The Prescribe Order of Victory for the Christian

By Rodney Houle

Many Christians do not know or have not been taught from God’s Word that there is a truth to this teaching of the prescribe order of victory. I myself when I became a Christian on May 22nd 1983 was not ever taught this truth until 5 years ago. I will not go as far as to call this a doctrine of the Christian faith but will say that it is an essential dogmatic message from the truth of God’s Word.

I have heard this teaching only from a few unknown preachers not from the fundamental Baptist circle of this truth. I believe this a truth that needs to be taught often just like any other doctrine of the Christian faith.

Why do many shrug their shoulders and be obtuse to the message of the prescribe order of victory over sin in the Fundamental Baptist corners. I believe because if they have not heard it from a well-known preacher, evangelist or missionary or from some great preacher of the past. I do believe that in the Body of Christ today there is a crucial need for this teaching to be taught all over this country and abroad. Why do I earnestly believe this? Because the Body of Christ has many that are falling to the wayside of sin. Even our preachers are falling into sin causing the leaders of the flock to step down and leave there calling.

Many teach especially in the Fundamental Baptist realm that you depend on the Grace of God; the power of the Holy Spirit; the power of God’s Word and prayer to have victory over sin in their life. All of this is very true BUT it does not end there. Just as Paul Harvey used to say “now you heard the rest of the story” I will give you a teaching that will give you the rest of the story for the victory over sin. I say to you that it has absolutely, positively worked for me and for others. It will help you and work in your life. I have talked to many Christians and have watched many of Christians sin continually and they say they have read their bibles, prayed and asked the power of the Holy Spirit to help them to have victory and they continue to sin. Many Christians have even gone as far too actually accepted Christ again and be re-baptized or go to the altar and rededicate their lives to Christ and all go back to living in sin and disappear from church.

Just what is it in your life you struggle with? What sin controls you? Maybe it is smoking? Maybe alcohol controls you? Maybe swearing and telling dirty jokes? Maybe it is lusting because of pornography causing fornication and adultery? Could it be lying and stealing?

Turn to Galatians 5:19 – 21 “Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” Now this verse mentions all the works of the
flesh which is sin and we all are in the same boat to act out these sins. Can we have victory over what Galatians 5:19 – 21 mentions? We need to go to God’s Word and study this order of victory we can have.

The Doctrine of the Prescribe Order of Victory over Sin:

Romans 6:1 – 2

“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?”

Just because Grace is greater than sin doesn’t mean that the believer has a license to sin. If you have truly repented then why shall we continue in sin.

God forbid.

You must Change your mind and Change your feelings and change your purpose about the thought that you would even think such a thing. God does not want you to live this way.

How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

This means you should be dead to the sin nature. The sin nature, or your desire to sin, is still there, but it should not be ruling you. Repentance is a change of mind which leads to changed attitudes and desires and to a changed course of action. In knowing what Repentance truly means the sin nature should not be ruling in you to live out this old sinful life you once lived. This also portrays that the believer (you) is now in Christ. Repentance is an indication of salvation.

Romans 6:3 – 4

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ

(Realize that this Baptism is into Christ when you believed on Him and received Him, it was not from your water baptism. [Read 1Cor. 1:17; 12:13; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 4:5 and Col. 2:11 - 13])

were baptized into his death?”

(You must realize that when Christ died on the Cross, in the Mind of God, you died with Him; in other words, He became your Substitute, and your identification with Him in His Death gives you all the benefits for which He died. The idea is that that He did it all for you.)

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death:

(Not only did you die with Him, but you were buried with Him as well, which means that all your sins and transgressions of the past were also buried. When they buried Christ, God put all your sins into that Tomb as well.)

that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

(Realize that you died with Him, you were buried with Him, and His Resurrection was your Resurrection to a New-ness of Life. Remembering your biblical repentance of a change of
mind, change of feeling and change of purpose.)

Romans 6:5 – 7
“For if we have been planted together (that is with Christ.) in the likeness of his death,
(The Holy Spirit is showing you that Christ’s sacrificial death is the instrument by which all Blessings come; consequently, the Sacrificial death of Christ and Christ Himself must ever be the Object of faith, which gives the Holy Spirit latitude to work within in your life.)

we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:”
(You can have the “likeness of His Resurrection,” or “live this Resurrection Life,” only as long you understand the “likeness of His Death,” which refers to the Sacrificial Death of Christ as the means by which all this is done.)

