



MAIN SCRIPTURES

- Ps. 37:1-40; Rom. 8:14-39
- Philippians 1:15-30

SURRENDER MY ATTITUDE

- Surrender Victimhood
- Practice Enthusiasm

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

"Beloved, now we are children of God. It is not yet revealed what we will be; but we know that when He is revealed, we will be like Him, for we will see Him just as He is." 1 John 3:2 WEBUS

"Yahweh's curse is in the house of the wicked, but he blesses the habitation of the righteous." Proverbs 3:33 WEBUS

"Who could bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who justifies. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors..." Romans 8:33, 37 WEBUS

"Don't fret because of evildoers, neither be envious against those who work unrighteousness. For **they shall soon be cut down ..."** Psalms 37:1-2 WEBUS

"In Christ Jesus you who once were far off are made near in the blood of Christ. ...So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God," Ephesians 2:13, 19 WEBUS

“...you received **the Spirit of adoption**, by whom **we cry, “Abba! Father!”** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that **we are children of God; and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ...**” Romans 8:15-17 WEBUS

“...If God is for us, who can be against us? He who didn’t spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how would he not also with him freely give us all things?” Rom. 8:31-32 WEBUS

“Thanks be to God, who gives us the **victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**” 1 Corinthians 15:57 WEBUS

INTRODUCTION:

Cease resistance; abandon control of your life entirely, and come into complete submission to God. That’s what it means to surrender. When Y’shua returns, some of you will be like Him. And for that transformation to occur, it requires that you surrender victimhood and practice enthusiasm.

Pray this without ceasing: “Yahweh, I surrender being a victim. I understand that it’s a fallen, cutthroat world, and it is more often than not that when I am dealing with unbelievers, their number one priority is to win, even if they must trample over me to achieve their goals. If necessary, they will lie, cheat, and steal to get ahead, and their victims often feel tricked, duped, and helpless. However, if I have a relationship with the living God, I need not be the victim any

longer. I have everything I need to overcome with God. Victory is mine for the taking, and unlike the pagan who lies, cheats, and steals, I can succeed with a clean conscience. So, I won't fret when it appears that evildoers are winning; in Your grand design, O God, their days of being on top are short-lived! Today, God, I practice enthusiasm. Regardless of my current status, even if I am temporarily on the losing end of the stick and not feeling very victorious, I can still wake with a spring in my step! All it takes is a reminder of who I am and whose I am. Do I really think that Yahweh, the God of creation, would sacrifice His most precious possession for me if He did not also intend to give me everything else I really need to feel fulfilled and victorious in Him? Of course not! A life submerged in the things of the Lord affords me the opportunity to live with intensity, eagerness, passion, zeal, and exuberance—enthusiastic and committed to the victory in Jesus Christ—no matter how long it takes and no matter what is required.”

Whoever won't surrender feeling like the victim, and practice being enthusiastic for life instead, simply won't become like Him.

SURRENDER THE POOR ME ATTITUDE!

1. Surrender My Attitude

A. Surrender Victimhood

(1) **Introduction:** What does it mean to be a **victim**?

- (a) **Real Victimhood:** to be truly harmed by a person or an outside force over which you exerted no control, or for which you had no personal responsibility.

1. **Factual Event(s):** You experienced a clear, measurable injury, harm, abuse, loss, or unfair treatment caused by an outside force. Even so...

- a) *“Yahweh’s eyes are toward the righteous. His ears listen to their cry. Yahweh’s face is against those who do evil, to cut off their memory from the earth. **The righteous cry, and Yahweh hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.** Yahweh is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves those who have a crushed spirit. **Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but Yahweh delivers him out of them all.**”* Psalms 34:15-19 WEBUS

- 1) You can be living a life that is completely honoring to God, and in this fallen world, you will still face trials and tribulations that you don’t deserve.
- 2) Fear not! Yahweh sees everything and He is your ultimate vindication... *“I have told you these things, that in me you may have peace. **In the***

world you have trouble; but cheer up! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33 WEBUS

2. **Potential Opportunity:** Seek healing, safety, justice, support, and ways to move forward from the event.
- a) ***“Beloved, don’t be astonished at the fiery trial which has come upon you to test you, as though a strange thing happened to you. But because you are partakers of Christ’s sufferings, rejoice, that at the revelation of his glory you also may rejoice with exceeding joy. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. On their part he is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or a thief, or an evil doer, or a meddler in other men’s matters. But if one of you suffers for being a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this matter.” 1 Peter 4:12-16 WEBUS***

- 1) Don’t be surprised when you suffer for Christ’s sake or because you took a stand as a Christian.
- 2) Conversely, don’t think you are suffering for Christ when in reality what you are doing is wrong and you actually brought the deserved

consequences on yourself... [EASY] "...***If you do those things, you deserve to have trouble.***" 1

Peter 4:15

(b) **Victim Mentality:** {1} to blame a person or an outside force for what you had the ability to prevent or avoid; {2} to feel sorry for oneself for something that never actually happened.

