

## “The Ultimate Warrior”

Ralph Arnold, Pastor

**TEXT:** **II Tim. 4:7** “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”

### **I. The ultimate warrior needs the ultimate weapon**

1. The sword, which is the Word of God. Eph. 6:17
2. The strength, which is the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8

### **II. The ultimate warrior needs the ultimate mission**

1. The mission, which is to preach the Gospel to every creature in the world and in every generation. Matt. 28:18-20
2. The message, which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ Rom. 1:16

### **III. The ultimate warrior needs the ultimate enemy**

1. The Devil, which is the prince of the air (this world). Eph. 2:2  
He is invisible to the naked eye.
2. The Lust of the flesh I John 2:15-17
3. The Lust of the eyes I John 2:15-17
4. The Pride of life I John 2:15-17

### **IV. The ultimate warrior needs the ultimate battle plan**

1. Fight by any means according to the will of God. I Cor. 9:19-22
2. If “NOW” is the time to be saved, then NOW is the time to fight. II Cor. 6:2

### **V. The ultimate warrior needs the ultimate mental toughness**

1. Having the mind of Christ. Phil. 2:5-11
2. Must believe that what you are fighting for is worth the battle.
  - a. II Cor. 4:1 “Having this ministry.....we didn’t faint...quit”
  - b. II Cor. 4:8, 15 “ We are troubled on every side...(but we didn’t quit)... for your sakes”
  - c. II Cor. 4:8, 15 “ We are perplexed...(but we didn’t quit)... for your sakes”
  - d. II Cor. 4:9, 15 “ Persecuted...(but we didn’t quit)... for your sakes”
  - e. II Cor. 4:9, 15 “ cast down...(but we didn’t quit)... for your sakes”

### **VI. The ultimate warrior needs the ultimate victory**

1. Each warrior receives his own rewards according to his own victories in his own battles. I Cor. 1:8
2. The ultimate warrior must not only begin the fight, be sustained in the fight, but **finish the fight**. II Tim. 4:7-8

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## **“THIS IS YOUR LIFE”**

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**TEXT: Phil. 1:21 “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”**

**I. What is Life? (Existence, being, living, opposite of death)**

**II. Where did Life come from? Job 10:12 “Thou....granted..life”**

**III. What is your Life? Luke 12:15 “a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which a man possesseth.”**

**Reason for life is to:**

**A. Seek the kingdom of God            Luke 12:31**

**B. Seek to please the Creator        Rev. 4:11**

**IV. Who is your Life? ( the wife, husband, kids, or Phil. 1:21?)**

**V. How long is Life?**

**A. Human life is temporal, like a vapor James 4:13-17**

**B. Human life is uncertain**

**1. David said, “one step between me and death”**

**2. Man cannot accurately predict tomorrow**

**3. Divine Eternal Life is Forever & Certain**

**C. Human life is dependent upon God to sustain it**

It is not a sin to plan our lives, but it is a sin to plan our lives without God.

**D. Human life is accountable        Romans 14:12**

**VI. How can Life be Lived?**

**Three EXTREMES:**

**1. Whatever will be will be (everything planned)**

**2. No plan-nothing matters**

**3. God has a plan that we can accept or reject.**

**a) John 3:16 “whosoever”**

**b) 1 Tim. 2:4 “all to be saved”**

**c) Eph. 2:8-10 “..to walk in good works”**

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## “Two Basic Beliefs for Christians”

SALVATION and SERVICE

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**TEXT:** II Cor. 11:3 This is not written to unbelievers, but Christians. It is Satan’s desire to corrupt our minds from the simplicity that is in Christ (Truth).

### Salvation

#### I. The Three Tenses of Salvation

- A. **Past Tense** I have **been saved** from the *penalty of sins* (can’t go to hell). This was done the very moment I trusted Christ. This is a once and for all salvation, that never has to be repeated.
1. Acts 16:31 “...believe.. and thou **shalt be** saved...”
  2. Eph. 2:8 “...are ye **saved**” is past tense (a reality)
- B. **Present Tense** I am **being saved** from the *power of sin* in my life, every day that I yield to the power of the Holy Spirit that indwells me.
1. Gal. 5:16
  2. Rom. 12:1-2
- C. **Future Tense** I **will be saved** from the very **presence of sins** when I die or Christ returns for me.

### Service

#### The Three Tests dealing with Service

- D. **Chastenings** Heb. 12:5-7 Since no child of God can live as he pleases and get away with it, the Lord promises to discipline by sickness, weakness, death, or put on a shelf. Chastening is not always for doing wrong, but includes instructions for doing right. It includes corrections and preparations for the master’s use. II Tim. 2:21, 3:16
- E. **Rewards and Blessings** II Cor. 5:10 It appears that blessings are given to us here and now, as a result of our obedience and God’s goodness. Rewards are given to us when we get to Heaven, for what we have done for the Lord.
- F. **Motives** Our motives reveals why we did the things we did, whether for the Lord or against the Lord. I Cor. 4:5. God will judge our motives.
1. **Fear** II Cor. 5:11, Heb. 12:25-28, Prov. 1:7  
If you don’t fear God, you won’t hate sin, then you won’t fear the consequences of sin.
  2. **Love** John 14:15,21,23,31 16:26-27

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