

**Articles and Sermons :: Overcomers****Overcomers - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2019/12/22 20:44**

Overcomers

By W. C. Moore (1890 - 1980)

“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne” (Rev. 3:21).

When the Word of God gives specific, wonderful promises “again and again” to the ones who overcome (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 26-28; 3:5, 12, 21), it is time for us to sit up and take notice “and then do something about it!

Since the Word of God so expressly speaks of the possibility of living an overcoming life and the rewards that follow, it is very clear that there are things to be overcome, and further, that we need to stir up ourselves (Isa. 64:7), put on the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:11) and, with all the determination of our soul, press toward the mark “that we might be what God wants us to be! (Phil. 3:12-14).

“Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown: but we an incorruptible” (1 Cor. 9:24-25).

“...They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death” (Rev. 12:11). How much more blessed to overcome than to be overcome!

“...Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Heb. 12:1-2).

“Ye Have Overcome”

“I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one” (1 John 2:14).

Notice that the Word of God “abideth” in those who overcome. The way for us to get into “and stay in” that “young men” group of overcomers “is to have the Word of God abiding in us” to obey the teachings of the New Testament all the time!

We can never expect to be true overcomers, and to sit with Christ in His throne (Rev. 3:21), unless we obey His Word and walk in every bit of light He gives us (John 12:35). “...Repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). But it is not enough to get saved; we are told to “be filled with the Spirit” (Eph. 5:18). Not filled just once, then to settle down “at ease in Zion” and say, “I’ve got it.” But be filled all the time and “walk in the Spirit” (Gal. 5:16).

Wait Upon the Lord

We are commanded to “be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might” (Eph. 6:10). It is not our own strength, our own determination, our own persistence alone that enables us to prevail. We do need to be wholehearted (Jer. 29:13), but in addition to all this we also need to wait upon the Lord so that our strength shall be renewed, so that our strength shall become intertwined with God’s strength, and then we shall “mount up with wings as eagles” and “walk, and not faint” (Isa. 40:29-31).

Waiting on God, with an honest heart in faith (Heb. 11:6), with importunity (Luke 11:1-13), is a sure, a God-given way to get strong. “Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart...” (Psa. 27:14). God will strengthen us to be overcomers as we persistently wait on Him!

Wait upon the Lord, get still before Him, tell Him that you love Him, pour out your heart before Him (Psa. 62:8), ask Him to forgive you for grieving Him â€” by thought, word and deed. Be quiet before the Lord â€” let your heart go up in meditation on His goodness, His holiness, His mercy. â€œ...Wait, I say, on the Lordâ€” (Psa. 27:14).

Take time â€” make time â€” to wait upon the Lord. When you come in from the cold outside, and sit down before a fire, it takes time, as you wait before the fire, for the warmth of the fire to penetrate into your body. So, it takes time for the fire of God to permeate and penetrate your whole being as you wait upon the Lord!

Meditate on the Word of God. Delight in His Word, meditate â€” day and nightâ€” (Psa. 1:2). When a battery is connected with a â€”chargerâ€” it takes time for the battery to be renewed, but it works. So, as you put the battery of your weary and worn spirit on Godâ€™s â€”chargerâ€” â€” as you wait before Him â€” know that He is recharging your worn-out spiritual powers. â€œ...They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength...â€” (Isa. 40:31).

He, blessed be His name, â€”giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strengthâ€” (Isa. 40:29). Be persistent, brother, sister, until He does renew your strength!

Even if we are sanctified, if we are filled with the Spirit, still all the time we need to be on the alert. â€”Watch ye therefore, and pray alwaysâ€” are the words of Jesus, our Lord (Luke 21:36).

Only God Can Keep Us

There is a danger of being â€”fullâ€” of spiritual blessing and forgetting God, just as in the Old Testament times the Lord warned the people of the danger of being full (with material blessings) and then forgetting God (Deut. 8:10-14).

Thank God for the blessings and the deep experiences He gives His wholehearted, believing people. We need the deep experiences. But let us never depend on any blessing or any experience to keep us. Instead, we are â€”kept by the power of God through faith...â€” (1 Pet. 1:5).

â€œ...Unto Him that is able to keep you from falling...â€” (Jude v. 24). God never meant for us to be independent of Himself. â€œ...Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fallâ€” (1 Cor. 10:12). Then follows the promise, â€œGod is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are ableâ€”â€” (1 Cor. 10:13).

It is presumption to think that we can drift along in victory without heeding the commands of the Lord. â€œ...Take heed to yourselves...â€” (Luke 21:34).

If we feel that we are â€”advancedâ€” Christians, let us remember that it was to Peter, one of His most ardent followers, that Jesus said, â€”Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weakâ€” (Matt. 26:41).

In â€”perilous timesâ€” (2 Tim. 3:1-5) such as we now live in, there is special need of watchfulness, of humility. We can lose out in our overcoming testimony without even being aware of it ourselves â€” if we do not watch and pray always. Samson â€”wist not that the Lord was departed from himâ€” (Judg. 16:20).

We can lose out by â€”comparingâ€” ourselves with others (2 Cor. 10:12), and letting â€”ordinaryâ€” standards of holiness control us instead of sticking close to Godâ€™s Word and His standards of holiness.

We can â€”roll under our tongueâ€” some sweet morsel of a past experience, of some great blessing we have had, and be in defeat before we know it. We should indeed â€”forget not all His benefitsâ€” (Psa. 103:2), but along with this spirit of thankfulness to God for what He has done we need to do as Paul says:

â€œNot as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.... I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesusâ€” (Phil. 3:12, 14).

If we have failed, let us honestly confess our sins to God, and believe Him, according to His Word, to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). If we dodge facts, we will never succeed in dodging failure!

Let Us Face the Facts!

Charles G. Finney, after he was saved and after he had a mighty baptism with the Holy Spirit, found that although he was engaged in evangelistic work and was mightily blessed of God yet he would sometimes "leak out" or in some way lose the fullness of the Holy Spirit. At such times he did not try to "force" himself (1 Sam. 13:12) to believe he had the anointing when he knew he did not have it.

Rather, he earnestly sought the Lord until the Holy Spirit again mightily moved through him. He found, as he expressed it, that he could not live without enjoying the presence of God. In these awful days, may God, for Jesus' sake, grant to us such a fiery zeal that we, too, simply must have the fullness of the Holy Spirit at any cost whatsoever!

"...The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matt. 11:12). It takes holiness and intensity to become an overcomer and to continue as an overcomer "to live the victorious Christian life."

The truly Spirit-filled, overcoming life cannot be tolerant for one moment with lukewarmness, with compromise, with "make believe," with sham! We cannot be filled with the Spirit and be lukewarm at the same time! So, if at any time we feel ourselves beginning to cool off, let us immediately stir up ourselves (Isa. 64:7), and take hold of God for a fresh anointing "for a new infilling of the Holy Spirit (Psa. 92:10).

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne" (Rev. 3:21). Jesus overcame! So, for us to earnestly, fervently seek to be overcomers is for us "with all the purpose of our soul" to seek to follow Jesus!

Oh, let us catch a vision of God's wonderful promises to the overcomers, and let us earnestly pray one for another, that, looking unto Jesus, we may be "called, and chosen, and faithful" (Rev. 17:14).

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