2 Corinthians 2:12-17 10/25/2020

For the committed Christian life is war, but in the end, we will march in Jesus' victory parade.

- I. Triumph is not a matter of feeling (12-13)
  - A. We battle our enemies
    - 1. Satan
    - 2. Society
    - 3. Self
  - B. We battle our feelings
    - 1. We often feel afraid
    - 2. We often feel overwhelmed
    - 3. We often feel defeated
- II. Triumph is a matter of following (14-17)
  - A. God is the Victor
  - B. Jesus won the victory
  - C. Christians share the victory
    - 1. He, "always leads us in triumph"

"...it gives expression to the central conviction of his life, namely that God has wrought the decisive victory of the ages in the death and resurrection of Christ, and that henceforth history is the scene of God's triumphal march to the final manifestation in glory of the kingdom that Christ has brought."

(The Broadman Bible Commentary, G. R. Beasley-Murray)

- 2. He, "diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge"
  - a. The incense was burned
  - b. The flowers were trampled
- 3. He makes us, "sufficient for these things"
- 4. He provides us with the weapons of warfare (2 Corinthians 10:4-5; Ephesians 6:16-18a)
  - a. The sword of His Word
  - b. The power of prayer

## So What?

- We must remember we are targets of the enemy
- We must remember we are simply jars of clay
- ❖ We must remember we are following the Winner
- We must remember enemy troops can defect
- We must remember the grand triumph parade