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him,
(The “old man” is your former sinful life before you believed on the Lord Jesus Christ.
Repeatedly repentance should be recalled to that change of mind, change of feeling and change of purpose about your old man.)

that the body of sin might be destroyed,
(This means that the Power of sin is broken. True repentance will help you by faith to have the power of sin broken.)

that henceforth we should not serve sin.”
(Do you realize now that the guilt of sin can be removed when you first believed through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ Substitutional death for you and this is why the sin nature should not rule within your heart and life. You should not be a slave to that old sinful life you used to live. Remember what repentance is.)

“For he that is dead
(Remember He is your Substitute, and in the Mind of God, you died with Him upon your believing Faith.)

is freed from sin.”
(This means that you will remember your biblical repentance with your continued obedience to the Holy Spirit and God’s Word and directives you will be set free from the bondage of the sin nature. You will be freed from the sinful life you used to live.)
Romans 6:8 - 10

“Now if we be dead with Christ,
(Here it is again, you must realize that this pertains to the Sacrificial Death of Christ, and your being Baptized into His Death.)

we believe that we shall also live with him;”
(God shows you now that you can have a Resurrection Life, which is the more Abundant life which we read about in John 10:10.)

“Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more;
(Christ’s Sacrificial Death was a Finished Work, and will require nothing else.)

dead hath no more dominion over him.”
(Because all sin has been atoned, inasmuch as Christ is your Substitute, if death has no more dominion over Him, it has no more dominion over you; this means that the power of the sin nature has been broken.)

“For in that he died, he died unto sin
(This is the sin nature.) once:
(Remember that He died unto the sin nature, once, for all.)

but in that he liveth.
(This is the Resurrection.)

he liveth unto God.”
(You must see, this means that all life comes from God, and should be a life that is lived unto God since you received that life by virtue of the Substitutionary Sacrifice of Christ on the Cross. And your Faith must be in that Finished Work.)

Romans 6:11 - 12

“Likewise reckon
(This means “account.”)

ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin.
(While the sin nature is not dead, you are dead unto the sin nature by virtue of the Sacrificial Death and your Faith in that Sacrifice, but only as long as you have your Faith continuing in the Sacrificial Death of Christ.)

but alive unto God
(This is realizing you are to live the Resurrected Life.)
through Jesus Christ our Lord”

(This refers to the Sacrificial Death of Jesus Christ and Him which is the means of this Resurrected Life.)

“Let not sin (It is the sin nature you have.) therefore reign (Rule) in your mortal body, (Realizing that the sin nature can once again rule in your heart and life, if you don’t consistently and constantly look to Christ and His Sacrificial Death. “The mortal body” is neutral, which means it can be used for Righteousness or unrighteousness.)

that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.” (Your ungodly lusts can be carried out through the mortal body, if Faith is not maintained every day through Christ and in His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection. Read 1Cor. 1:17, 18.)

Romans 6:13 “Neither yield ye your members (This is your mortal body, your flesh.) as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin (You should not be yielding to your sin nature. Don’t use yourself for unrighteousness.): but yield yourselves unto God, (You are to yield yourself to the Holy Spirit and to Christ and His Sacrificial Death, Burial, and Resurrection. That alone guarantees victory over the sin nature.) as those that are alive from the dead, (Remember that His Resurrection is your Resurrection. You have been raised with Christ in “New-ness of Life.”) and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” (You can only do this by daily holding to the virtue of the Sacrificial Death of Christ and your Faith in Him and that Finished Work. Read Luke 9:23, 24.)

Romans 6:14 – 15 “For sin shall not have dominion over you: (The sin nature will not have dominion over you, if you, as a true believer, continue to exercise Faith in Christ, the Sacrificial Death of Christ, and the Burial and Resurrection; otherwise, the sin nature most definitely will have dominion over you.) for ye are not under the law, (Many do not understand what this is saying, but now you will know that if you try to live this life by any type of law, no matter how good that law might be in its own right, you will end with the sin nature having dominion over you.) but under grace.” (The Grace of God flows to you on an unending basis, as long as you exercise Faith in Christ and what He did for you in His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection; Grace is merely the Goodness of God exercised by and through the Holy Spirit, and given to undeserving believers.) “What then? shall we sin, (This is the same question that was asked in verse 1) because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.” (Don’t
think such a thing, because if you do, then you completely misunderstand Grace. The Grace of God gives you liberty to live a Holy Life, which through your Faith in Christ and in His Sacrificial Death you will have the power to live this Holy Life. You do not have a license to sin, as some think. A true Believer will hate sin. So the idea of living under the dominion of sin is abhorrent to say the least.

