it in a group to experience transformation together.

Message Theme

The Cross Through The Father's Eyes

Prayer Focus

"Lord, I'm so thankful for the price You paid for me. I could never earn or deserve the forgiveness You've given, but You chose to cover my sins with the blood of Jesus and make me new. Help me to never take that sacrifice lightly. As I spend time with You today, remind me of the freedom and grace I have because of the cross. Amen."

Key Truths

The entrance of sin into the world began with Adam and Eve. Through their disobedience, humanity became subject to sin, and it is through the law that we come to recognize and understand what sin truly is. Yet Jesus, the "last Adam," came to undo what the first Adam had done. He paid for every violation of the law, every transgression, every failure. When He went to the cross, He became our substitute, taking upon Himself the punishment that we deserved. In His sacrifice, He made us alive together with Him, raising us up and seating us in heavenly places. Even before we were born, God had already thought of us, and through Christ, forgiveness was extended for everything we would ever do. But the key is this: forgiveness must be received. It requires faith and acceptance in order to see it actually at work in our lives.

Satan's grip on humanity was rooted in sin, but Jesus removed sin from the equation. By doing so, He disarmed Satan, stripping him of his power and authority over us. This means that the enemy no longer has the right to hold us captive.

Because of this, our prayers should not simply be desperate cries **for** victory, as though victory were uncertain. Instead, they can be **from** victory as we fully understand what Jesus has already purchased for us. We need to know the power of His blood, the completeness of His work, and the authority that has been given to us in His name. Scripture tells us to resist the devil by standing firm, and he will flee. That is not a passive command—it is an active stance of authority to remain unchanged by the enemy's tactics. We do not have to sit idly by, waiting for God to act. God has already acted in Christ. Now, we stand in that victory, exercising the authority we have been given, and living as those who are truly free in Christ.

Reference Verses

- 1 John 5:4
- 1 Corinthians 15:56-57, 15:21
- Colossians 2:13-15
- Galatians 2:20
- John 12:32-33
- 1 Timothy 4:10
- 2 Peter 1:2-4

Declarations:

- Because of God's great love, every failure and violation of the law has been forgiven through the blood of Jesus.
- God, in His kindness, has raised me up with Christ and seated me in heavenly places, showing His favor toward me.
- The goodness of God has stripped Satan of his power, and I now live under the authority of Christ's victory.

What's Next?

This message focuses on spiritual victory - specifically that it isn't something you have to earn, but something you have to "enforce" because it has already been won.

Here are 4 practical ways to apply these teachings to your daily life:

1. Shift from "Working For" to "Working From" Victory

Jesus already paid for every sin and defeated every "demon spirit" 2,000 years ago.

Daily Application:

- When you face a stressful situation or a personal failure, stop asking God to *win* the battle for you. Instead, start your prayer by thanking Him that the victory is already yours. This shifts your mindset from a place of defeat and begging to a place of confidence and rest.
- Walk in confidence: Carry yourself as someone who knows they are free. Victory is not something you chase - it's something you live in.

2. Use Your "Spiritual Camera"

Remember the analogy of a family picture, noting that you are "in the picture" with Jesus on the cross and in the resurrection.

Daily Application:

- Practice a mental visualization technique. When you feel overwhelmed by your past or current flaws, intentionally "see" yourself as God sees you: crucified with Christ and raised to a new life. Remind yourself, **"My old self is gone; I am in the picture of His victory."** This helps decouple your identity from your mistakes.
- Examine yourself. Are there any areas in your life that you're not experiencing God's freedom for you? No matter how hard you try, something unwanted and contrary to God's Word keeps coming back into your life. Maybe it's a behavior, a way of thinking, or simply an atmosphere of depression and fear. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you what's really going on.

3. Actively Resist Rather than Passively Accept

Many people mistakenly accept bad circumstances as being "from God," but the text urges you to "resist the devil."

Daily Application:

- Audit your challenges. If you are experiencing something "wicked" (prejudice, sickness, or spiritual oppression), don't just endure it passively. Use the "authority" mentioned in the teaching by speaking God's word out loud against the situation. If the "Emancipation Proclamation" has been signed, you don't have to live like a slave to fear. When the temptation or fear comes, don't stay silent. Declare God's Word and how He sees you out loud, resisting the devil and his lies in Jesus' name. “

4. Prioritize "Knowledge" Over "Pleading"

Grace and peace are multiplied through **knowledge**, not just through asking.

Daily Application:

- Instead of just praying for "more grace," spend 10 minutes a day studying the "exceeding great and precious promises" found in the New Testament. By knowing exactly what has been "purchased" for you, you become a "partaker" of that victory. You can't use an inheritance you don't know you have.
- Stand on the blood of Jesus. Remember that His blood has already purchased your freedom. Instead of asking for victory, thank Him for the victory you already have.

Which of these areas—identity, authority, or knowledge—feels like the biggest "missing link" in your life right now?