1. **To Always Assign Blame:** to defend the position or display an attitude that nothing is ever your fault and that others or the world are always against you and are the cause of everything wrong in your life.

a) ***"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we haven't sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."*** 1 John 1:8-10

WEBUS

1) To think that you are never to blame for anything gone wrong is the height of self-deception.

b) ***"Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is***

*in your own eye? Or how will you tell your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye,' and behold, the beam is in your own eye? You hypocrite! **First remove the beam out of your own eye, and then you can see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eye.***" Matthew 7:3-5

WEBUS

- 1) Stop always looking outside first for every problem and difficulty, and first examine yourself and your actions in search of the cause and the solution.
2. **To Claim You are Powerless:** {1} to reject personal responsibility, or that you have any control over a situation. {2} To identify as a victim to avoid the reality that you can find a solution to a problem.
 - a) "*So then **each one of us will give account of himself to God.***" Romans 14:12 WEBUS
 - 1) As a Christian, God's limitless forgiveness does not grant you a free pass from **honest self-reflection and personal agency** (being accountable for your freedom and ability to make decisions and take independent actions).

2) “What shall we say then? ***Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*** May it never be! We who died to sin, how could we live in it any longer?” Romans 6:1-2 WEBUS

(2) It’s a fallen, cutthroat world, and the unbeliever’s number one priority (so often) is to win, even if they must trample you to achieve their goals.

(a) This broken world has an expiration date!

1. “**Don’t love the world or the things that are in the world.** If anyone loves the world, the Father’s love isn’t in him. For all that is in the world—the **lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life**—isn’t the Father’s, but is the world’s.” 1 John 2:15-16
WEBUS

a) First... don’t be drawn in by the cravings that those in the world seem to have... even when they seem to give them some type of advantage.

b) Second... recognize that any perceived advantage is temporary!

1) “***The world is passing away with its lusts, but he who does God’s will remains forever.***” 1 John 2:17 WEBUS

(b) There is nothing to desire that a man has gained by modes and methods that harm others and dishonor Yahweh.

1. **“Don’t envy the man of violence. Choose none of his ways. For the perverse is an abomination to Yahweh, but his friendship is with the upright. Yahweh’s curse is in the house of the wicked, but he blesses the habitation of the righteous.** Surely he mocks the mockers, but he gives grace to the humble. **The wise will inherit glory, but shame will be the promotion of fools.”** Proverbs 3:31-35 WEBUS

- a) It’s all disgusting to God, and that man’s house is cursed—even though he might appear blessed for the moment.
- b) It is those who do things with others as their top priority and with Yahweh’s ways as their standard who win in the end.

(3) The pagan will lie, cheat, and steal to get ahead, and their victims often feel tricked, duped, and helpless.

(a) Pagans will often do anything necessary to succeed, even when it includes immoral and unjust behaviors.

1. **“Better is a little with righteousness, than great revenues with injustice.”** Proverbs 16:8 WEBUS

- (b) You should not be surprised when pagans act like pagans; you should be surprised when Christians act like pagans.
1. “Better is little, **with the fear of Yahweh**, than **great treasure** with trouble.” Proverbs 15:16 WEBUS
 2. “Better is a little **that the righteous has**, than **the abundance** of many wicked.” Psalms 37:16 WEBUS
 - a) Don’t act like a pagan; it is never worth it in the end!
- (c) You need not feel tricked, duped, or helpless even if you are lied to, cheated on, or stolen from...
1. “**I will give thanks to Yahweh with my whole heart. I** will tell of all your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in you. I will sing praise to your name, O Most High. When my enemies turn back, they stumble and perish in your presence. **For you have maintained my just cause. You sit on the throne judging righteously. You have rebuked the nations. You have destroyed the wicked.** You have blotted out their name forever and ever. The enemy is overtaken by endless ruin. The very memory of the cities which you have overthrown has perished. But Yahweh reigns forever. He has prepared his throne for