**Romans 6:16** “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; (You are either a slave to Christ, for that’s what the word servant means, or else a slave to sin, which you will be if you don’t keep your faith in Christ and in His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection.) whether of sin unto death, (You must know that if you attempt to live your life for God any other way except through faith in Christ and in the Finished Work of His Sacrificial Death and Burial and Resurrection, it will be futile and you will fail, no matter how hard you try.) or of obedience unto righteousness?” (You are required to obey the Word of God, but did you know that you cannot do this in your own power or strength? You can only do this by understanding that you receive all things through Christ and what He did in His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection and your continued Faith in that Finished Work. If you remember and practice this on a daily basis, then the Holy Spirit, who alone can make you what you ought to be, can accomplish His work within your heart and life.)

**Romans 6:17 – 19** “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, (Before you were born again you were a slave to sin, a slave to the sin nature.) but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.” (This was Jesus Christ and Him crucified, the Redemptive, Finished Work of the Sacrificial Death. You must understand that all things come to the believer from God by the means of the Sacrificial Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This doctrine was given by the Holy Spirit to Paul and then he delivered it to us in his Epistles.) “Being then made free from sin, (Understand that being made free from the sin nature; it has no more power over you, BUT only as long as you continue to look to Christ’s Sacrificial Death and Resurrection.) ye became the servants of righteousness.” (You were formerly a slave to the sin nature, but you should now be a slave to Righteousness. If Faith is maintained in Christ and His Death and Resurrection, and if maintained consistently, you will be led toward Righteousness.) “I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: (This pertains to the fall of Adam, which has made your flesh weak; it speaks of your own strength and abilities.) for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness (You will sin because of
the sin nature, if the object of Faith is anything but Christ’s Sacrificial Death and Resurrection.)
and to iniquity unto iniquity; (Without constant adherence of Faith in the Finished Work of
Christ on the Cross and His Resurrection, your sin will get worse and worse.) even so now yield
your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.” (We have, as you have read, repeatedly
and consistently stated that you can only be servants to righteousness and holiness by your Faith
in Christ and His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection. You must understand that it is by the Holy
Spirit and through this faith that you receive all things. And it is the Holy Spirit, Who Alone can
develop Righteousness and Holiness in your life.)

Romans 6:20 – 21 “For when ye were the servants of sin, (You were a slave to sin.) ye
were free from righteousness.” (This was your life, before your belief in Christ.) “What fruit
had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? (There was absolutely nothing of any
value that came out of your sinful experience.) for the end of those things is death.” (You must
understand and be reminded that you were shown this in the plan of Salvation that the “wages of
sin is death.” This should always be a reminder that you were condemned to a second death but
by the Power of God’s Word and by the Holy Spirit wooing you to the Savior, you believed in
Christ and in His Sacrificial Death, Burial, and Resurrection. So why would you want to go back
to the things that you should be ashamed of, realizing that the “wages of sin is death.” You must
never become indifferent about what Christ did in His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection. If you
look to something else regarding your Sanctification, [living in righteousness and living a holy
life] domination by the sin nature is going to be the result as well as the loss of blessings and the
loss of the Joy of the Assurance of your Salvation.)

Romans 6:22 “But now (After you have been born again, or saved, you belong to Christ.
He lives in you.) being made free from sin, (You have been set free from the sin nature.) and
become servants (You have become a slave.) to God, (To the One, who without His Grace, you
would have been condemned forever. But now you become a slave for Him.) ye have your fruit
unto holiness, (The Holy Spirit will bring this about in you, providing that you are consistently
abiding in Faith in Christ and His Sacrificial Death and Resurrection.) and the end everlasting
life.” (You believing, trusting, committing, and adhering ONLY in Christ and in His Sacrificial
Death and Resurrection gives you Everlasting Life. Those who trust in something other than
Christ and His Finished Work of the Cross and His Resurrection ALONE, are condemned.)
Rom. 8:1 – 4 “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

Gal. 5:16 – 22 – 25 “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

Gal. 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

Rom. 12:1, 2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

1John 2:15 – 17 “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

Col. 3:1 – 3 “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”

Eph 6:10 – 18 “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

Heb. 4:12 “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”