

Introduction

1. One of my all-time favorite N.T. verses is 1 Corinthians 15:57. (**Show**)¹ Let's read it together.
 - a. Greek root word for **victory = nike**.² (**Show**)³ Long before name of a shoe company,...
 - i. **Nike** stood for the conquest, the triumph, the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ii. We'll never see that name again and think about it in the same way will we?
 - b. In context of 1 Cor. 15, the 2 enemies Jesus **NIKEED** (if may use) are sin & death, vv. 55-56.
 - c. Two greatest enemies of believers have been defeated. We need fear nothing else.
 - d. If our two greatest enemies are conquered, Jesus will lead us to victory thru all the rest.
2. Before heading off face cross, Jesus taught His disciples that lesson in His greatest prayer.
 - a. Today come to last chapter in *Last Supper Series*. (**Title/Text**)⁴ Greatest prayer recorded.
 - b. Its purpose = reinforce last message of Jesus in Jn. 16:33. Warren Wiersbe writes:
 - c. No matter what events occurred later that evening, this prayer makes it clear that Jesus was and is the Overcomer. He was not a "victim"; He was and is the Victor! The word *world* is used nineteen times in this prayer, so it is easy to see the connection between the prayer and John 16:33. If you and I will understand and apply the truths revealed in this profound prayer, it will enable us to be overcomers too.⁵
 - d. Jesus prayed for three things in this prayer: Himself, Apostles, Future Believers. (**Show**)⁶
 - e. Himself, vv. 1-5 = **How Jesus achieved the victory & became our overcomer**. (**Show**)

I. Out of injustice, He achieved the greatest glory, v. 1.

A. Cross Greatest Injustice World Has Ever Known.

1. Peter said, **this Jesus...you crucified & killed by the hands of lawless men. Acts 2:23.**
 - a. For the sinless Son of God to be murdered in that way is history's greatest wrong.
 - b. None of us would look forward to such a shameful, painful, God-forsaken death.
2. But Jesus was actually looking forward to the cross. Amazing that isn't it?
 - a. Not the torture, searing pain, separation from Father that bearing sin would bring.
 - b. He prayed in the garden, **let that cup pass from me, Luke 22:42.**
3. But Jesus looked forward to what cross'd accomplish. **Joy set before Him, Heb. 12:2**
4. **Jesus is looking forward to cross, but in a mood of hope & joy, not one of despondency.**⁷

B. Why Was Jesus Looking Forward to The Cross?

1. The purpose of God for Jesus' coming was going to be accomplished.
 - a. All thru-out Jesus' ministry there is constant reference to *His hour*, v. 1.
 - b. **Last Supper Discourse** ends this way, 17:1, & it also starts this way, 13:1. (bookends)
 - c. **Hour** = suffering, death, resurrection, return to Father & enthronement, 13:1. (26xs.)⁸
 - d. Remember when enemies tried kill Him prematurely, could not. Hour not come, 7:30.
 - e. Jesus in total control. But now hour had come & Jesus marched to meet it head on.
 - f. Jesus did not pray to escape the hour; He prayed for strength to do God's will.

¹ <http://revtrev.com/wp-content/uploads/1-Corinthians-15.57-CGD-e1319818499685.jpg>. Accessed 3/11/16.

² Strong, J. (1996). *The New Strong's Dictionary of Hebrew and Greek Words*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson. #3534.

³ <https://i.ytimg.com/vi/UoeCT4Uw6JE/default.jpg>. Accessed 3/11/16.

⁴ <http://redemptionspokane.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/john17-RED-600x433.jpg>. Accessed 3/11/16

⁵ Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). *The Bible exposition commentary* (Vol. 1, p. 367). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

⁶ <http://www.slideshare.net/pdcoc92255/081102-the-longest-prayer-john-17-1-26-dale-wells-presentation>. Slide 4. Accessed 3/11/16.

⁷ Leon Morris quoted in Constable, T. (2003). *Tom Constable's Expository Notes on the Bible* (Jn 16:33). Galaxie Software.

⁸ Gangel, K. O. (2000). *John* (Vol. 4, pp. 322–323). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

2. Thru the cross Jesus would bring the greatest glory to God.
 - a. Did you notice that was Jesus one request – that His glory would bring God glory?
 - b. Grtest reason for anyone to live = bring God glory. **God's glory = showing Him off.**⁹
3. Why was the cross (worst crime ever) greatest display of Jesus' glory & God's glory?
 - a. Because in cross/resurrection God's attributes come together in their grtest display.
 - b. **1 Corinthians 1:23-25, 30.** Look at all the attributes displayed in cross & resurrection.
 - i. Want love? – Jesus died for His enemies, Rom. 5:8. No greater love.
 - ii. Want power? – Jesus defeated sin/death/Satan in death & resurrection. No grter.
 - iii. Want wisdom? – sinless God/man = prf. subst. = sinners: righteous., sanct., redeem.
 - c. **Pastor E. V. Hill said, God was at His best when He saved our souls.**¹⁰ **Absolutely tru!**
 - d. **It was a glorious Savior who died; it was glorious love that led him to die; it was a glorious object to redeem a world; and it is unspeakable glory to which he will raise lost and ruined sinners by his death. Oh, who would not glory in such a Savior!**¹¹
4. Now, grt wonder of Christian life = can live for God's glory (even littlest act glorifies Him).
 - a. I was holding door at university for college student. Another came right behind her.
 - b. 3rd woman came right behind her. Said, **You're gonna be standing there all day.**
 - c. If little act holding door for 3 women brought God glory it'd be worth standing all day.
5. Amazing thing. Sinners saved by the cross can now bring glory to God.