judgment. **He will judge the world in righteousness. He will administer judgment to the peoples in uprightness. Yahweh will also be a high tower for the oppressed; a high tower in times of trouble. Those who know your name will put their trust in you, for you, Yahweh, have not forsaken those who seek you.** Sing praises to Yahweh, who dwells in Zion, and declare among the people what he has done. For he who avenges blood remembers them. **He doesn't forget the cry of the afflicted.** Have mercy on me, Yahweh. **See my affliction by those who hate me, and lift me up from the gates of death, that I may show all of your praise.** I will rejoice in your salvation in the gates of the daughter of Zion. The nations have sunk down in the pit that they made. **In the net which they hid, their own foot is taken.** Yahweh has made himself known. He has executed judgment. **The wicked is snared by the work of his own hands.** Meditation. Selah." Psalms 9:1-16

WEBUS

- a) Give thanks to Yahweh with your whole heart anyway! AND DO THIS INSTEAD...

1) *“In nothing be anxious, but in everything, **by prayer and petition with thanksgiving**, let your **requests** be made known to God.”* Philippians 4:6 WEBUS

b) Because Yahweh...

- 1) Supports those whose causes are just.
- 2) Rules on His throne with righteousness.
- 3) Always exposes and harshly punishes pagans.

c) Because Yahweh...

- 1) Judges the pagan world justly.
- 2) Administers judgment uprightly.
- 3) Strengthens the oppressed in hard times.
- 4) Never ignores those who seek and trust Him.

d) Because Yahweh...

- 1) Doesn't forget those who are afflicted.
- 2) Mercifully considers your affliction at the hands of those who wish to harm you.

e) And because Pagans...

- 1) Will get caught in their own traps, the ones they set for you!
- 2) Will also get to know Yahweh intimately; but for them, unfortunately, it will be the part of Him that executes righteous punishment.

- 3) Will realize the horror of what they've done when their own wicked ways are ironically what Yahweh uses as their judgement.
- f) Psalm 9 continued...
- 1) *"The wicked shall be turned back to Sheol, even all the nations that forget God. **For the needy shall not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor perish forever.** Arise, Yahweh! **Don't let man prevail. Let the nations be judged in your sight.** Put them in fear, Yahweh. **Let the nations know that they are only men.** Selah."*

Psalms 9:17-20 WEBUS

(4) Your relationship with the living God means you need not be the victim any longer.

- (a) Why? Because *conquerors* are never victims...
1. **"Who could bring a charge against God's chosen ones?** It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, yes rather, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Could **oppression, or anguish, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?** Even as it is written,

“For your sake we are killed all day long. We were accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, **nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from God’s love** which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:33-39 WEBUS

- a) God’s children cannot be indicted, convicted, nor imprisoned by pagans!
 - 1) They will oppress you, abuse you, cause you severe agony, starve you, put you in harm’s way, and even kill some of you.
 - 2) And regardless of any of those things, defeating them can’t even begin to describe the victory God’s love provides for you in the end!
- b) How can you go from victim to victorious even in the midst of the onslaught against you?
 - 1) **With this mindset!** There is no created thing: no human nor evil spirit, nothing from your past nor future, nor anything too big or too powerful,

that can prevent God's love from reaching you
—and His love prevails over everything!

- 2) God's love binds you to His perfect nature no matter what comes against it! (Col. 3:14)

(5) You have everything you need to overcome with God.

- (a) Victory is yours for the taking, and unlike the pagan who lies, cheats, and steals, you can succeed with a clean conscience.
 1. "Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, seeing that **his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue," 2 Peter 1:2-3 WEBUS
 - a) God's supernatural empowerment, even in the midst of feeling powerless, gives you everything you need to succeed in this life.
 - 1) "*He gives **power to the weak**. He increases the **strength of him who has no might**.*" Isaiah 40:29 WEBUS
 - b) However, you will only experience this type of victory if you have the correct perspective.

- c) That perspective must be that your measurement of success is this one thing: *to be pleasing to God!*
- d) And you can never be pleasing to God if you have a guilty conscience!
- e) Nutritious food for a healthy conscience:
 - 1) “***having a good conscience. Thus, while you are spoken against as evildoers, they may be disappointed who curse your good way of life in Christ.***” 1 Peter 3:16 WEBUS
 - 2) “***In this I also practice always having a conscience void of offense toward God and men.***” Acts 24:16 WEBUS
 - 3) “***This is a symbol of baptism, which now saves you—not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,***” 1 Peter 3:21 WEBUS
 - 4) “***But the goal of this command is love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith,***” 1 Timothy 1:5 WEBUS

(6) Don't fret when it appears that evildoers are winning...

