

THE FRAGRANCE OF CHRIST (part one)

Part one of this lesson is directed to every believer's privileged position in Christ as **Ambassadors** of the grace gospel.

(2 Cor.5:17-21) [a new creation]; As ambassadors, having the ministry of reconciliation and being made Righteous IN Christ.

The work of an Ambassador is to spread the fragrance of the gospel of Jesus Christ from where you live and to other communities with Positive Volition to God and the gospel of grace salvation (Acts 1:8).

Part one of this lesson will study three aspects of our ambassadorship responsibility of spreading the Fragrance of Christ.

1. Our lesson text is a picture of the Graeco-Roman military parade of warfare victory.

It could be led by the Emperor (**God**), by the commanding General of a theater of war (**Christ**), followed by field commander (**Paul**), and then by the soldiers (**Christians**).

It is also the picture of the Divine Chain of Command in the Angelic Conflict (Eph.6:10-17)

(1 Cor.11:3) "But I want you to understand that **Christ is the head** of every man, and the **man is the head of the woman (divine delegated authority)**, and **God is the head of Christ**."

(2 Cor.2:14a) "**But thanks** (charis) [praise of grace victory in the Angelic Conflict] **be to God who always (pantote) leads us in triumph in Christ**."

2. When there are no spiritual triumphs in Christ in our life, it shows that we are NOT allowing God to lead us in our life's choices.

In (2 Cor.2:14a), how often does God promise to "**lead you in triumph in Christ?**"

- This doctrinal principle should cause us to praise - "**Thanks be to God** who always leads us in **triumph** in Christ."
- The first (p.a.ptc.dsm) The Greek word for **triumph** is thriambeuo [1st of two linked p.a.ptc].

"Those who are led are not captives exposed to humiliation but **are displayed** as the glory and devoted subjects of Him who leads." (Vines Expository Dict. of Biblical Words, pg.644)

Note that it is God's desire to lead us **ALWAYS** (in every time and circumstance of our Christian Way of Life – WALKING IN TRIUMPH, IN CHRIST).

3. The second (p.a.ptc.dsm) is the word manifests, which is linked to triumph of victory in Christ.

The Greek term (phaneroo) means to make visible, reveal, or to **display publicly** (2 Cor.2:14b).

(2 Cor.2:14b) “**And** (kai) [adjunctive of two participles, the 1st being triumph] **manifests** (2nd) **through us the sweet aroma** (ten some) [the burning of spices produced a sweet aroma along the victory parade path] **of the knowledge of Christ in every place.**”

The sweet smell of sacrifice and victory of spiritual warfare is reflected by thankful hearts to God for His leading us into victory. It reflects the pre-occupation with Christ in our daily inhale and exhale of the Word of God and applying the Faith Cycle (2 Tim.3:16-17).

Pay attention to the how the sweet aroma is described - “the knowledge of Him (Christ) in every place” (2 Cor.2:14:b).