

6 VICTORY IS YOURS

In the name of Allah, the Wise, the Omniscient, the Creator, the Merciful.

There is no god other than Allah, glorious in His might, and magnificent in His power. He is the one who leads us in the right path.

O Allah, I ask You to grant me Your good gifts and make me victorious over my enemy because You are the Almighty, the Powerful, the Rich, the All-Seeing. Amen, O Lord of the worlds.

IN THIS LESSON YOU WILL STUDY THE FOLLOWING:

- Allah Is Concerned for You
- New Life in Al-Masih
 - Where is Isa now?
- Victory Over Temptation
- Victory Through New Life
- Your Worst Enemy
- The Power of Al-Masih
 - Do you want Allah's special help?
- The Body of Al-Masih

ALLAH IS CONCERNED FOR YOU

As for what follows, the most important proof of Allah's greatness is that He himself, mighty and glorious, is interested in people who

have sinned and become disabled and hopeless. Allah has provided redemption, forgiveness, pardon, and deliverance. Indeed, “Allah-u Akbar.”

So, my friend, if you have believed this and have put your trust in Isa, I am sure that Allah has answered your supplication. He has, in reality, made a great change in your life.

NEW LIFE IN AL-MASIH

Our Master Isa, His peace be upon us, died and rose not only to bear the punishment of our sin, but also to give us spiritual power. He gives us power to live a righteous life that pleases Allah, the Most High. In the past, before you knew Isa in the right way and before you put your trust in Him, you were desperate, troubled, and confused. But now, because you believe in Him, He has given you new life—spiritual life—a new kind of life. It is a life of hope, joy, and peace. The True Book of Allah says:

You were spiritually dead because of your disobedience and sins in which you lived in the past . . . but Allah in His great mercy, and because He loved us so much, has granted us life in Al-Masih.

Therefore my friend, since you really have surrendered to Isa and actually accepted Him in your heart, you have become a new person. Allah has created a new nature in you. Allah’s Glorious Book says:

When anyone yields to Al-Masih and is united with Him, he becomes a new person. The old is finished and gone, and everything becomes new.

So where is Isa now? True, He is in heaven. However, since you have invited Him to come and deliver you, He actually has come and entered your heart. He has started to cleanse it and purify it from the poison of sin. He has started to give you power to overcome the problems and temptations you face. So Al-Masih is living in your heart. He is the Master of your life.

VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION

Notice, my friend that the old nature tends to sin and satisfy lustful pleasures. The soul is given to doing evil. It will continually try to make

you miserable and fall into sin. However, you are responsible to control and suppress it. Allah will give you the power to do that. He will give you victory over the temptations of sin.

You may know the story of our master Joseph. His brothers were jealous of him and sold him as a slave. They lied to their father and told him that their brother had been killed. However, while Joseph served as a slave, he lived according to high spiritual principles which filled his heart and life. So when he was tempted to sin and his master's wife asked him to commit fornication, he absolutely refused. Joseph came out victorious. He depended on Allah's power and faced Satan's challenge. He loved Allah Almighty and refused to disobey Him. So he defeated sin. And you, my friend, because Allah loves you and you love Him, you are responsible to stand up courageously and say "no" to sin. You must never yield to it.

VICTORY THROUGH NEW LIFE

You are also responsible to develop the new nature Allah has given you.

I warn you: do not continue to live like the heathen, whose thoughts are worthless and whose minds are in the dark. They have no part in the life that Allah gives, for they are completely ignorant and stubborn. They have lost all feeling of shame; they give themselves over to vice and do all sorts of indecent things without restraint.

That was not what you learned about Al-Masih! You certainly heard about him, and as his followers you were taught the truth that is in Isa. So get rid of your old self, which made you live as you used to – the old self that was being destroyed by its deceitful desires. Your hearts and minds must be made completely new. You must put on the new self, which is created in Allah's likeness and reveals itself in the true life that is upright and holy.

No more lying, then! Everyone must tell the truth to his fellow-believer, because we are all members together in the body of Al-Masih. If you become angry, do not let your anger lead you into sin, and do not stay angry all day. Don't give the

Devil a chance. The man who used to rob must stop robbing and start working, in order to earn an honest living for himself and to be able to help the poor. Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words; the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you. And do not make Allah's Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is Allah's mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the Day will come when Allah will set you free. Get rid of all bitterness, passion, and anger. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as Allah has forgiven you through Al-Masih.

Maybe this kind of advice sounds impossible to follow. Who can stop lying in the kind of society we live in? Who can stop saying bad words? Who can get rid of bitterness, anger, and hatred?

True, if we try to reform ourselves by our own power and knowledge, it will be a most frustrating experience. We will not be able to make ourselves good enough to please Allah. We will be defeated by sin perhaps worse than ever before.

However, the Holy Spirit who is the Spirit of Al-Masih himself is working in my new life and in my new heart to help me reach the standard Allah wants. The Holy Spirit enables me to have victory over evil. He helps me to hate lying and love telling the truth; to hate stealing and love honorable work; to stop hating people, to stop fighting, and insulting. Since I have invited Al-Masih to change my heart, the Holy Spirit of Allah has taken command of my life. And the more I let Him take over, the more victories I win. The Holy Spirit is now in my heart. This explains what we said earlier: Al-Masih himself has come to live in me and fill my life with His character and love.

YOUR WORST ENEMY

I am sure you understand, my friend, that Satan is your worst enemy. When Allah, glorious, sends His Word to you to plant faith, peace, joy, and love in your heart, Satan comes and tries to snatch Allah's Word from you. He may say to you: "It is not true. Allah does not love you. Isa did not sacrifice himself for you. Allah is so far away from you. Why should He be interested in you? Why should He care for you? Al-Masih

cannot save you. He cannot give you the assurance of eternal life.” These are Satan’s words because he wants you to perish.