- (a) In God's grand design, the days of the wicked being on top are short-lived!

1. **“Don’t fret because of evildoers,** neither be envious against those who work unrighteousness. For **they shall soon be cut down** like the grass, and wither like the green herb. **Trust in Yahweh, and do good.** Dwell in the land, and enjoy safe pasture. Also **delight yourself in Yahweh,** and he will give you the desires of your heart. **Commit your way to Yahweh. Trust also in him, and he will do this:** he will make **your righteousness shine** out like light, and **your justice as the noon day sun.** **Rest in Yahweh, and wait patiently for him.** **Don’t fret** because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who makes wicked plots happen. **Cease from anger, and forsake wrath. Don’t fret; it leads only to evildoing.** For **evildoers shall be cut off,** but those who wait for Yahweh shall inherit the land. For **yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more.** Yes, though you look for his place, he isn’t there. **But the humble shall inherit** the land, and **shall delight** themselves **in the abundance of peace.** **The wicked plots against the just,** and gnashes at him with his teeth. **The Lord will laugh at him, for he sees that his day is coming.** **The wicked have drawn out the sword,** and have bent their bow, to cast down the

poor and needy, to kill those who are upright on the path. **Their sword shall enter into their own heart.** Their bows shall be broken. **Better is a little that the righteous has, than the abundance of many wicked.** For **the arms of the wicked shall be broken, but Yahweh upholds the righteous. Yahweh knows the days of the perfect. Their inheritance shall be forever. They shall not be disappointed in the time of evil.** In the days of famine they shall be satisfied. But **the wicked shall perish. The enemies of Yahweh shall be like the beauty of the fields. They will vanish—vanish like smoke.** The **wicked borrow, and don't pay back, but the righteous give generously.** For such as are blessed by him shall inherit the land. Those who are cursed by him shall be cut off. **A man's steps are established by Yahweh. He delights in his way. Though he stumble, he shall not fall, for Yahweh holds him up with his hand.** I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his children begging for bread. All day long he deals graciously, and lends. His offspring is blessed. **Depart from evil, and do good. Live securely forever.** For **Yahweh loves justice, and**

doesn't forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land, and live in it forever. The mouth of the righteous talks of wisdom. His tongue speaks justice. The law of his God is in his heart. None of his steps shall slide. **The wicked watch the righteous, and seek to kill him. Yahweh will not leave him in his hand,** nor condemn him when he is judged. **Wait for Yahweh, and keep his way, and he will exalt you** to inherit the land. When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it. **I have seen the wicked in great power, spreading himself like a green tree in its native soil. But he passed away, and behold, he was not.** Yes, I sought him, but he could not be found. **Mark the perfect man, and see the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace.** As for transgressors, they shall be destroyed together. **The future of the wicked shall be cut off.** But the salvation of the righteous is from Yahweh. He is their stronghold in the time of trouble. Yahweh helps them and rescues them. **He rescues them from the wicked and saves them, because they have taken refuge in him.**" Psalms 37:1-40 WEBUS

a) The Activities of the Wicked (Yahweh's enemies)

- 1) In anger, they form evil schemes to destroy those who live upright lives for the Lord.
- 2) They form all sorts of weapons to harm people who are living right for God.
- 3) They borrow and don't return the money.
- 4) They cleverly observe the righteous and formulate ways to hurt them.
- 5) They seek power and influence like the roots of a plant seek nourishment from the soil, only so they can abuse them.

b) The Final Outcome for the Wicked

- 1) Evildoers shall be cut down, cut off, and soon be gone.
- 2) The Lord laughs at them because he knows their day of punishment is coming.
- 3) The weapons they form to hurt others shall be used against them.
- 4) Every method used to harm others will be dismantled.
- 5) They shall perish as quickly as smoke dissipates into the air and the beauty of the field fades after the growing season.

- 6) They and their children will be cursed by the righteous and cut off.
 - 7) They will be destroyed altogether and fade into oblivion. They have no future!
- c) The Approach of the Righteous (Yahweh's saints)
- 1) They don't fret because of evildoers.
 - 2) They delight in, commit their way to, trust in, rest in, and wait patiently for Yahweh.
 - 3) They don't fret because of those who prosper from wicked ways, or about the man who makes wicked plots.
 - 4) They cease from anger and forsake wrath.
 - 5) They don't fret because they know it leads only to becoming wicked themselves.
 - 6) They wait for Yahweh, keep His ways, and believe God will eventually exalt them.
 - 7) They know it is better to have a little and be righteous, than have abundance and be wicked.
 - 8) They give generously and deal graciously with and lend to those in need.
 - 9) They depart from evil and do good.
 - 10) They live securely forever.
 - 11) They speak of wisdom and justice.

