

Victory!

I John 2:13b, "I write unto you young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one."

Often we lose sight that we are in a war. It is easy to go along with our lives without doing battle, but in doing so we choose defeat.

We may see the primary struggle as internal, a battle with ourselves. There is some truth in this. The scripture says that "every man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed," but this is only a part of the conflict. We are in a greater warfare.

Paul says, "we wrestle... against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world." This is opposition, conflict, against beings outside of our selves. It is not a fight with the unsaved or people entrapped in the error and false religions of this world, but against the spiritual powers behind the falsehood.

We may feel weak and helpless against such fearsome enemies. Satan is portrayed as fierce, powerful and his descriptions and the effects of his influence strike fear in many, both pagan and Christian----But: "YE HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE!"

What a marvelous proclamation! Not that we eventually will, but that we already HAVE overcome this fearsome enemy. We need not fear, but can boldly stand against this adversary!

Before we get proud and self confident, understand that the reason for our victory and assuredness is found in I John 4:4, "greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." Our armaments and protection are our total dependence on the finished work of Christ and implementation of the equipping truths of Scripture. We must learn to do battle in prayer for one another and the Church.

Live the truth proclaimed here by John, "ye have overcome the wicked one."