

# THE BATTLE WON BY SINGING

II Chronicles 20:1-30.

LESSON 85 -- Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4).

## BIBLE TEXT

### II Chronicles 20:1-30

1 It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi.

3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,

6 And said, O LORD God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,

9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.

10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of

Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

13 And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their little ones, their wives, and their children.

14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;

15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel.

17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.

19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites,

stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.

22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.

24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among

them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah; for there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day.

27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies.

28 And they came to Jerusalem with psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD.

29 And the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries, when they had heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel.

30 So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about.

## NOTES

### **Rulers Over the People**

We have studied much about the Children of Israel, God's people. We learned some time ago that God did not want His people to have a king over them, as the nations that did not know God. God was their King and wanted the people to let Him lead them. But when they became dissatisfied and wanted a king, God let them have one. Do we remember the name of the first king who ruled over the Children of Israel?

Much has happened since the days of that first king – the people became divided and formed two kingdoms, called Judah and Israel. They had had many kings since the days of Saul; some of the kings were good and turned the hearts of the people to the Lord and helped them worship Him. Others were bad and led the people to worship idols instead of worshiping the true God.

### **A Good King**

King Jehoshaphat, who was ruling Judah at the time of this lesson, was a very strong and wise man, and one who served the Lord with all his heart. He took away the idols that the people had been worshiping, and turned the hearts of the people to the Lord.

One day a message came to him that an enemy army was coming against his people. He at once did the right thing: he turned to the Lord and asked for help. He told all the people to pray, and said that God would fight

the battle for them. The people came from far away to the Temple in Jerusalem, and the king stood and prayed to God. He knew that the armies, which were coming against his people were greater than his own armies. But he said to God, “Our eyes are upon thee.”

### **“Fear Not”**

The men, their wives, and the little children were gathered in the Temple, praying that the Lord would not let the enemy come and do them harm. Presently the Spirit of the Lord came upon one of the men, a Levite, and he told the people just which way the enemy was coming; but he also said, “The battle is not your’s, but God’s. . . . Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD.” He told them to go out the next day and the Lord would be with them. Then the king and all the people worshiped the Lord, for they knew that he had heard their prayers.

### **Singing and Praising the Lord**

Early the next morning the people started out to the battle. As they left, the king again encouraged them to believe in God. Then he appointed certain ones as singers to go out in front of the soldiers. This is the song they should sing, “Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.”

The people of Judah did not have to do any fighting; the singers sang and praised the Lord. Soon it was learned that the enemy had had a battle among themselves, and had killed one another. The Lord had caused the enemy army to be destroyed before God’s people reached them. God knows just how to do everything well.

The king and his army went down to the battlefield and found so many jewels and so much money that it took three days to gather it all up and carry it home. They rejoiced and thanked the Lord for giving them the victory over their enemies that worshiped idols.

When things go wrong all around us, why not try singing praises to God? The next time something comes to us that makes us unhappy, let us lift our heart to Jesus and our voice in songs of praise. We shall soon find that the trouble will disappear. The victory won by this king and his army of soldiers and singers is not the only battle that has been won by singing. Many a Christian has learned to “sing when the clouds are hanging low” and has found that his troubles have gone away. We are told to rejoice in the Lord always. That does not mean only when everything is coming our way, but also when things are topsy-turvy.

### **“Stand Ye Still”**

It pays to do as the Word of God tells us to do when it says, “Stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD.” One day a farmer was out cutting down trees. As he had almost completed sawing through the trunk of a tree, and was preparing to run to safety, he suddenly discovered the tree was falling toward him. It was too late to run; but at that moment, he looked to God and prayed. A Voice spoke to him and said, “Stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD.” He stood still where he was. The tree fell; but right where he was standing there was a clearing. He was surrounded by the branches of the tree, but was unhurt. The Lord had taken care of him. It pays to look to God for help and protection always. God knows just what to do when we need help and ask Him for it.

### **Paul and Silas**

We read in the sixteenth chapter of Acts that two disciples of Jesus were cast into prison. Their feet were made fast in the stocks. “And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God” (Acts 16:25). Presently there was a great earthquake and the prison was shaken and all the doors were opened and the prisoner’s bands were loosed. The jailer took Paul and Silas and washed their bleeding backs and asked what he must do to be

saved. When they told him to believe he did it, and he and all his family were saved and were baptized in water. Paul and Silas were set free. Another battle had been won by singing praises to God for His goodness!