12) The law of God is in their hearts.

d) The Final Outcome for the Righteous

- 1) God will make them shine like a bright light.
- 2) His justice for them is as certain as the sun rises.
- 3) The humble shall inherit everything God has planned, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.
- 4) Yahweh upholds the righteous.
- 5) When the wicked are cut off, they shall see it.
- 6) Yahweh is completely aware of those who want to be perfect—like Him.
- 7) Their inheritance is permanent, and they will not be disappointed even during bad times.
- 8) In the days of famine they shall be well-fed.
- 9) They are blessed, and their steps are established by Yahweh; God delights in their ways.
- 10) They might stumble, but they will never stay down because Yahweh will lift them up.
- 11) They nor their children will ever be forsaken; their offspring are blessed.
- 12) Yahweh loves justice; He won't forsake His saints.

- 13) They are preserved forever; they have a permanent inheritance.
- 14) Yahweh will not leave them in the wicked's hand, nor condemn them at the time of judgment.
- 15) Mark the perfect man; notice the upright, for there is a future for men of peace.
- 16) Salvation of the righteous is from Yahweh.
- 17) God is their stronghold in times of trouble.
- 18) Yahweh helps them and rescues them from the wicked, because they have taken refuge in Him.
- 19) None of their steps shall slide.

B. Practice Enthusiasm

(1) Introduction: What does it mean to be enthusiastic?

- (a) **Enthusiasm:** {1} feeling or showing a lot of excitement, interest, and positive energy about something. {2} To be enthusiastic describes a person who is thrilled and eager to support or take part in an activity.

1. "Some indeed preach Christ even out of envy and strife, and **some also out of good will**. The former insincerely preach Christ from selfish ambition, thinking that they add affliction to my chains; but the **latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for**

the defense of the Good News.” Philippians 1:15-17

WEBUS

- a) Sometimes people do things with wrong motives.
 - 1) They do things solely for their own benefit.
 - 2) Or, they don't care how it affects others.
 - 3) Or, they'd be more than happy if there is collateral damage and if what they do happens to harm someone else.
 - 4) Or worse yet, they purposely do something to hurt others.
- b) Sometimes people do things out of love.
 - 1) Do things for the love of God and the love of others are always the right motives!
 - 2) And to defend the gospel is something about which every Christian should feel or show excitement, interest, and positive energy.
 - 3) Can there be any activities you should be more enthusiastic, thrilled, and eager to support, or take part in, than sharing the love of God?
- (b) **Be warned all you haters:** when Christ is the subject, even when your motivation to speak His name is dishonest, He will ultimately be magnified.

1. **“What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed.** I rejoice in this, yes, and will rejoice. For I know that **this will turn out to my salvation** through your prayers and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope, **that I will in no way be disappointed, but with all boldness, as always, now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.** But if I live on in the flesh, this will bring fruit from my work; yet I don’t know what I will choose. But **I am hard pressed between the two, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Yet to remain in the flesh is more needful** for your sake. **Having this confidence, I know that I will remain, yes, and remain with you all for your progress and joy in the faith, that your boasting may abound in Christ Jesus in me through my presence with you again.”** Philippians 1:18-26 WEBUS
 - a) Paul measures his own well-being, expectation, and hope on one thing:

- 1) As long as he is aligned with this one thing, there is no way for him to be disappointed.
 - 2) He is driven by the Holy Spirit, with boldness, to venerate Christ, even if it will kill him.
 - 3) In fact, for Paul, to live for Christ is wonderful, but to die for Christ would be the greatest privilege imaginable!
 - 4) Can a man be any more enthusiastic about anything than that?
- b) And even though he is more enthusiastic to die for Christ than to live for Christ...
- 1) He knows that the continuation of the fruit of his life's work is more necessary at the moment.
 - 2) So, Paul enthusiastically concedes, with confidence, that he will press on in ministry until his students are as enthusiastic about Christ as he!
- (c) As such, Paul encourages us all that every priority in life should be weighed against this one thing...
1. **"Only let your way of life be worthy of the Good News of Christ,** that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your state, that you stand firm in one spirit, **with one soul striving for the faith**

of the Good News; and in nothing frightened by the adversaries, which is for them a proof of destruction, **but to you of salvation, and that from God. Because it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in him, but also to suffer on his behalf**, having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.” Philippians 1:27-30

