

When the Battle is Over

For the Win, Week Eleven

Today is the conclusion of a sermon series on spiritual warfare. We've covered a lot of biblical ground. Here are some highlights...

- There is an invisible war being waged around you.
- When you commit to Christ, you win! You're a winner. Loss is impossible.
- You get to operate from a position of victory.
- It isn't God vs. Satan or good vs. evil. It's God, allowing Satan a season.
- God has equipped you with all of his armor.
- The battle begins in the mind so our thinking must be rooted in truth.
- A stronghold is a pattern of believing lies repetitively.
- We have the authority of Jesus' name when we pray.
- We have the authority of God's word when we obey.
- We have the authority of the Holy Spirit when we surrender.

Today, we're talking about how to finish the fight well.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 NLT

As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.

4 Words of Encouragement for Finishing Well

1. You have just enough time to complete all of God's purposes for your life.

Paul seemingly wasted a lot of years, but after his redemption in Christ, he never looked back. He broke away from his regret over the past and lived the rest of his days with spiritual passion and fervor.

2. God has prepared and equipped you with everything you need to win the fight.

Yes, it gets hard, but you are up to this because God made you up to this. He has created, saved, called, and equipped you for all of his will for your life.

And there IS a fight worth engaging!!

(Highly recommend using Gerber's commercial, [Hello, Trouble!](#))

3. Your persistence matters far more than your performance.

Faithfulness is what matters. Consistently getting back up and getting back into the fight. You don't have to perform perfectly, but you have to keep on fighting until the end.

Paul's words specifically indicate that he has been faithful to uphold the doctrines and body of truth about Jesus Christ. Stay faithful to the truth!

4. God is eagerly waiting for the moment of your reward.

Paul speaks of this "crown of righteousness," but he points out that it's not just for apostles or pastors or career missionaries. It's for all who "eagerly await" his appearing!

So, how do you feel about Jesus coming back?

God *wants* to reward you, and he wants you to *want* his reward. Is your faith where it ought to be? Have you trusted Jesus as King and Savior of your life?