

## **The Greatest Wars Come Before The Greatest Wins!**

Psalm 30:5 (ESV) - For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Psalm 23:4 (ESV) - Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

In between the MOUNTAINTOPS OF VICTORY there are VALLEYS OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH!

In between the VICTORIES there are STRUGGLES!

In between the WINS there are WARS!

At every new REVELATION, there's a new attempt of the devil to bring DEVASTATION!

And right at the point of that level's GRADUATION, there is always test of our faith for EVALUATION!

And it's the job of the enemy of our souls to get us to turn back when the struggle heats up from the CONFRONTATION!

It's the job of the enemy to get us to surrender our CONSECRATION during the weeping of the night so we'll never experience the CELEBRATION of joy in the morning!

It's the job of the enemy to get us to surrender during the WAR so that we'll never experience the WIN!

If you will stay in obedience to God...

Stay in faith...

Stay standing in the Word...

Stay led by the Spirit instead of your own understanding...

You will WIN!

Because you are living in the victory that HE has already WON!

Galatians 6:9 (ESV) - And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Just keep fighting the good fight of faith...

Because this is just the WAR before the WIN!

Strength is not born by seeing MIRACLES...

It's born in the STRUGGLE!

And then THAT faith produces MIRACLES!

God often asks us to give more than we think we can afford!

When we obey God, we will always place ourselves in circumstances that are beyond us!

"My boy and I will go, and will return!"

"God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering!"

Abraham focused on the CHARACTER of God, not the CIRCUMSTANCES!

Heb 11:17-19 (ESV)

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son,  
 18 of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named."  
 19 He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

Abraham had a PROMISE from God which always ends with a PROVISION from God!

2 Pet 3:9 (ESV) – The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

It doesn't matter when in between the PROMISE and the PROVISION there is a PROBLEM!

God is too wise to be mistaken!

God is too truthful to lie!

When you can't trace his hand, trust his heart!

You may not be able to see it...

You may not be able to understand how...

But God is at work on the OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

Isaiah 64:4 (ESV) - From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

1 Cor. 2:9 (ESV) - But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

God is always setting us up for the next fulfilled promise!

When we are walking in and living out our faith in obedience to God...

He ALWAYS has a Ram coming up the other side of the mountain!

R.A.M. =

R-emedey for our pain

A-nswer for our problem

M-anifestation of our Promise

Psalms 118:23-24 (ESV)

23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Romans 8:28 (ESV) - And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV) - But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

James 1:2-4 (ESV)

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

1 Peter 5:6-11 (ESV)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,

7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

11 To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

The greatest WARS come before the greatest WINS!