WEBUS

- a) Sharing the gospel message is the supreme benchmark of a worthwhile life!
 - 1) Don't be afraid to do so!
 - 2) Quite the opposite, be enthusiastic to do so, even though it is guaranteed to cause you many troubles.
- b) Why wouldn't it? It certainly caused Y'shua and Paul many troubles!
 - 1) *“Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his Lord.’ **If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.**”*
John 15:20 WEBUS
 - 2) *“...having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.”* Philippians 1:30

3) Should a man be any more enthusiastic about anything than that?

(2) Even if you are currently (temporarily) not feeling very victorious, you can still wake with a spring in your step!

(a) Yahweh is the God of your life at all times—even the tough times!

1. “For his anger is but for a moment. His favor is for a lifetime. **Weeping may stay for the night, but joy comes in the morning.** As for me, **I said in my prosperity, “I shall never be moved.”** You, Yahweh, **when you favored me, made my mountain stand strong; but when you hid your face, I was troubled.** I cried to you, Yahweh. I made supplication to the Lord: **“What profit is there in my destruction, if I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise you? Shall it declare your truth?** Hear, Yahweh, and have mercy on me. Yahweh, be my helper.” **You have turned my mourning into dancing for me. You have removed my sackcloth, and clothed me with gladness,** to the end that my heart may sing praise to you, and not be silent. Yahweh my God, I will give thanks to you forever!” Psalms 30:5-12 WEBUS

- a) Don't just be enthusiastic for the Lord when things are going well, and then fold under pressure at the first sign of trouble.
- b) Here is a healthy perspective: recognize that difficulties come and go, but Yahweh never changes.
- c) Deal with your trials with that truth in mind, and don't ever lose your enthusiasm to proclaim,
"Yahweh is my God, and I will forever thank Him in every circumstance!"
- d) Do it now, while you live, because no one will hear you when you are gone!
 - 1) ***"Restore to me the joy of your salvation. Uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways. Sinners will be converted to you."*** Psalms 51:12-13 WEBUS

(3) Identity: be reminded of who you are and whose you are.

- (a) Sometimes it's good to be reminded of who you were and where you came from, so you can better appreciate whose you are and where you are now!
 - 1. "Therefore **remember that once you, the Gentiles** in the flesh, who are called "uncircumcision" by that which is called "circumcision" (in the flesh, made by

hands), **that you were at that time separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel,** and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. **But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off are made near in the blood of Christ.**" Ephesians 2:11-13

WEBUS

- a) You were once a pagan, completely separated from God and His covenanted people and covenant promises, but your born-again encounter with Y'shua changed all that and brought you into God's family.
- (b) Who are you and Whose are you?
 - 1. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are **children of God.** For you didn't receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but **you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that **we are children of God; and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,** if indeed we suffer with him, that we may also be glorified with him." Romans 8:14-17 WEBUS

a) *“But **as many as received him**, to them **he gave the right to become God’s children**, to those who believe in his name:”* John 1:12 WEBUS

- 1) When you were born again, you were actually adopted into God’s family.
- 2) At that moment, you received all the rights and privileges as if you were a biological child of God, **as is Y’shua!**
- 3) You get to call Him Father, **as does Y’shua!**
- 4) You will receive the same inheritance, **as will Y’shua!**
- 5) Be enthusiastic; that is who you are and whose you are!

(4) Yahweh would not have sacrificed His only begotten Son for you, His most precious possession, if He did not also intend to give you everything else you need to feel fulfilled and victorious!

(a) Regardless of what comes against you...

1. “What then shall we say about these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** He who **didn’t spare his own Son**, but delivered him up for us all, **how would he not also with him freely give us all things?**”

Romans 8:31-32 WEBUS

- a) Be enthusiastic, at least, about this one fact!
 - 1) God cares for you so much that He willingly sacrificed His Son for you (and His Son willingly agreed)!
- b) As such, how could anything on earth prevail against you? It can't!
 - 1) *"But thanks be to God, who gives us the **victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**"* 1 Corinthians 15:57 WEBUS
- c) It's Impossible: because your victory is even more than a victory!
 - 1) *"No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors** through him who loved us."* Romans 8:37 WEBUS

(5) A life submerged in the things of the Yahweh affords you the opportunity to live with intensity, eagerness, passion, zeal, and exuberance.

