

The Triumph of Christ

Col 2:6-8, 13-15



Background

It is often suggested that in order to win in the various arenas of life -- whether martial, social, or political -- we must be willing to play by the same rules as our competitors, to stoop down to their level, to get into the mud with them. Christ achieved total victory over His enemies in a wholly different way -- and only by His upside-down victory will the world be turned right-side-up. Come join us on Sunday as we look into Christ's cross-shaped path to victory and rediscover our own triumph.

Sermon Text: Col 2:6-8, 13-15 (ESV)

6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. 8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

...

13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Discussion Questions

1. Preparation

- a. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- b. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- c. As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you the most?

2. Sunday questions

- a. Before hearing Eugene's sermon, if someone would have asked you what it means to follow the way of Jesus, how would you have answered it?
- b. Have you ever felt the pressure of the question, "Which side are you on?" (It could be a direct question, but it could also be asked indirectly through articles or news reports.) Moving forward, how might you answer that question differently, either in thought or word?
- c. Eugene shared the Gospel message through the use of a file cabinet full of a list of debts to be paid. Was that a helpful image for you? Why or why not?
- d. If you would summarize the way of Jesus vs. other ways, what is unique about the way of Jesus? How might that inform your life moving forward?
- e. After hearing Eugene's sermon, if someone asks you what it means to follow the way of Jesus, how do you answer it?
- f. The "3rd way" of the cross has a sweet aroma from love. Who needs your self-denying love this week?