

## **“Victory Will Come, Be Patient!”**

**Deuteronomy 7:22**

**06/28/11**

**Introduction:** When a farmer plants a seed, he waters it, fertilizes, and tills the ground. He does this with great expectation and anticipation that one day the seed will produce much fruit (**John 12:24**). This entire process may take months or even years to come to fruition, but he remains patient because he knows in time he will be rewarded. In the same manner, as Christians we must understand that in life we have to be patient and believe that our desires, victories, etc. will eventually come to pass (**Matthew 7:7-8**). As we wait, we need to do so patiently. In today’s verse, we will see the same spiritual concept.

### **The Power**

**“And the LORD thy God will put out those nations before thee”**

Here we see the power behind our **success** (victory). We are told that it is the power of the Almighty God (“LORD”). But, in order to experience this power in our lives, He has to be “thy God.” In other words, we need to first know Him as our personal Savior (**Acts 16:31**). This verse was spoken by Moses to the children of Israel before they entered the Promised Land. God was promising them that He would drive out (clear out) their **enemies** (“put out those nations”) as they moved forward. Like the Israelites, we will encounter our **own** road blocks (enemies). This could come in the form of negative attitudes towards us, criticism, jealousy, loss of a job, family conflicts, or our own ungodly actions, etc. But, remember God has the same promise for us (**Hebrews 13:5-6**). His Word never fails (**Matthew 5:18**). Our God has promised many blessings/victories for our lives (**Psalms 37:1-5**) and the key to attaining these victories is to **remember** His power, His promise and by continuing to press on (**Philippians 3:13**). If we do our part, God will do what we cannot do.

### **The Process**

**“by little and little: thou mayest not consume them at once,”**

Even though, God **promises** us victory, He has a process by which we will gain our blessings. This part of the verse tells us that it is “little” by little. As fleshly creatures, we would like to gain or possess all of our blessings at one time. But, our Creator has a different **timetable** in mind for us (**Isaiah 55:8**). He has a set time for everything (**Ecclesiastes 3:1**) and victory may come one step at a time. We may have been praying for a situation to go away, but it may not seem to go away as soon as we would want it to. This text tells us that God intentionally spaces out our victories in life.

Why is this so? There are many reasons. God is teaching us to wait on Him so that patience can have her perfect work in our lives (**James 1:2-4**). As the farmer waits on his harvest, our victories will require patience on our part. The concept of waiting is prevalent in the Bible: Abraham had to wait to have Isaac, David waited many years before he became the king of Israel and Elizabeth gave birth to John (the Baptist) after many years of waiting. As we wait on our prayers to be answered, we need to remind ourselves of what David said. The Psalmist warns us to “Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule” (**Psalm 32:9**). This is because the horse wants to bolt ahead and the mule wants to lag behind and balk. A child of God should say “My times are in thy hand” (**Psalm 31:15**). But, as we wait, what does God want us to do? Jesus Christ is our example. The Bible says He went about “doing good” (**Acts 10:38**). Let’s do the same. In other words, follow God’s commandments, bless others, be kind, encourage others, and give of our time to help other believers (**Galatians 6:9**). This will take our **focus** off of ourselves. Furthermore, God gives us victories little by little because He wants us to rely on Him (not our abilities), which in turn stretches our faith and **strengthens** our spiritual walk (**1 Peter 5:10**) (**Psalm 42:5**). This (spiritual) maturity will enable us to become a model to other Christians. Ultimately, all things are designed to bring glory to God. We should remember that God’s timing is perfect and He is never late. So, let’s enjoy where we are on the way to where He wants us to go.

### **The Protection**

**“lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee.”**

In this part of the verse we see God’s protection for the Israelites and for us. The Israelites were going to make their way through the land of Canaan, **winning** one victory after another, following God’s timetable. This would enable them to take better care of the land and prevent wild beasts from multiplying rapidly and becoming a threat (**Exodus 23:28-30**). How does this apply to us? We learn that God takes His time in our **growth** and victories so that various beasts don’t increase and over power us. What kind of beast could we encounter? God understands that we are fleshly creatures living in a fallen world. Therefore, He knows that if we gain victory too quickly we are likely to encounter unseen beasts like pride and self-righteousness. God wants to protect us from them. How does withholding instantaneous victory bring protection? Because when victory does come we will be able to handle it properly by giving glory to God and not becoming conceited. Remember, God blesses a humble heart, not an **arrogant** mind. Let’s remember to celebrate the progress we are making rather than **complaining** about how far we have left to go. Remember, victory will come, just be patient!