- (a) **Submerged** in the things of Yahweh...
 - 1. **"Deep calls to deep** at the noise of your waterfalls. All your waves and your billows have swept over me. **Yahweh will command his loving kindness in the daytime. In the night his song shall be with me:** a prayer to the God of my life." Psalms 42:7-8 WEBUS

a) **Be Enthusiastic:** God's love runs so deep, and you are meant to drown in it!

1) *"**Oh the depth** of the riches both of the wisdom and the knowledge of God! **How unsearchable** are his judgments, and his ways past tracing out!"* Romans 11:33 WEBUS

b) **Be Enthusiastic:** God's Spirit reveals the deepest things of God to His children!

1) *"But to us, God revealed them through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, **yes, the deep things of God.**"* 1 Corinthians 2:10
WEBUS

c) **Be Enthusiastic:** As a child of God, you have access to things so deep that even the prophets of old would be envious!

1) *"Turning to the disciples, he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things that you see, for **I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see the things which you see, and didn't see them, and to hear the things which you hear, and didn't hear them.**""* Luke 10:23-24 WEBUS

(b) A life of **intensity** for Yahweh...

1. “Let love be without hypocrisy. **Abhor that which is evil. Cling to that which is good.** In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to one another; in honor prefer one another, not lagging **in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord**, rejoicing in hope, enduring in troubles, continuing **steadfastly** in prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, and given to hospitality.” Romans 12:9-13 WEBUS

a) **Be Enthusiastic:** to love others intensely and fervently in service to God!

(c) A life of **eagerness** for Yahweh...

1. “And **whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord** and not for men, **knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward** of the inheritance; **for you serve the Lord** Christ.” Colossians 3:23-24 WEBUS

a) **Be Enthusiastic:** Anything and everything you do in life, do it as if you are doing it in service to God!

(d) A life of **passion** for Yahweh...

1. “For **God is not unrighteous, so as to forget your work and the labor of love** which you showed toward his name, in that you **served the saints**, and still do serve them. We desire that each one of you may **show the same diligence** to the fullness of hope

even to the end, that you **won't be sluggish, but imitators of those** who through faith and perseverance inherited the promises." Hebrews 6:10-12 WEBUS

- a) **Be Enthusiastic:** You work for God, and your service to others should be a labor of love. Every Christian should serve others with the same level of passion and never become lazy or bored with this prime objection.

(e) A life of **zeal** for Yahweh...

- 1. "For **the zeal of your house consumes me.** The reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me." Psalms 69:9 WEBUS

- a) **Be Enthusiastic:** *"It is always good to be zealous in a good cause..."* (Gal. 4:18) And the greatest cause of all is to enthusiastically serve God by serving others.

(f) A life of **exuberance** for Yahweh...

- 1. "**But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the Lord's work,** because you know

that **your labor is not in vain in the Lord.**" 1

Corinthians 15:57-58 WEBUS

- a) **Be Enthusiastic:** Again, be reminded, you have already won! That should inspire you to unwaveringly serve the Lord (do the Lord's work) with reckless abandon. And you can be further enthusiastic about this: the work you do for God always bears fruit!

(6) You can be enthusiastic and committed to the victory in Jesus Christ—no matter how long it takes and no matter what is required.

- (a) **Be Enthusiastic:** You are an overcomer!
 - 1. "Jacob was left alone, and wrestled with a man there until the breaking of the day. When he saw that he didn't prevail against him, the man touched the hollow of his thigh, and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was strained as he wrestled. The man said, **"Let me go, for the day breaks."** Jacob said, **"I won't let you go unless you bless me."** He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob". He said, **"Your name will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have fought with God and with men, and have prevailed."**" Genesis 32:24-28 WEBUS

- a) Wrestle with God and don't let go; the blessing is imminent.
- b) I know this to be true because when you became a Christian, you had a change in identity from "*State Your Name Here*" to Israel, which means, "*One who overcomes with God!*"
 - 1) "*that **you were at that time separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off are made near in the blood of Christ.** {19} So then **you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens** with the saints and of the household of God,*"
Ephesians 2:12-13, 19 WEBUS

(b) **Be Enthusiastic:** about your *New Identity!*

- 1. "I have been **crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.** That life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me."
Galatians 2:20 WEBUS

- a) You should no longer live for yourself because Christ is living through you!
- b) Can you be or should you be more enthusiastic about anything else than that?
 - 1) *“Or don’t you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? **You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.**”*
1 Corinthians 6:19-20 WEBUS

