

Overcomers

Yirmeyah Tan, 30th October 2025

Shalom.

Today we are going to discuss a very important topic that the Bible calls “**Overcomers**”.

First, we shall deal with the meaning of overcoming in the Bible. Refer to 3 verses in **Rev 21:6-8**

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I. Meaning of Overcoming

Rev 21:6 *And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.*

Rev 21:7 *He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

Rev 21:8 *But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*

1. Thayer's Dictionary defines overcoming by Christians as follows:

“those that hold fast their faith even unto death, against the power of their foes, and temptations and persecutions”

The explanation is self-evident.

2. What about those who fail to overcome? The Bible describes them in Rev 21:8: They are called the fearful, unbelieving, abominable, murderous etc. They will be burnt in the lake of fire which is described in the Bible as the second death.

Let's take the issue of overcoming in the Bible. There are number of areas that we need to deal with. First and foremost is overcoming the flesh or sinful carnal nature that we inherited from Adam. Look at **Gal 5:16-17** –

II. Overcoming The Flesh

Gal 5:16 *This I say then, walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

Gal 5:17 *For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

What does ‘walking in the Spirit’ involve? If you study the Bible carefully, you will find that the Holy Spirit will lead us and help us to have:

1. **Life of obedience** to Yahweh, obedience to His commandments and His word.
2. Part of this obedience is to **submit to the will of God**. As I mentioned in my other videos, the problem that we have is the gift of free will that Yahweh bestowed upon

mankind when He created Adam and Eve. The ability or the choice given to us to obey Him or disobey Him, to do His will or to pursue our own will. We have great difficulties submitting our will to the will of Yahweh.

3. We need to **depend upon the Holy Spirit** every day of our lives if we want to have success in overcoming.
4. Walking in the Holy Spirit will enable us to harness the power of the Holy Spirit, to **put to death the sinful fallen nature and the deeds of the flesh**: the kind of sins we are very prone to commit.

Look at the specific works of the flesh that are listed by Paul. There are a few lists in the epistles but **Gal 5:19-21** gives us a long comprehensive list –

Gal 5:19 *Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these, Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,*

Gal 5:20 *Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,*

Gal 5:21 *Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.***

5. If we do not overcome the flesh and its terrible deeds, we shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. I mentioned in my previous videos that, every time there is a verse warning us that we need to meet certain conditions to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, we must take special note: this is one of them.
6. Overcoming the flesh also involves the need to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to produce the 9-fold fruit of the Spirit: without such fruit, we shall be cut off and cast into the fire.

In **Joh 15:1-2** –

Joh 15:1 *I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.*

Joh 15:2 ***Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.***

We are like branches of the vine. If we are not fruitful when the Father comes round looking for fruit, He will cut off the branch and cast it into the fire. If we are bearing fruit but He is not satisfied with the amount of fruit, He will prune us so that we may bear more fruit. Beware therefore, we need to produce the 9-fold fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Next is “Overcoming Evil Spiritual Forces”. Look at the **Eph 6:10-13** -

III. Overcoming Evil Spiritual Forces

Eph 6:10 *Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.*

Eph 6:11 *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

Eph 6:12 *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

Eph 6:13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Eph 6:14 gives us 2 important parts of this armour.

1. Belt of truth
2. Breastplate of righteousness

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness.

Yeshua said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one comes to the Father, but by me." The truth of God's word, truth of God's commandments: Yeshua Himself is truth. Truth is contrary to lies. Satan is the father of lies. To counter the deceits and lies of Satan, we need to girt ourselves with the truth of God's word, stand by God's truth and walk in His truth. The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of truth. He will guide us into all truth.

The armour is a breastplate of righteousness. The breastplate is the armour that protects the chest area as it is the most vulnerable part of a human being. What is this breastplate of righteousness? Most Christians are aware that we have the imputed righteousness of Christ in us. But most Christians are not aware that they need the help of the Holy Spirit to acquire the robe of righteousness. That is right. We must be righteous. We must be acting righteously. We must be living righteously. However imperfectly, we must attempt to do it. These are 2 vital parts of the armour of God - "Belt of truth" and "Breastplate of righteousness".