Therefore, my friend, you should depend on the Holy Spirit as you face Satan, your enemy. You have read the story of our Master Isa the Messenger of Allah that was explained in lessons four and five. You should depend on the power of Isa who defeated Satan. You should let the words of Isa and what He did be your weapons in this battle against Satan.

THE POWER OF AL-MASIH

Now my friend, do you feel that there are powers around you that try to destroy your life—yes, Satan, sickness, sin, death, magic, fear, wars, and hunger? The power of Isa Al-Masih is much greater than all of them. He is the One who defeated sin and Satan. He overcame disease and death. Therefore, He can stretch out His hand to help you and meet your needs. Yes, try it. You will become aware that He is close to you, and that you need to open your heart even more to Him. You need to trust Him more.

Maybe there is someone dear to you who is sick. We know that Isa healed the sick. He has the power to heal today because He is alive and not dead. Ask Allah in the name of Isa and by Isa’s power to heal your friend. Perhaps there has not been enough rain in your area or the crops seem to be failing this year. We know that Allah controls nature for man’s good. Ask Allah, believing in the name of Isa, and He will answer your supplication and send the rain and give abundant crops. Allah Almighty said in His Honorable Book that after three and a half years of drought, the prophet Elijah prayed, and the sky poured out its rain and the earth produced its crops.

Also, Allah’s Book says that He will love you and bless you, so that you will increase in number and have many children; he will bless your fields, so that you will have corn . . . and olive-oil.

Do you want Allah’s special help to give you success in your exams this year? Ask in the name of Isa, put your faith in action, study diligently, and He will grant your request. Maybe you have problems in your family—strife, hatred, and lack of understanding. Ask Allah in the name of Isa, and He will send peace, love, and joy. Maybe you need a job, and you have been searching for a long time to no avail. Perhaps your

family needs a place to live. Maybe you need to get married. Allah can guide you, help you, and give you victory in all these things. Ask Him in the name of Isa. He works miracles. Put your trust in Al-Masih, may His peace be upon us, and you will see that He is greater and mightier than Satan. Perhaps you are about to take a trip and you need Allah's protection and keeping to arrive safely.

Allah will command His angels to protect you all the way.

Do you know what that means for you? The Almighty commands His angels to guard your every step. What an extraordinary promise! Do you go to a fortune-teller or a soothsayer? Stop that immediately. Are you afraid of someone who uses magic? The power of Al-Masih is much greater than all of that. He is able to protect you and keep you. He will give you the answer to your questions and the things that confuse you. So ask Him, and no other.

Al-Masih sometimes appears in dreams or visions to comfort, encourage, strengthen, guide, and show His love to people. However, I would like you to notice, my friend, that a vision or a dream that really comes from Allah always agrees with Allah's words, Al Injil. There is no contradiction.

THE BODY OF AL-MASIH

There is something else that you must be aware of, my friend. By your faith in Al-Masih, you have become a member of His body. The body of Al-Masih is not a building, an organization, a club, or a secret society. Rather it is a group of believers in Isa from all generations and all times. These believers come from all ages and races, from every nation and country, from every people and language. The body of Al-Masih is all those who belong to Isa because He has forgiven their misdeeds, and taken away their disobedience. He has washed away their sin. He has written their name in the Book of Life. All of that is because He died for them and paid their debt. Then He rose from the dead triumphant in order to make them victorious! The body of Al-Masih is all those to whom Allah has given divine love. He gives them heavenly wisdom. He gives them confidence, knowledge, peace and joy. The body of Al-Masih is all those people to whom Allah speaks and says:

VICTORY IS YOURS

But you are the chosen race, the King's priests, the holy nation, Allah's own people, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of Allah, who called you out of darkness into his own marvelous light. At one time you were not Allah's people, but now you are his people; at one time you did not know Allah's mercy, but now you have received his mercy.

Then the Holy Spirit encourages them, saying:

I appeal to you, my friends, as strangers and refugees in this world! Do not give in to bodily passions, that are always at war against the soul. Your conduct among the heathen should be so good that when they accuse you of being evildoers, they will have to recognize your good deeds and so praise Allah on the Day of his coming.

This is the body of Al-Masih—all those who keep themselves from sin and disobedience. They are the people who live a holy life of love and sacrifice in quietness and peace.

Congratulations for your new life. In the keeping of Allah.

Your friend,

Sheikh Abdullah

TO HELP YOU LEARN

Please complete the following statements in Part A. Then answer the questions in Part B. You may write in your book or on separate paper. After you complete this assignment, you may compare your answers with the correct answers provided in the section called *To Help You Learn – Answers* toward the back of this book.

Completing this part of lesson six called *To Help You Learn* will help you remember the important truths of this lesson.

A. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING

1. In the past, I was spiritually dead because of my sins, but now _____
2. Satan is my greatest enemy. He tries to snatch _____ from my heart.
3. From now on I will no longer fear magic, and I will never go to soothsayers or fortunetellers because I believe that _____ is greater than all these.
4. Allah’s Book says that those who do not believe in Isa have thoughts which are _____, minds which are in the _____, and they are completely _____ and _____.
5. Go back to the lesson, study this verse, memorize it, and then write it here from memory. “When anyone yields to Al-Masih _____

B. ANSWER BRIEFLY

1. What weapon should you use to defeat Satan?

2. Why should we forgive others when they offend us?

VICTORY IS YOURS

3. What would you do if there had been no rain or if there were strife and lack of understanding in your family?

4. What must you do in order for Isa to work miracles in your life? _____

5. Where does a new believer in Al-Masih stand concerning lying, lust, anger, and harmful words?