II. Out of weakness, He achieved the greatest gift, vv. 2-3.

A. Did You Notice There Are Two Gifts?

1. Eternal life is given to those the Father has given to the Son, v. 2. Not 1 gift, but 2.
 - a. Before Son ever gave each believer gift of et. life, Father gave each believer to Son.
 - b. Does that blow your mind? This truth emphasized 7xs. in chap., vv. 2, 6², 9, 11, 12, 24.
 - c. This = grt mystery of God's sovereign choosing in salvation. Taught before, 6:37, 65.
2. Believers are a love gift from Father to Son. We were given before world began.
 - a. **Revelation 13:8 = name...written before the foundation of the world in the book of life.**
 - b. **Book life = names of all saved who in God's family. Citizenship in heaven, Phil. 3:20.**
 - c. **Rejoice that names written down in heaven, Luke 10:20. Written before ever born.**
3. God planned our salvation, chose us for salv., accomplished salv., brought us to salv.
4. How many has God lost whom He gave to the Son, v. 12? **NOT ONE.**
 - a. God does the saving; God does the keeping. Not one is lost. Jesus **GUARDED THEM.**
 - b. Do not fully understand this mystery. Cannot get over I am love gift of Father to Son.
5. **Ultimately, the reason God has saved you and me is for the honor & glory of His Son. The goal in creation is that God would give as a gift to His Son many who are reborn into Christ's likeness.**¹² **(Show)**
6. I knew eternal life is Christ's gift to me; I am dumbfounded I am God's gift to Christ!
7. What would He want with me? Now that He has me, how can I glorify Him more?

B. What Is Eternal Life, v.3?

1. Last two times eternal life is mentioned in the Gospel of John. 17xs. in John.

⁹ Dr. Charles Ryrie's definition of what it means to bring glory to God. BTW, God's only one worth showing off.

¹⁰ I heard Dr. Hill say this in a sermon preached at Moody Church, Chicago.

¹¹ Pastor Albert Barnes, Spurgeon, C.H. (2009). *My Sermon Notes* (Vol.3, pp.267–68). Bellingham, WA: Logos Software.

¹² R. C. Sproul, *Tabletalk*, 1989. Galaxie Software. (2002). *10,000 Sermon Illustrations*. Biblical Studies Press.

2. Most wonderful definition of eternal life I think I know of in the Bible.¹³
 - a. An intimate, personal, growing knowledge of the Father and the Son.
 - i. Know = relational word, not just an intellectual word. Relationship w/Father/Son.¹⁴
 - ii. It is not just knowing about God, but actually knowing God personally.
 - iii. The person who has et. life can say, **Jesus is my PERSONAL Savior.**
 - iv. Continuing personal experience w/Father/Son because KNOW = present tense.
 - b. A **PRESENT** possession given by Christ to all believe (not earned; only received), v.2.
 - c. A quantity of life used with reference to the believer's future destiny = ETERNAL.
 - i. Jesus said about those who have it that they WILL NEVER PERISH, John 10:28.
 - ii. He said the WRATH OF GOD will not abide upon them, John 3:36.
 - d. A new quality of life because it's God's life thru Jesus and is supernatural.
 - i. To know God is to be transformed & be introduced to a life that could not be experienced.¹⁵
 - ii. No one can have this life and remain the same. It changes us.
 - iii. As we grow in this relationship it changes us more and more.
3. One of the dearest men I knew in Bible college was biggest surprise to be there.
 - a. He was a drug user and sexually promiscuous. Eternal life changed him.
 - b. He married Elaine Fisher one of the sweetest girls in our class.
 - c. He became a Chicago police officer and loved serving those on his beat.
 - d. The promiscuous man became a wonderful family man.
 - e. The lawbreaker became a compassionate law enforcer. That's eternal life!

III. **Out of humiliation, He achieved the greatest exaltation, vv. 4-5.**

A. John 17:4-5 Explains Philippians 2:5-11

1. What Jesus prayed for Himself right here, vv.4-5, explains one of greatest passages.
2. Philippians 2:5-8 says that in the incarnation Jesus took 3 BIG STEPS DOWN.¹⁶
 - a. He gave up His right to glory, vv. 6-7a.
 - b. He took the form of a man, a creature, vv. 7b-8a.
 - c. He, a sinless man, voluntarily died the death of a cursed man, v. 8.
3. This what Jesus meant by finished the work, v. 4. This = how emptied/humiliated Himself.
4. And because He did He asked for His glory back again, v. 5. God answered His prayer.

B. Read Together Philippians 2:9-11 (Show)¹⁷

1. This is the answer. Do you see the underlined portions? The only proper response is →
2. Confess with your tongue that He is Lord and glorify the Father whom He glorified.
3. Bow your knee to Him and receive Him as your Savior and Lord.

¹³ Source unknown. Galaxie Software. (2002). *10,000 Sermon Illustrations*. Biblical Studies Press.

¹⁴ Biblical Studies Press. (2005). *The NET Bible 1st Edition; Bible. English. NET Bible*. Biblical Studies Press, Jn. 17:3.

¹⁵ Carson, D. A. (1991). *The Gospel according to John* (p. 556). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.

¹⁶ <http://wwwFOUNDATIONSforfreedom.net/Topics/Humility/resHumility/BigSteps.gif>. Accessed 3/12/16.

¹⁷ <http://www.slideshare.net/ticomatnik/1-1worshipinspirit6feb2011110206061610phpapp02-43783685>. Slide 6. 3/12/16.