Next, in **Eph 6:15** –

3. Shoes of the gospel of peace

Eph 6:15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.

It is very interesting that the gospel is likened to a pair of shoes. In the Rom 10, we are told "how beautiful on the mountain are the feet of those who bring good news". The good news is the gospel. We must travel and go different places to preach the gospel. These shoes are like the boots of the military people. They are heavy duty, they can stand a lot of wear and tear, they can take the soldier to very difficult terrain and climb mountains and so on. We also need special heavy-duty boots, and these are described simply as the gospel of peace.

Next, the Shield of Faith in the Book of **Eph 6:16** –

4. Shield of faith

Eph 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Imagine the shield you carry on the forearm because, like arrows, the evil one will send all kinds of lies and all kinds of accusations against us. We must stay strong in the faith.

Next, a soldier would have a helmet for protection of the head. In the **Eph 6:17** –

5. Helmet of salvation

Eph 6:17 *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*

6. Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God.
7. Praying in the Spirit which is praying in tongues

How does salvation serve as a helmet? The helmet is to protect the head. The head is where the brain resides. So spiritually, symbolically, our minds, our will, and the seat of our emotions must be protected by the salvation we have in Christ:

Rom 12:2 *And be not conformed to this world: but **be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Eph 6:17 also talks about the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. We have defensive armour but we also have a sword to go against the devil. This offensive sword is none other than the Word of Yahweh.

Recall how Yeshua overcame the temptations of Satan after His 40-day fasting and He was very hungry. He was told, "If you are the Son of God, you can turn these stones into bread." Yeshua said, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." This is an example of Yeshua wielding the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God to counter Satan, "it is written".

Then, praying in the Spirit in **Eph 6:18** –

Eph 6:18 *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.*

Praying in the Spirit is explained in the Bible as praying in tongues. When we pray in tongues it is the Spirit that prays through us and we do not realize, do not understand what we are praying about. That is how to overcome evil spiritual forces.

The Bible also warns us in the last days that we are in, that Satan will be cast out from heaven, and he knows his time is short. He will come after the people of Yahweh with tremendous vigour and vengeance. Look at **Rev 12:9-11** –

IV. Overcoming Satan

Rev 12:9 *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

Rev 12:10 *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.*

Rev 12:11 *And **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.***

There are 3 ways which we can overcome Satan in these last days.

1. By the blood of Yeshua

If we are sprinkled with the blood of Yeshua, we are saved. We are told in 1Pet 1:2 that only the people who are sanctified by the power of the Holy Spirit will enjoy this sprinkling by the blood of Christ. Recall also the Exodus from Egypt by the Israelites.

They were told to sacrifice a lamb and smear the blood on the lintel and the doorposts of their homes. When the angel of death passed over at midnight, he spared all those Israelites. But the Egyptians that didn't have the smearing of the blood as a cover, their firstborn were killed.

2. By the testimonies.

Testimonies are events in our lives that happened when we are victorious, when we obeyed Yahweh's word and commandments. And we have a story to tell to encourage other people. These are called testimonies in the Bible.

3. By being willing to die for their faith

It is very important: you can vanquish Satan in his last days by being willing to die for our faith. The last thing he can extract from us is our physical life but, if we are prepared to lay down our life for the sake of the gospel of Christ, for the Word of God and His commandments, we shall overcome. We will lose our life on this earth, but we will gain eternal life.

In this time, this hour, very shortly, we will encounter the antichrist. If we are still alive at that time, we need to learn how to overcome the antichrist. Refer to **Rev 13:7-8** –

V. Overcoming The Antichrist

Rev 13:7 *And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.*

Rev 13:8 *And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, **whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.***

In **Rev 14:12** –

Rev 14:12 *Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*

There are 3 points to note –

1. Patient endurance

We must have patient endurance.

2. Keeping the commandments of YAHWEH

We must be found keeping the commandments of Yahweh.

3. Having the faith of Yeshua

As the King James puts it. But I rather prefer other versions of the Bible like CEV, ESV and LEB, which translate “**faith of Jesus**” to “**faith in Jesus**”. The ISV renders it

“faithfulness in Jesus”. I tend to agree with these other translations because there is no way we can have the supernatural faith that Yeshua has. He is Yahweh. We can, by the help of the Holy Spirit have faith in Yeshua and be faithful to Yeshua.

