



BECKY COMBEE MINISTRIES, INC.

Walk To Victory

There are times in religious history when the devil comes to the forefront of our theology and dominates our thinking, taking up far too much space. He is after all a defeated foe and should never rise any higher than under our feet. Certainly He should not command our minds!

According to the letter written by the apostle Paul to the church at Colossae, the Lord Jesus Christ “spoiled principalities and powers.”¹ This is a direct reference to the defeat of Satan and his angels. Yet the word “spoiled” may not register in our minds. Various translations of Holy Scriptures have given us a wonderful assemblage of other words to help us understand it.

Some translations choose the word “stripped.”² I like that because I have watched my husband Wayne strip layers and layers of paint off of old furniture. When the process is finished, the furniture is renewed and the refuse of old paint is collected and disposed of. This picture comes to life for us when the Bible in

Basic English says “having made himself free from the rule of authorities and powers.” Just as the furniture is free of paint, we are free from Satan’s dominion through the work of Christ.

There are other translations that choose the word “disarmed” in the place of the King James word “spoiled.” We understand this when we consider the work of a policeman. When he disarms a criminal, that person no longer has any weaponry. He cannot successfully threaten

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or control us. Jesus envisioned this when He explained that a strong man with many weapons guards his house, but someone stronger can come and take away his weapons, or we might say disarm him.³

Now, for many years I could not figure out how Satan, the obvious strong man in this story, so dominated our world when he had been defeated. After all, Jesus is the stronger one and

Satan the enemy who was spoiled, stripped and disarmed. So, how does he live so big in our world?

One answer is quite simple. Many of us have bowed in fear before him, magnifying his SUPPOSED power and authority. However, we the church must recognize that Satan has been defeated and understand that his defeat was for our benefit. When Satan, who was created as an anointed cherub, sinned against God, he was immediately cast out of heaven. God did not have a "Satan problem." He did not tremble in the face of Satan's disobedience, but simply threw him to the ground.⁴

In the Garden of Eden, Satan, now a fallen angelic being, tempted Eve to disobey the command of God. He promised her the very thing he wanted for himself and could not obtain. He said, "Ye shall be as gods."⁵ Earlier, as



an anointed angel, he clearly stated this desire saying, "I will exalt my throne," and "I will be like the most High."⁶ Eve yielded to Satan's lie and, although Adam was not deceived, he too disobeyed God's command.⁷ Through their sin, mankind was plunged into the darkness of Satan's kingdom.

BUT, Jesus came! He took man's sin, defeated man's enemy, Satan, and set all who would believe in Him free from sin and spiritual death. According to the writer of Hebrews, He

delivered us from a lifetime subject to bondage.⁸ What great news! Through Jesus' sacrifice, we are free!

The key to man's freedom is, of course, his faith in the finished work of Christ. We must have "faith in the power of God, who raised Christ from death."⁹ We must believe that our sin was laid on Jesus and, after three days and nights in Satan's grasp, He arose in victory.¹⁰ The mighty power of God had triumphed over sin.

Yet Christ's victory stretches far beyond our sin. According to the apostle John, every challenge in our world is overcome through faith in Christ.¹¹ In Him, we prevail; we win; we triumph.

Still, the question remains! If Satan has been defeated and I have victory through Christ, why is my life still challenged by Satan's onslaughts? Years ago, a word whispered in my heart finally settled this quandary for me. In the quiet of my own spirit, I realized Satan had been defeated, but he had NOT yet been eliminated. Of course, one day he will be cast into the lake of fire and then he will no longer tempt or torment us.¹² But, in the meantime, we can walk victoriously through every struggle because we have faith in our God.

Every day we stand with victory in our heart and the name of Jesus on our lips. However, this is an important truth – we must stand! After all, the Scripture says, "Having done all to stand."¹³ It does NOT say having done all to sit. Therefore, daily, we rise, standing tall in God as we grow closer to the full stature of Christ.¹⁴ It is "In Him, we live, and move, and have our being."¹⁵ Yes, in Him we stand, and in Him, we win!

¹Col 2:15 ²MKJV;WEB ³Lk 11:21-22 NCV, author's paraphrase ⁴Is 14:12-14;Ez 28:17 ⁵Ge 3:5 ⁶Is 14:13-14 ⁷Ti 2:14 ⁸Heb 2:14-15 ⁹Col 2:12 CEV ¹⁰Is 53:6;Mt 12:40;Act 2:31 ¹¹1Jn 5:4-5 ¹²Rev 20:10 ¹³Eph 6:13 ¹⁴Eph 4:13 NLT ¹⁵Act 17:28