

## **Daily, Practical, Victorious, Christian Living**

1. “How shall we who died to sin still live in... [‘the pleasures of sin...’]” (Romans 6:2 & Hebrews 11:25)? “And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the [children] of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ... and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:1-6, NKJV).
2. Since we sit together with Christ in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6), “no one who lives in Christ {John 15:5} keeps on sinning” (1 John 3:6, NIV)! “We are NOT controlled by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, ...[who] lives in us” (Romans 8:9, NIV). We are under new management since God gave us a new heart and a new spirit (Ezekiel 11:19; 18:31 & 36:26; 2 Corinthians 3:6). Now, God can say of us: “Behold my servant, whom I have chosen, [‘whom I uphold’]; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased, [‘in whom my soul delights’]: I [have] put my spirit upon him and s/he shall show judgment to the Gentiles” (Matthew 12:18 & Isaiah 42:1): people without Christ and not “...heirs according to the promise” (Galatians 3:8 & 29; Romans 1:16 & Ephesians 2:11-12). “...Darkness... covers the earth and gross darkness the people, but the Lord shall arise upon thee and His glory shall be seen upon thee and the Gentiles shall come to thy light and kings to the brightness of thy rising” (Isaiah 60:2-3) because God’s word lights your path (Psalm 119:105) and “[you] are the light of the world, a city set on an hill [that] cannot be hid” (Matthew 5:14); therefore, “...the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, ...shines [through you] unto them” (2 Corinthians 4:4).

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- 27 3. "...These things I write unto you that you **sin not**..." (1 John 2:1). Not sinning is God's  
28 ideal for His children. "Whosoever is born of God doth **NOT** commit sin..." (1 John  
29 3:9), that is: engage in unrighteousness (1 John 5:17) or "...whatsoever is not of faith..."  
30 (Romans 14:23) or "...transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4 & Matthew 5:28). "[You]  
31 must be born again" (John 3:7), of water and Spirit (John 3:5)! It is to facilitate the dual  
32 birth process of water and Spirit (Acts 8:14-16) rather than encourage repeatedly sinning  
33 that confession of sins elicits the faithful and just God to forgive our sins and to cleanse  
34 us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).
- 35
- 36 4. But I must always remember that "I am crucified with Christ... [and] Christ lives in me  
37 and the life I now live in the flesh I live by... faith..." (Galatians 2:20). I do **NOT**  
38 belong to myself (1 Corinthians 6:19, NLT). I have been bought with a price to glorify  
39 God in my body and in my spirit, which are God's (1 Corinthians 6:20). "[Christ] died  
40 that... all [who] live should **NOT** live unto themselves, but unto Him [who] died for  
41 them and rose again" (2 Corinthians 5:15). "...Be not ye the servants of men" (1  
42 Corinthians 7:23).
- 43
- 44 5. ...All... who... baptized into Christ... baptized into His death (Romans 6:3)? "Buried  
45 with Him in baptism, [we]... are risen with Him through faith of the operation of  
46 God..." (Colossians 2:12). As Christ was raised from the dead... [by] the Father, so we  
47 [also] walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4). "For through [Christ] we... have access by  
48 one Spirit to the Father... [and] are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow  
49 citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:18-19). In  
50 and through Jesus Christ, I am "...being fitted together... into a holy temple in the Lord,  
51 in whom... [I am] being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit"  
52 (Ephesians 2:20-22).
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54 6. “Since [we] have been raised to new life with Christ, [let us] set [our] sights on the  
55 realities of heaven...” (Colossians 3:1, NLT). “...God... has blessed us with every  
56 spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ” (Ephesians  
57 1:3, NLT). “By [God’s] divine power, [He] has given us everything we need for living a  
58 godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know Him, the one who called us  
59 to Himself by means of His marvelous glory and excellence” (2 Peter 1:3, NLT).

60  
61 7. Baptism united us with Christ in death; His resurrection made us a new creation unto  
62 Him in life (Romans 6:5; 2 Corinthians 5:17). Christ has “...washed us from our sins in  
63 His own blood” (Revelation 1:5); therefore, “...no guile [exists in our mouth] for [we]  
64 are without fault before the throne of God” (Revelation 14:5). As overcomers, Christ  
65 will not only retain our names in the book of life but also confess our names before the  
66 Father and His angels (Revelation 3:5) because “...[we] overcame [the accuser of the  
67 brethren] by the blood of the Lamb and the word of [our] testimony and [we] loved not  
68 [our] lives unto death” (Revelation 12:10-11). Additionally, overcomers will eat of the  
69 hidden manna and receive a white stone, in which a new name is written, which no  
70 person knows, save s/he that received it (Revelation 2:17).

