

Living the Triumphant Life – Walking in the Light

“If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have something in common with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:6-7). Walking in the light gets your life on track. And a life on track produces health, happiness and prosperity. A life off track is one of mediocrity, lack and defeat. God’s heart towards us is for our lives to be on track – to be a reflection of “triumph” in every area. **Triumphant living** is the place each one of us needs to get to. But what does the word “triumphant” mean to us? According to God’s word, it should mean:

- To be victorious or prosperous
- To have a noteworthy or spectacular success
- To rejoice over an accomplishment or favourable result
- To achieve or attain supremacy by effort
- To take possession in battle
- To conquer or prevail
- To overcome hardship and attain a desired goal

Let’s look at some of the words that describe “triumphant living”. We can be victorious, prosperous and successful. Through our efforts, we can achieve or attain supremacy. We can prevail over all of life’s issues and circumstances. Not only are we to be successful but our success should be noteworthy and spectacular! God will always lead us to the super-abundant and spectacular life. He wants to lead us to the impressive, the dramatic, the remarkable, and the sensational! Yes, God leads His people to places where they could never go without Him. Others should look at us and wonder how we got to where we are in life!

Our lives should be full of **joy**. Joy is to have gladness of heart. God calls us to be **“full of joy”** (1 John 1:4; John 15:11; John 16:24). God grants us “joy unspeakable”, “inexpressible” (1 Peter 1:8). In other words, there should be shouts of joy radiating from every situation. People should hear laughter and gratitude coming out of our mouths constantly. Joy is a true indication of us having ‘triumphed’ over issues or circumstances in life. We cannot live the **triumphant life** without expressing our victories with shouts of joy. There is so much freedom in this expression!

However, too many Christians never get to enjoy the great liberty that accompanies the **triumphant life**. They are habitually in bondage to circumstances from the past or fear of the future. But worst of all, there are believers who are being manipulated, dominated or oppressed by the “rulers of darkness.” And sadly, they don’t even know it! To live the triumphant life we must all have knowledge concerning the “forces of darkness” that operate in the unseen realm of the spirit. Even more, we must understand the importance of “walking in the light.”

The New Testament is a revelation of God’s great plan of redemption. **Colossians 1:13** tells us that Jesus came to rescue us from the power and authority of the evil forces that rule in the realm of darkness, *“...For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves.”* Note, the only place the “rulers of darkness” have no dominance is where the light has come. What light? The light of intellect? The light of science? No. The light of the gospel of Jesus Christ! The Bible clearly points to the fact that we are **children of light**, not darkness (1 Thessalonians 5:5), because we’ve been *“brought into”* the Kingdom of Light. That’s

why it is so important to walk in the light! Walking in the light is walking where Jesus is! Walking in the light, is “walking in the light” of His infallible word! This ensures complete protection from all evil forces.

Remember, as children light we are **“in the world but not of the world” (John 17:14-16)**. Therefore, we do not have to succumb or ‘give in’ to the rulers of darkness. However, we invite these forces to rule over us every time we walk in darkness rather than in the light. Yes, they can have legal dominion over us - either unknowingly (through ignorance) or willingly (through disobedience). Whenever we walk in darkness we give the devil permission to rule and reign in our lives. That’s the primary reason why God’s Word exhorts His people to walk in the light! Rulers of darkness CAN’T rule in the light. Fact! Because of this, they cannot have any effect on those who are walking in the light.

Let me explain it another way.... We live in a world that’s in darkness. Therefore, the rulers of darkness have “dominion” (freedom to operate and govern at will) in the world system, and in the lives of those living in this jurisdiction. However, we have been rescued from this dark location and positioned in the very same place that Jesus occupies. Yet, our opening scripture tells us to *“walk in the light, as He is in the light.”* Implying that we can choose to walk elsewhere! Which contradicts **Colossians 1:13**, *“...He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves.”* The question that needs to be answered is simply... “How can we walk in the light if we are already positioned in the light?”

The answer is found in a principle defined in **Psalm 119:130**, *“The entrance of Your words gives light.”* We walk in the light whenever we walk in the Word! Yes, but notice, it’s the entrance of God’s word that produces light. The light has no **power** source until God’s Word is allowed to enter! Imagine your life being a succession of dark rooms - each room with a light bulb in it. And each room in complete darkness until something specific happens. Until power is distributed to the bulb!

But no power can be distributed to the light bulb until the Word of God enters that room. This is where we all have a choice (a free will). We can remain in darkness and allow the “rulers of darkness” to take control of that room (those circumstances), or we can choose to walk in the light (being obedient to God’s Word). It’s entirely up to us!

I believe this is probably the biggest hindrance to living the triumphant life. Not walking in the light of God’s word invites defeat and hardship. Or more importantly, by not allowing the word of God to enter your circumstances you invite the “rulers of darkness” to exercise authority over that situation. Why? Because your situation remains in darkness! So remember this, you cannot walk in the light as well as walk in darkness! It can be one or the other! It’s your life - it’s your choice.

There are people listening to this that need to make a choice. You are struggling because you won’t or can’t allow God’s Word to enter and bring light to your circumstances. You are being sinful and disobedient. Stop pretending that you are under attack because of your spirituality. You are under attack merely because the “rulers of darkness” have been given authority to take control. If you were **“walking in the light”** they would have no power at all! Look at the contrast between the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of Light...

- *Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12)*
- *Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. (John 12:35)*
- *While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them. (John 12:36)*
- *I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. (John 12:46)*
- *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. (Romans 13:12)*
- *Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? (2 Corinthians 6:14)*
- *This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:5-7)*

Praise God! The "rulers of darkness" have no authority to influence us when we walk in the light of God's word - giving no access to the devil. It's the entrance of the Word of God that brings light to every negative situation. And we have the ability to switch the light on! What's more, with the light on we can see clearly. Yes, all of us CAN (and should) walk in the light so we don't fall prey to the evil traps and schemes of the enemy. In fact, as believers, it is the knowledge of God's Word that is the 'source' of Light, and it sets us free in all areas. Liberty is a key to living the **triumphant life**. Therefore, walk in the light and be FREE.