OverComers

The Greek word for "overcome" in the passages of scripture used in this article is "Nikeo" and it means "to conquer, or to be the victor."

So in all of these passages here, the reference is to being a conqueror or being victorious as a believer in Christ.

Now let's look together at the promises made to those who overcome in the following verses:

"To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the Tree of Life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." Revelation 2:7

"He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death." Revelation 2:11

"To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat." Revelation 2:17

"And to him who overcomes and keeps My works unto the end, to him I will give power over the nations." Revelation 2:26

"He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels." Revelation 3:5

"He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of God, and He shall go out no more, I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God. And I will write on him MY new name." Revelation 3:12

"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with my Father on His throne." Revelation 3:21

"He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be His God and he shall be My son." Revelation 21:7

I think you can clearly see how wonderful and yet how essential it is that we are overcomers! Just look at these promises made to those who overcome:

You get to eat from the Tree of Life in God's Paradise!

You cannot be hurt by the second death which is the Lake of Fire!

You can eat God's hidden manna, the Bread of Life!

You will have power and authority as a King and Priest over the nations!

You will be clothed in clean white garments and Jesus will confess your name before the Father and **NOT** blot your name out of the Book of Life!

You will be made a pillar in God's Temple and He will write His name upon you!

You will share a throne with Jesus Himself!

You will inherit ALL things and shall forever be the Son of God!

How wonderful this is! It is almost beyond our thinking and ability to comprehend! And yet these same verses cause many to be anxious and fearful. They are not certain as to how to be an overcomer.

So how do I overcome? How can I be an overcomer? These are important questions and they often cause much confusion. But rather than look to what men think, let us just go back to the final authority, the Word of God.

"These things I have spoken to you, that in ME you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33

It is true that from this world system there is much tribulation and there is much temptation. But we are told to be of good cheer! Why? Because Jesus has overcome the world! That is why in Him we have peace! Our peace comes from the work He has done!

You may be thinking, "I know Jesus overcame the world, but how do I overcome?" Through identification! Let me explain. When Jesus died on the cross He died for all of humanity. He took all of us to the cross with Him. And when He overcame death He made all of us overcomers! "Do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so WE also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been UNITED together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection." Romans 6:3-5

It all simply means that as we share in His death and suffering we also share in His victory! When He became an overcomer, we became overcomers!

This is an accomplished work! It is not something you are trying to do, but something that has already been done. You are right **NOW** an overcomer!

John says I write to you because "your sins have been forgiven" and you have "known Him who is from the beginning." And because "you have overcome the wicked one." You HAVE overcome! Not you might or you will, but you HAVE!

Our next question is, "How then do I become united with this accomplished work of Jesus and become an overcomer?"

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" 1 John 5:4-5

Who is it who will overcome the world? Those who **BELIEVE** that Jesus is the Son of God! What is the weapon that overcomes the world? Our faith! All you have to do is believe! And when you believe you are born again and those who are born of God overcome the world!

How foolish and arrogant we are to think that we could overcome the world through some work of our own. How blinded have we become that we cannot see that our "righteousness is as filthy rags."

"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony." Revelation 12:11 "They" are the saints of God and "him" is Satan, our adversary. How did the saints overcome Satan? By the "Blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony."

What will it take to defeat Satan? What will it take to vanquish the power of sin? What will wash away the stain of sin from my life? What will be needed to assure me of eternal life? What will restore me to right relationship with God? What will calm the storm of my heart and bring everlasting peace? Only one thing! **THE BLOOD OF JESUS!** And my testimony in that blood and in the work that Jesus has done! *"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9*

If it's possible to overcome through our good works, then what was the cross all about? Why did Jesus have to die such a hideous death? I'll tell you why! Because only the Blood of Jesus has the power to overcome! Jesus said " I have overcome the world!" And because He overcame we should "be of good cheer!"

So lift up your head child of God. Your redemption draweth nigh! The work is done! If you are born of God, you **ARE** an overcomer! If you believe, you **ARE** an overcomer! Never let anyone tell you otherwise. Do not let the enemy steal this from you. Stand firm in the Grace of God!

"Stand Fast Therefore In The Liberty By Which Christ Has Made Us Free." Galatians 5:1