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What did the king do when he heard that the enemy was coming? II Chronicles 20:3, 4, 5.
2. Tell a little of his prayer to God. II Chronicles 20:6-12.
3. Who went ahead of the soldiers? II Chronicles 20:21.
4. What kind of song did they sing? II Chronicles 20:21.
5. Do you think that the Lord is pleased when we sing praises to Him? Psalm 92:1.

## LESSON RESOURCES

### TITLE

# THE BATTLE WON BY SINGING

Lesson 85

II Chronicles 20:1-30

# There Is Victory For Me

WATCH AND PRAY 34



d` ; r` , m` : s : t : r` : d` :-:

m` ; f` , s` : m` : d` : m` : r` :-:

s` ; f` , m` : m` : r` : d` : l : f` :-

d` ; r` , m` : s` : t : r` : d` :-:

s` : s` :-: f` : m` :-: m` : m` :-: r` : d` :-:

d` ; d` , r` : d` : t : l : s : d` :

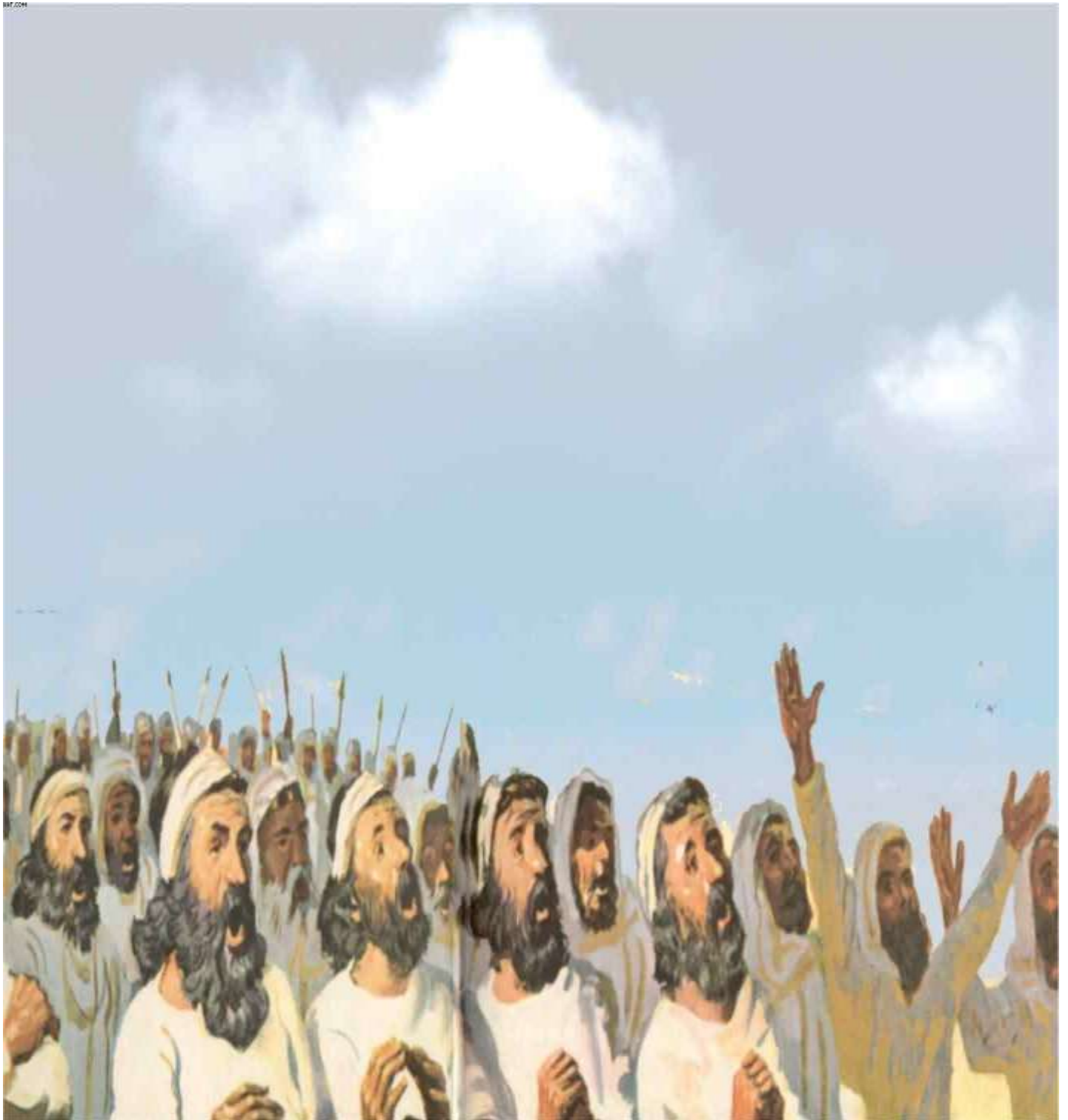
s` : f` : m` :- r` :- d` :-:



