

“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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