Prayer: *I SURRENDER VICTIMHOOD (Yahweh, I surrender being a victim. I understand that it’s a fallen, cutthroat world, and it is more often than not that when I am dealing with unbelievers, their number one priority is to win, even if they must trample over me to achieve their goals. If necessary, they will lie, cheat, and steal to get ahead, and their victims often feel tricked, duped, and helpless. However, if I have a relationship with the living God, I need not be the victim any longer. I have everything I need to overcome with God. Victory is mine for the taking, and unlike the pagan who lies, cheats, and steals, I can succeed with a clean conscience. So, I won’t fret when it appears that evildoers are winning; in Your grand design, O God, their days of being on top*

are short-lived!) I WILL PRACTICE ENTHUSIASM (Today, God, I practice enthusiasm. Regardless of my current status, even if I am temporarily on the losing end of the stick and not feeling very victorious, I can still wake with a spring in my step! All it takes is a reminder of who I am and whose I am. Do I really think that Yahweh, the God of creation, would sacrifice His most precious possession for me if He did not also intend to give me everything else I really need to feel fulfilled and victorious in Him? Of course not! A life submerged in the things of the Lord affords me the opportunity to live with intensity, eagerness, passion, zeal, and exuberance—enthusiastic and committed to the victory in Jesus Christ—no matter how long it takes and no matter what is required.)

ASSIGNMENT #23

1. Pray about and meditate on these Scriptures:

- A. “For **the word of God** is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and **is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart**. There is no creature that is hidden from his sight, but **all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.**” Hebrews 4:12-13 WEBUS

- B. “But there is **nothing covered up that will not be revealed**, nor hidden that will not be known.” Luke 12:2 WEBUS
- C. “For **God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil.**” Ecclesiastes 12:14 WEBUS
- D. “For **no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.** But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or straw, **each man’s work will be revealed. For the Day will declare it, because it is revealed in fire;** and the fire itself will test what sort of work each man’s work is.” 1 Corinthians 3:11-13 WEBUS
- E. “For the time has come for **judgment** to begin with the household of God. If it **begins first with us**, what will happen to those who don’t obey the Good News of God?” 1 Peter 4:17 WEBUS

2. **Surrender Victimhood: “Don’t fret because of evildoers, neither be envious against those who work unrighteousness. For **they shall soon be cut down** like the grass, and wither like the green herb.”** Psalms 37:1-2 WEBUS

- A. Search your heart humbly and honestly.
- 1) Do you recognize that it’s a fallen, cutthroat world, and it is more often than not that when you are dealing with

unbelievers, their number one priority is to win, even if they must trample over you to achieve their goals?

- 2) Are you aware that if necessary, they will lie, cheat, and steal to get ahead, and their victims often feel tricked, duped, and helpless?
- 3) Do you acknowledge that if you have a relationship with the living God, you need not be the victim any longer, and that you have everything you need to overcome with God?
- 4) Do you know that the victory is yours for the taking, and unlike the pagan who lies, cheats, and steals, you can succeed with a clean conscience?
- 5) Will you commit to no longer fret when it appears that evildoers are winning because in God's grand design, their days of being on top are short-lived?
- 6) Please review your answer to each question and explain your strategy to address it.
- 7) Who will hold you accountable to surrender your feelings of being a victim?

3. **Practice Enthusiasm:** *"The man said, "Let me go, for the day breaks." Jacob said, "**I won't let you go unless you bless me.**""*

Genesis 32:26 WEBUS

A. Are you prepared to practice enthusiasm?

- 1) Do you understand that regardless of your current status, even if you are temporarily on the losing end of the stick and not feeling very victorious, you can still wake with a spring in your step?
- 2) Can you see that all it takes to do so is a reminder of who you are and whose you are?
- 3) Will you acknowledge that Yahweh, the God of creation, would not sacrifice His most precious possession for you if He did not also intend to give you everything else you really need to feel fulfilled and victorious in Him?
- 4) Will you admit that to indulge in feeling bad for oneself can paralyze you from moving forward in life?
- 5) Will you commit to a life submerged in the things of the Lord, and the opportunity it affords you to live with intensity, eagerness, passion, zeal, and exuberance—enthusiastic and committed to the victory in Jesus Christ—no matter how long it takes and no matter what is required?
- 6) Please review your answer to each question and explain your strategy to address it.
- 7) Who will hold you accountable to practice determination while avoiding self-will and legalism?