# There Is Victory For Me

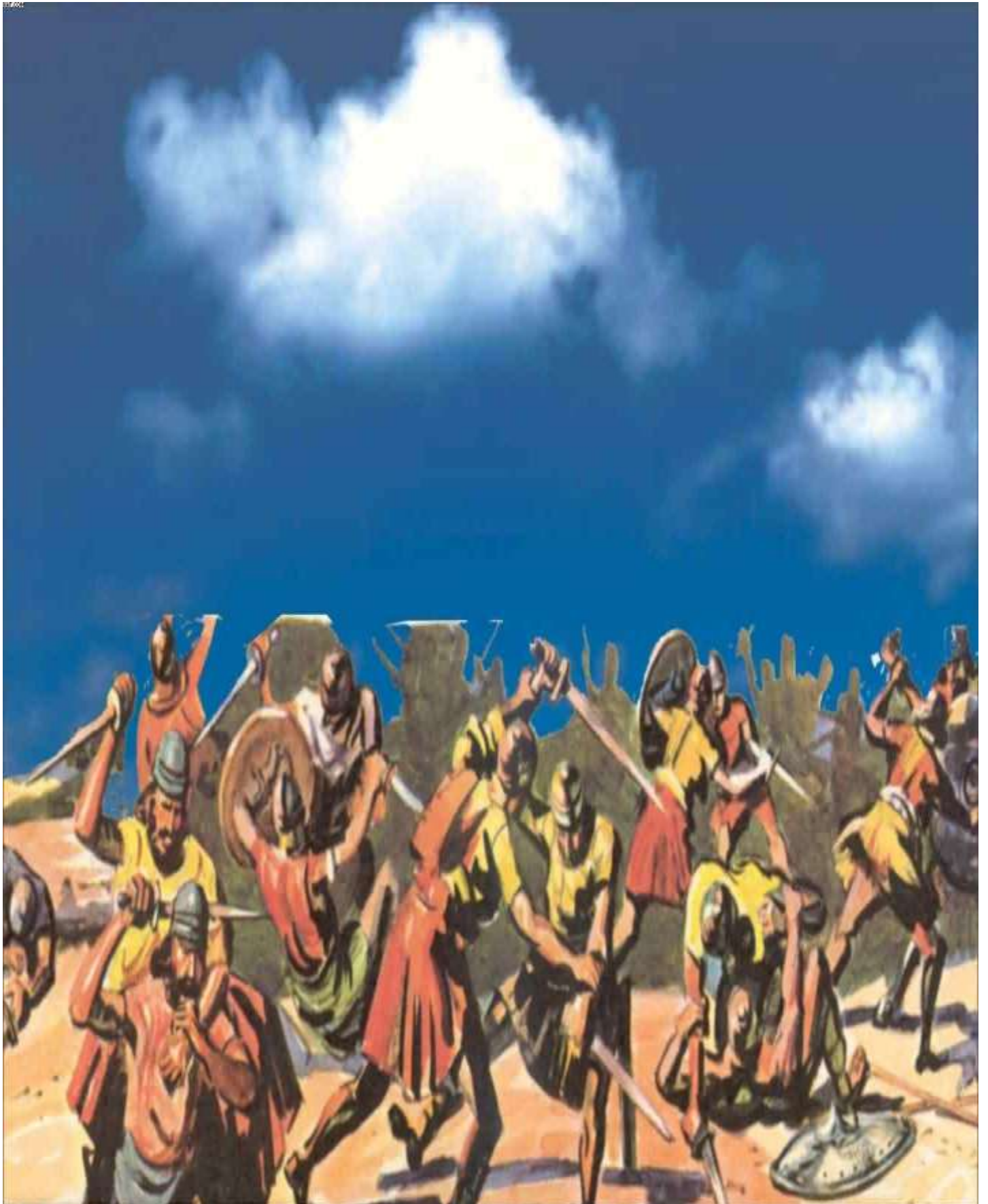
There is Vic-to-ry for me,  
There is Vic-to-ry for me,  
In the blood of Christ my Saviour,  
There is Vic-to-ry for me.  
For me, yes me,  
For me, yes me,  
In the blood of Christ my Saviour  
There is Vic-to-ry.

**PICTURE 1**





PICTURE 2





PICTURE 3