71  
72 8. [My] old self was crucified; ...[the] body of sin... destroyed; ... [I am] no longer [a]...  
73 slave to sin (Romans 6:6; Ephesians 4:22; Colossians 3:9). S/he that is dead is freed  
74 from sin (Romans 6:7). ...[I will] consider [myself]... dead to sin, but alive to God in  
75 Christ (Romans 6:11). As I think so am I (Proverbs 23:7). My self-talk is: “Sin shall not  
76 have dominion over [me]...” (Romans 6:14); “[I am] not in the flesh, but in the Spirit  
77 [who]... dwells in [me]...” (Romans 8:9) and “...through Christ Jesus, the law of the  
78 Spirit of life sets [me] free from the law of sin and death” (Romans 8:2, NIV). I am  
79 obliged by the Spirit to terminate the misdeeds of the body (Romans 8:12-14). When I  
80 live by the Spirit I will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:16, NIV).

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- 81 9. ...Don't let sin reign in your... body so that you obey its lusts (Romans 6:12). Don't...  
82 present the members of your body to sin..., [but] ...present yourselves to God as a living  
83 sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. By God's grace  
84 we appear before Him as those who are alive from the dead (Romans 6:13 & 12:1).
- 85
- 86 10. "...Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober and hope to the end for the grace that is  
87 to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:13). Sin shall not be  
88 your master (Romans 6:14); Christ is (Matthew 23:8). ...You were slaves of sin, [but]  
89 ...[now] freed from sin [Revelation 1:5], you became slaves of righteousness; therefore,  
90 yield your members unto holiness (Romans 6:17-19) to which we are called (1  
91 Thessalonians 4:7 & 1 Peter 2:9) to be established (Deuteronomy 28:9).
- 92
- 93 11. [We] are... under grace, which... ['...is an attribute, {a quality or characteristic}, of  
94 God...' (My Life Today, {ML} 100.2) that] builds [us] up and gives [us] an inheritance  
95 among them that are sanctified (Acts 20:32) by God the Father, through faith in Christ  
96 Jesus (Acts 26:18). "...We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus  
97 Christ..." (Hebrews 10:10). "For by one offering **He has perfected forever** them that  
98 are sanctified" (Hebrews 10:14). "**Be ye therefore perfect**, even as your Father, which  
99 is in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48) because Jesus preserves and keeps [us] from  
100 falling (Jude 1 & 24; Revelation 3:10) into willful sin (Hebrews 10:26 & 6:4-6). "By  
101 becoming thoroughly *acquainted with ourselves*<sup>1</sup>, and then combining with the *grace of*  
102 *God*<sup>2</sup> a *firm determination*<sup>3</sup> on our part, we ['press toward the mark for the prize of the  
103 high calling of God in Christ Jesus' (Philippians 3:14) and] may be conquerors, and  
104 **become perfect in all things**, wanting in nothing" (ML 97.4).
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12. Zion's train is coming our way! "...Every knee [will] bow... and... confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of the Father (Philippians 2:10-11)! Christ, [the] Faithful and True returns riding a white horse, wearing many crowns, clothed with a vesture dipped in blood (Revelation 19:11-13) "and... on His vesture and on His thigh [has] a name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords" (Revelation 19:16 & 1 Timothy 6:15). "And the armies which... followed Him upon white horses [are] clothed in fine linen, white and clean" (Revelation 19:14). When am I going to come out of Babylon (Revelation 18:4) and buy a passport to board Zion's train? The heavenly entourage accompanying Christ wears fine linen, white and clean! When am I going to **wash my robes and make them white in the blood of the lamb** (Revelation 7:14)?

13. A description of the washing process that whitens the robe of this earthly life follows! "**Patience** pours the balm of peace and love into the experiences of the home life; ...seeks for unity in the church, in the family and in the community. **This grace, [that is patience]**, must be woven into our lives" (ML 97.5). "We must have a close and intimate connection with heaven, if we bear **the grace of godliness**. ...If the Lord abides with us... our **manners will be gentle and forbearing**. We shall be fitting up for an entrance into the courts of heaven by **cultivating courtesy and godliness**" (ML 98.2). Grace—unmerited, divine favor—builds us up (Acts 20:32) and nourishes the growth of divine attributes in our life such as "righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness" (1 Timothy 6:11), "goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance [and] ...brotherly kindness..." (2 Peter 1:5-8) which are opposite of the qualities described in 2 Timothy 3:1-5. In view of these things, let us spend our time collaborating with the Holy Spirit for the development of divine qualities because the price of procrastination is the consequences of the people of Noah's day (Matthew 24:38-39; Genesis 7:16) and the lamentation of the people of Jeremiah's time (Jeremiah 8:20).