

The Sweet Taste of Victory

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Esther 9:1-15.
- B. Victory is the normal life for the believer.
- C. This story applies to us right now.
- D. We are the king over our bodies. The queen is the new spirit. Mordecai is the Holy Spirit at work within us. Haman is the flesh--the self-life.
- E. God has set us free from the law of sin and death through the Spirit. (Romans 7)

II. God has appointed a time when you will be appointed to the test.

- A. God never lets us learn something for which He never puts us to the test.
- B. God is forever conducting examinations because these are matters of daily living.

III. The pattern of victory.

- A. The edict that the Jews had been given freedom to fight. (Romans 7:5-6)
 - 1. The sinful passions are aroused by the law.
 - 2. Now, the believer is discharged from the law so that he serves in the new life of the Spirit.
 - 3. The place of the law in the Christian's experience is to show him where he is wrong.
- B. The people had power to fight having consciousness that the man of power was by their side.
- C. They actually fought.

IV. There is a great temptation to imitate the victory.

- A. Marks of a genuine victory.
 - 1. The double victory--there is a manifestation of the victorious life in the believer.
 - 2. The public sharing of the victory God has given.
 - 3. There was no attempt to gain self-advantage.

Application questions:

1. What is the purpose of the law for the Christian?

2. What replaces the law as the power to fulfill righteousness?

3. Why is the public sharing of one's victory in Jesus Christ important for the life of the believer?
