



ROCK ETERNAL CHURCH



PS. REENUKUMAR

WINNING LOST BATTLES

This Sunday we are starting a new series of sermons “Winning Lost Battles”.

Belated Independence day wishes to all! We are so happy that we have got the freedom and we celebrated the freedom that we received. Most importantly, Jesus has given us the freedom and independence from all sins, sickness and bondage by shedding His blood on the cross 2000 years before.

A lot of people have lost many things in life and think that they have lost them for good. Today, I want to encourage you that we are going to win back whatever we have lost. When we reminisce the independence of India, we will see that for many days many kings fought many battles and they lost. When the Brits invaded us, many Indian kings fought battles and they lost. But just because they lost India did not remain enslaved as it was, though we lost many battles, at last we struggled and when we won we got our freedom!

Similarly, today we may have lost many battles in our lives. It may have been in your marriage, job, in your body or sickness. I want to assure you today, we are going to win back those lost battles today.

When we analyse as to who played the most important role in our independence, we recall Mahatma Gandhi. But what was the reason for him to win this battle? Gandhiji played a very important role in the struggle for freedom. He won it in the most unexpected ways – Satyagraha, truth and honesty, non-violence, co-operation, peace and patience.

WINNING PATIENTLY

Today we are going to focus on how we are going to win patiently. Once a newly married wife called the pastor of the church and told him, “Despite your counselling Pastor, I had the first fight with my husband. What do I do?” The Pastor told her, “Just let go. My wife and I too have fought many times. Just forgive and go and we shall see next time.” The lady said, “Ok Pastor, we shall see next Sunday, but what do I do with this body?” The Pastor was taken aback.

God wants to teach us something while we are waiting and do big things through us. Today, when we see, we are constantly fighting battles from morning till night –personal battles, emotional battles, battles with our children and so on. The devil wants to hit us on all sides. We finally lose and give up. But when God is on our side, no matter how many battles we face, we will win. Whatever and whoever you have lost in life, you can get it back again

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Whenever we encounter a fight or a struggle, always do not focus on the person who is bringing it.

Our fight is not against a man. Most of the times our struggles and fight is against the ruler of the

world, the devil. Therefore, we should be patient and allow the Lord to work. It’s not about winning

today, but it is about patiently winning it permanently that is important. The problem is, we live in

the world of now. We want everything to happen immediately, instantly. We have instant cooling,

instant heating etc. Similarly, we want God to answer our prayers instantly. However, dear children

of God, such things are short lived.

What does James in the Bible speak about patience?

James 5:7–8 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits

for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.

You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Just like a farmer who does his work and patiently and waits for the harvest, likewise you would've

sown, struggled, cried and prayed. Your time of victory will come, wait patiently. We are moving into

a season of victory.

Patience is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit and a very important one. Be it wisdom, experience or

humility, all these can be obtained only by being patient.

1. BE PATIENT WHEN GOD GIVES YOU A DREAM.

Let us look at the life of Joseph. We can find the following:

Genesis 37: 1–5 Now Jacob loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of

his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors. But when his brothers saw that their father

loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. Now

Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more.

Genesis 37: 8 And his brothers said to him, “Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed

have dominion over us?” So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.

Genesis 37: 11 And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter in mind.



First of all we see that Joseph was loved by his father and he had a dream. He could not keep still and he went and shared it with his brothers, and because of this they developed a hatred against him. Dear children of God, if God is going to do something in your life and if you know it and you have the faith, keep quiet till it all finishes. When God reveals to you that He is going to do something in your life or in the lives of your children, hold on to it, don't spill it out immediately. We can learn this from Nehemiah, when he went to build the wall, he silently surveyed the damage till he began the work. Be patient about your battles and fights. Until the Lord does it, do not talk about it. Be patient when people think they have won.

it. Be patient about the dream and vision God has given you.

Genesis 37: 28 Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took

Joseph to Egypt.

Joseph's brother thought that his story was over because they sold him as a slave. But Joseph

was patient. Do not get agitated and allow the devil to cause more damage, just be patient.

Psalms 37:9 For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit

the earth.

LET US WIN PATIENTLY.



3. BE PATIENT WHEN YOU RECEIVE BAD FOR DOING GOOD.

To be patient when someone does bad to you for doing good. Just be patient when people think

they have won. Many times we lose our peace and we stop doing good.

Genesis 39:19–20 So it was, when his master heard the words which his wife spoke to him,

saying, “Your servant did to me after this manner,” that his anger was aroused. Then Joseph’s

master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king’s prisoners were confined.

And he was there in the prison.

Joseph was true to his master but because of his master’s wife he was thrown into the prison for

doing no wrong. Many times we are punished for doing good. Be patient.

Psalms 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.

4. BE PATIENT FOR GOD TO PROMOTE YOU.

When God promotes you, others will talk about you and God will be glorified in your life and you

don’t have to promote you. Be patient till God promotes you.

Genesis 40:14 But remember me when it is well with you, and please show kindness to me;

make mention of me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this house.

Genesis 40:23 Yet the chief butler did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

Dear children of God, we too are the same. We try to depend on others. But God wants us to

depend upon Him for a promotion, because when we depend on man to lift us, it is only to a certain

level but when God lifts us it is beyond limitations!



I want to tell you, if you want to win your battles, be patient till God promotes you. Because of Joseph's request to the butler he had to spend yet another 2 years in prison. Don't delay your promotions by trusting man. Trust God.

A hundred years ago, in America, people had to run from one city to another. 128 runners participated but only 4 people reached the correct destination. Don't be in a hurry to run with the crowd. The Lord is saying, "Run patiently with me. Don't run with the crowd." Joseph never gave up on God. He was faithful holding onto God. He was patient and God made him win his battle. Don't run away.

Are you praying for a sickness to leave your body for a very long time? Don't worry the Lord is going to heal you completely. Are you praying for a battle that is going on in your office, in your career, in your business or in your ministry or your church. Just be patient.

Scientists say when an animal encounter a danger, they have a fight or flight psychology. I tell you, be patient and stand and fight and let us win patiently. Never run away.

Waiting is not laziness, not going to sleep, not abandoning your efforts, waiting for God means receiving His command one at a time and duly fulfilling it.

Genesis 42: 6 Now Joseph was governor over the land; and it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed down before him with their faces to the earth.

Joseph's dream at age 17 years was fulfilled after so many years (approx. 20 years). I tell you we shall we win lost battles and we shall win patiently!

Psalm 37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.



Once a father went to a supermarket and saw another father shopping with his three-year-old son.

He could not help notice how the son was troubling his father. He kept saying “Sam, be patient, just

a few minutes.” The man told this father that he never had seen anyone so patient and how he was

able to be so patient with his son. For this the father said that Sam was his own name and that he

was speaking to himself.

It may be funny, but many times, we have to speak to ourselves to be patient. You can do the same

too.

We are going to win the lost battles just by being patient! Amen.

