**The Pursuit of God’s Gospel!**

Intro: - Characteristics of the Gospel Ministry - 2 Cor. 2:14-6:18

 The Child of Living God is triumphant In His Lord and should always live in victory because His God is Victories!

1. **Triumphant – 2;14-16**

2Co 2:14  Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to “**triumph**” in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place.

**What is Triumphant? It is Victory!**

1. **Victory is in our faith!**
* Rom\_5:2  By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
1. **Victory is in the Lord’s doing!**
* **James**\_4:16  But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.
1. **Victory Rejoices always!**
* 1 Peter\_4:13  But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.
* Phil. 4.4
1. **God made Paul to triumph in every place!**
* God made the early church to Triumph in every place!
* And God will make us to TRIUMPHANT in every place!
* God is calling us to know and believe what He is doing in us!
1. **God is triumphant over life and death!**

2 Cor. 2:15  For we are unto God a sweet savor of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 2 Cor 2:16  To the one we are the savor of death unto death; and to the other the savor of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?

* God is Savior and Lord to those that believe!
* God is Judge and Attorney to those that deny Him!
* Luke 23:39  And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.
* God triumphant in His Saving Grace and in His Condemnation!
* God is Sufficient!

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1. **Sincere – 2;17**

2 Cor. 2:17  For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of “**sincerity”,** but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

* The Heart of the Child of God is sincere/pure!
* Give me Jesus and Jesus only!
* We talked about seeking the face of God and not His hand.
* Meaning we want God for who He is, not for what he gives!
1. God is calling us to guard our righteous hearts from Sin’s unrighteousness!
* 2 Peter 3:14 - Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless.
* Matthew 5:8  Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
1. **Approved 3;1-2**

2 Cor. 3:1  Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you?

2 Cor. 3:2  Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

* What did mean when he said you are our epistles written in our hearts?
1. **Dependent 3;4-5**

 2 Cor. 3:4  And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward:

2 Cor. 3:5  Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;

* How are to make God our sufficiency?
1. **Superior 3;16-18**

2Co 3:16  Nevertheless when it [the heart] shall *turn to the Lord*, the vail shall be taken away. 2Co 3:17  Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.  2Co 3:18  But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

* How do we make God Superior in our lives?
* The Child of God is trusting Power of the Holy Spirit!
1. Open 4;2 - 7. Christ honoring 4;5-7 - 8. Suffering 4;10,14,15,17,18
2. Confident 5:1-9 - 10. Compelling 5:10-17 - 11. Representative 5:18-20
3. Blameless 6:1-8 13. Paradoxical 6:9-10 -14. Separated 6:11-18
4. **Sincere – 2;17**

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