This is how we can overcome the Antichrist. Patient endurance: you endure persecution and tribulation. You keep the commandments of Yahweh no matter what. Keep your faith and be faithful to Yeshua.

The next area of overcoming is something that a lot of Christians are not aware of. It has to do with overcoming problematic churches and their false teachings and doctrines. Rev 2 and 3 give us 7 letters that Yeshua wrote to the 7 churches which I believe are typical churches even in our age.

1. Ephesus church: left first love

The problem is they left their first love.

2. Smyrna: tribulation, false Jews, prison

A church undergoing tribulation and imprisonment, but they had in their midst false Jews.

3. Pergamum: doctrine of Balaam, Nicolaitans

They had the doctrine of Balaam and the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. Balam was a false prophet who sold his gift for money and failing that, he enticed the children of Israel with Moabite women who seduced them into idolatry. The doctrine of Balaam is prevalent today. There are people who prostitute their gifts: so-called prophetic gifts for money. What about Nicolaitans? The Bible doesn't explain to us what is meant by the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. The church in Ephesus did not subscribe to it and was commended by Yeshua. But the church in Pergamum gave in to the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. This is all we know about the Nicolaitans in the Bible.

Note: According to the Early Church fathers, one of the seven deacons appointed in Acts, Nicolas of Antioch, was converted from paganism to Judaism and then to Christianity. He taught a mix of occultism, Judaism, and Christianity. Yeshua hated this kind of doctrine.

4. Thyatira: false prophetess Jezebel, fornication and food offered to idols

The false prophetess Jezebel enticed the people to fornication and eat food offered to idols. Jezebel was the name of the wife of the wicked king Ahab. She was a very wicked person, and she nurtured 400 false prophets that were slaughtered by Elijah.

5. Sardis: spiritually dead church

Sadis is described as a spiritually dead church and there are many dead churches around us nowadays. The Holy Spirit withdraws from churches that preach false doctrines.

6. Philadelphia: little strength, false Jews

Philadelphia means love, loving the brethren. Little strength but there are false Jews among them.

7. Laodicea: lukewarm (neither hot nor cold)

Yeshua threatened to spew them out of His mouth.

If we look at the 7 churches and what Yeshua wrote to them, we would do well to pay attention and learn to overcome the results of such problematic churches and their false doctrines.

The Bible has listed a number of rewards for Overcomers that we want to take note of.

1. Eat of the Tree of Life [Rev 2:7]
In the beginning, Adam and Eve had access to the Tree of Life. They were cast out of the Garden of Eden after their sin and denied access to the Tree of Life. But one day those of us who overcome will be granted access to the Tree of life where we can partake of its fruit for all eternity.
2. Will not be hurt by the second death [Rev 2:11]
3. Eat hidden manna, new name written on a white stone [Rev 2:17]
We don't know what the hidden mana is, but it is not the mana that Moses and Aaron hid in the ark of the covenant. That mana has long since dissolved into dust and the ark has not been found. This is a special food reserved in Heaven for those who are overcomers.
4. Power over the nations [Rev 2:26]
5. Clothed in white raiment, name will not be blotted out of the Book of Life; Yeshua will confess our name before the Father and angels. [Rev 3:5]
6. Become a pillar in the Temple of God, will have the Name of God and the New Jerusalem plus the new name of Yeshua [Rev 3:12]
7. Sit on Yeshua's throne [Rev 3:21]
We will be able to sit on Yeshua's throne, rule and reign with Him in the millennium.
8. Will inherit all things and will be a son of God [Rev 21:7]
Overcomers will inherit all things and will be sons and daughters of the Most High. That is the ultimate reward for all of us who overcome. All the inheritance goes to Yeshua, and we will partake of the inheritance if we are overcomers.
9. Shall see His face and have His Name written on the forehead [Rev 22:4]
Overcomers shall see His face and will have His name written on the forehead. Remember Moses wanted to see the face of Yahweh, but no man can see His face and live. One day, we as overcomers will behold His face in the fullness of His glory and His name Yahweh shall be written on our foreheads.

Shalom my friends.