

# *Mt. Lebanon Church | Big Isaac Community Church*

Teaching Ministry

4.19.2026

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Never Be Defeated

## 2 Corinthians 4: 7 - 10

As believers, we are learning to maintain victory through a hope that is rooted and grounded in the power of an almighty God. So, this means that even though we may face temporary trials, hardships, and setbacks in our life here on earth we cannot be permanently conquered, for our ultimate spiritual success has already been secured through the cross and the resurrection of Christ. So, why, as believers, would we ever be willing to accept defeat? It is because there will be times in our life that we will not understand the outcome of our actions, and since we do not see a way out, the opportunity of temptation becomes very real in our life, which will cause us to see defeat as something that is inevitable. So, when we are facing hardships in our life, it is very important that we turn our attention toward the one who will strengthen us in our faith and encourage us to stand strong in the power of his might, for our God is greater than any obstacle, and will give unto us the strength to overcome any hardship, turning our tragedy into triumph.

**Romans 8: 31, 37,....** what shall we say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? ....in all things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us....

So, we thank God that as believers, we are declared righteous due to our identity in Christ. No matter what the circumstance that is going on in our life, no matter what the difficulty that may so easily beset us, no matter what God may call upon us to face, his mercy and his grace secures us in every situation, so that we might be used for his greater glory. So, this means that when the distractions of the world surround us, and we find it difficult to grasp the truth, we have security in knowing that God is for us. So, this means that he is always working on our behalf, and he has given unto us his spirit, to guide us through every walk in our daily life. There should be nothing more important to us in our life than God. So, will be those things in our life that will come against us, the answer is yes, because the reality of our life is one that we will have to endure physical, mental, and emotional struggles, which means that we will experience the worldly emotion of wondering if God is truly for us, but by choosing to abide in his almighty power, that which comes against us will never be successful. With God, we have nothing to worry about, for there is no comparison between earthly opposition and the eternal power of the one true God. So, for this reason:

**Hebrews 4: 16,.....**let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need....

So, thankfully, for the believer, Christ not only understands our struggles and failures, but he also overcame them for us, by going through them firsthand, in our place. Now, it is God's word which we are to prove all of our thoughts and deeds against, for Christ, through his word has already shown unto us the way, and by his sufferings, he overcame every circumstance, and he done so without sin. And it is for this reason that we can go to God in prayer, knowing that Christ fully understands our weaknesses, for he has already experienced our pain, so we can be assured that nobody hears and understands us better than he does.

**2 Corinthians 4: 7 - 10,...** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us....We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;....Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;....Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

So, what is the first obstacle that we will face in our life in Christ, it is ourselves. Our own waywardness, our own wanderings, our own hardheartedness, are all products of our own lustful desires, that will ultimately lead to defeat in our life, if they are allowed to continue. God needs for us to confess to him when we are weary, and when we feel exhausted, for this is the first step to overcoming defeat in our lives. Now, we do not need to try and do this on our own, for we have God on our side. Sometimes, the hardest lesson that we have to learn is knowing that God will take care of us, but first we must put our complete faith and trust in him.

**1 John 5: 4,....**for whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world, and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith....

So, as believers, we are overcomers, therefore, let us not be overcome by evil, but we are to overcome evil with the goodness of our salvation. The battles which we face have already been won by our faith in Christ Jesus. For it is by our faith that overcomes defeat in our life, our faith is our victory. So, through our faith, Christ became our saving grace, and with this we have been equipped with the ability that we need in order to overcome life's trials and hardships. So, it is by our faith that we overcome, but our faith must have an objective, and that object of our faith is Christ Jesus.

**John 16: 33,....**in the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world....

So, just because we have believed, it does not mean that we will have an easy life, yes, there will be persecution, and we must learn that our christlike joy does not come from living a life without persecution, it comes from living a life knowing that Christ has already obtained victory. As believers, we must understand that the circumstances which we experience are part of God's purpose and plan for our life. Persecutions and hardships will come, but as believers, we can remain faithful, having the confidence in knowing that Christ's victory overshadows the difficulties of the sinfulness of the world.

**Romans 6: 11 – 13,....**reckon ye also yourselves to be dead....unto to sin....but alive unto God....let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body....neither yield....as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin, but yield yourselves unto God....

So, as believers, we must change the way that we think, and we must no longer think of ourselves, but we must always think of ourselves as serving Christ. But many do not take the truth of God's word seriously, therefore, many live a defeated life, because of unbelief. We must believe God's word, and we must act upon God's word. God's power is made perfect in us as we abide in the truth of his word, and it is only by his word that we are able to approve what is his good and perfect will for our life. We no longer need to follow after the pattern of the world, for we now live according to his will.

**Romans 6: 17,....**God be thanks....ye were servants of sin, but ye have obeyed....that form of doctrine which was delivered you....being....made free from sin....ye became the servants of righteousness....

So, even though, as believers, we have the spirit of God within us, to empower us, we still face temptations, therefore, we must strive to stand firm against sin, and we must wholly and completely commit to the gospel of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. The sound doctrine of the word of God must remain the basis for our instruction, so that we may live Godly lives unto spiritual maturity. With this purpose in mind, we will be able to produce the Christlike qualities needed to become rooted and grounded in his word of God, so that we might become a living example of his grace, and his mercy, to his praise, and to his glory.

**James 1: 12,....**blessed is the man which endureth temptation, for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him....

Often time, because of our sufferings, all that we see is defeat, and we lose sight of the perspective of what Gods divine purpose is for our life. How easily we forget that as children of an almighty God, we are highly favored with his grace. Therefore, instead of living a defeated life, we are blessed with living a fulfilled life according to Gods promises and precepts. So, when we embrace our hardships, instead of becoming defeated by them, it is then that we will recognize the opportunity for spiritual growth, which comes from knowing that God is at work within us, therefore, defeat must never be an option in our life in Christ.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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