

WINNING IN LIFE!

2 Corinthians 4:1--18

INTRODUCTION: Have you ever felt totally beaten down by life? Perhaps you are feeling beaten down by life right now? We have an enemy who always tries to beat us down, but we also have a Lord Who loves us and wants us to have an abundant life: John 10:10-11. The game of life can be very difficult: Romans 9:24-27. Sometimes in life we go after the wrong goals and it causes us a lot of trouble: 1 Timothy 6:10-12. Every team and every sport enthusiast knows the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. For the Christian every season of life is meant to be a winning season as we walk with our Lord. Today we will look at some winning scores in God's Word that might be good to memorize and meditate on to help us remember that in Jesus Christ we are more than conquerors! Romans 8:31-39.

I. 41—10

One of the best numbers in God's score book is 41 to 10. 41—10 is one of the most comforting promises found in God's Game of Life! Isaiah 41:10. Every phrase of that verse is designed to meet our needs and bolster our spirits. When we sing our closing song today we will be singing that verse together in the song: "How Firm a Foundation." 41 to 10 is not a bad score!

II. 13—5

Because we have Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior the score will always be 13 to 5. Hebrews 13:5. In the book of Hebrews the promise given to Joshua four times is repeated for God's children today. Deuteronomy 31:6-8; Joshua 1:5; Joshua 1:9. Why did the Lord through Moses and Himself tell Joshua four times to be strong and courageous: because he was about to do something that his entire nation had said could not be done. Mark 10:27. This is a universal promise for all of God's children. Matthew 28:18-20.

III. 46—1

Yet another winning score with God is 46 to 1. Psalm 46:1 is God's promise to His children that the game of life has already been won by those who are His children. God's grace truly is sufficient.

IV. 23—1

Twenty three to one is not a bad score either. When Jesus is our Good Shepherd remember the score will always be 23 to 1. Psalm 23:1-5: When we make the Lord Jesus our Good Shepherd He may take us places we do not want to go but when we get there we will learn it truly was best for us. Not only in this life will it be 23 to 1 but in the life to come we are told it will go very well for us: Psalm 23:6. Most of our problems and bad scores come when we take charge of our own life and decide we will call the cadence for a while: Jeremiah 10:23. The choice is truly ours; will it be 23 to 1 or 10 to 23? Our Lord truly knows how to bless our lives and we get to chose Him to lead us or to try to lead our own lives. If today you are losing in the game of life could it be time to seek the Lord and allow Him to direct your steps? Jeremiah 29:11-13.

