

The Victor – The Servant’s Heart

May 15-16, 2021

“Never make excuses. Your friends don’t need them and your foes won’t believe them” – **John Wooden**

Revelation 3:15-17 (NIV) – “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm - neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing’. But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked”.

Revelation 3:19 (NIV) – “Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So, be earnest and repent”.

Mark 10:43b-45 (NIV) - “Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must first be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many”.

Philippians 1:12-14 (NIV) – “Now, I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear”.

“We are not a new philosophy but a divine revelation. That’s why you can’t just exterminate us; the more you kill, the more we are. The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. You praise those who endured pain and death – so long as they aren’t Christians! Your cruelties merely prove our innocence of the crimes you charge against us. And you frustrate your purpose. Because those who see us die, wonder why we do, for we die like the men you revere, not like slaves or criminals. And when they find out, they join us” – **Tertullian in Apologeticus**

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Philippians 1:29-30 (NIV) – “For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have”.

“The greatest danger the world faces is not radical Islam, but lukewarm Christianity” – **Daniel Kolenda**

Philippians 2:1-4 (NKJV) – “Therefore, if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others”.

“The Holy Spirit consoles, but Christ is the consolation. If I may use the figure, the Holy Spirit is the Physician, but Christ is the medicine” – **Charles Spurgeon**

Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV) – “In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!”

1 Peter 4:8-11a (NIV) – “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without

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grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Christ Jesus”.

“**serve**” = Greek *diakonos* – “to serve or minister”

Greek *diakonos* - from *dia* meaning “completely; thoroughly” and *konis* meaning “dust”; translates “to thoroughly kick up dust”

“**gift**” = Greek *charismata* – “gift of grace”; English words “charisma” and “charismatic”

Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV) – “Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose”.

Philippians 3:12-14 (NIV) – “Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus”.

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