

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

**Romans 8:37**

# Overcoming

Jon W. Quinn

## Store In My Heart

### Jeremiah 29:13

You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

This powerful statement to the Jews in their time of difficulty is also very necessary for us to consider today. It is such a simple statement of fact that we might overlook the fullness of what is said. If our search for God is not filled with devotion to find Him, we will be unsuccessful.

To find God we must desire to be with Him more than anything else. Our search must be in earnest and it must be an action that consumes the whole of our being. To search for God with only part of our attention would indicate that we are not really willing to give Him our all. God does not want those who are not fully committed. He wants only those who are ready to give Him their all to find Him. God wants complete devotion.

This evening, on the news, I heard a mother who lost a son to a terrorist attack plead for peace. She wanted peace in the world. She wanted the suffering and hate to stop in both Gaza and Israel. She said she did not want vengeance. Her sorrow was obvious. Her plea was reasonable. Her lack of a desire for vengeance commendable. But I would be surprised if the world's answer will be any different than it has been throughout human history. The answer will once again, I fear, be "no" to peace.

Jesus said, *"He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."* (**Revelation 3:21**).

There are seven statements made by Jesus in **Revelation 2** and **3** concerning overcoming. We have quoted the seventh and final statement above. The message of the book is that the enemies of the cross would fall, and the faithful overcomer would endure forever. When it comes to pleasing God with our lives, those who failed did so for a reason. Those that succeeded did so for a reason. Success or failure do not happen in a vacuum. Neither "just happens."

I am all for prayers and pleas for peace. I make them as well. Often. I also know where they can be found in this world. They can be found in the teachings of the Son of God, the Prince of Peace. The world needs to heed the words of the Man from Nazareth, words it often mocks and ridicules. The Man who said the greatest commandments were to love God with all one's heart, soul, mind and strength and to love one's neighbor as oneself.

Jesus knows everything there is to know about overcoming. We have good reason to have confidence in His ability and promises. Jesus was victorious over temptation and sin and even death. As a result of Jesus' overcoming, He is seated on the throne of God, next to the Father with His eternal glory restored. He invites us to



overcome through Him and join Him there!

We need to be honoring the King today! Sometimes it is disheartening to see the evils which plague the world. Evil and the suffering it causes seems so powerful and pervasive. But do not be despondent or hopeless even when the time seems dark. It also seemed that way when these words in Revelation were first written. In fact, that is why they were written; to encourage faithfulness during dark times. We are assured that victory belongs to our king (**Revelation 17:14**). We honor the king by submitting to Him (**1 Timothy 6:13-16**). There is no other way to honor the Lord than to do with diligence what He bids us do.

Jesus invites us to join Him. Our exaltation will come after we have trusted the Lord. He is at the door inviting you to come join Him on the throne (**Revelation 3:20**). Jesus has shown us the way. This is not something to be casual about. Overcoming by faith means being steadfast, diligent and dedicated. Faithful Christians today live in hope. It is to those who overcome that Jesus promises access to the tree of life and that the second death will not hurt them. He promises that He will speak for us in that final hour when no other friend will do. And, finally, we will be permitted to sit down with Him on His throne. Of course, these are all symbols, but what wonderful hope they symbolize! It is the hope that belongs to those who "overcome"!

May there be peace on earth and good will toward us all. Let us work for that by being what Jesus tells us to be in our small parts of the world. Blessed are the peacemakers! But if this world will not have it and continues in its senseless, hurtful rebellion, then let me, by the grace of God, overcome the world with Jesus.

(I am reminded of the disciples' question to Jesus regarding His teaching on riches. DLH)

*Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with man is possible with God."* **Luke 18:26-27**

Trust God and all things are possible.

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

### Church of Christ

1512 Tanner Street  
Malvern, AR 72104  
(501) 332-8806

## Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com

FB @TannerStCoC

## For Our Information

Malcolm Rigsby has a CT scan Wednesday on his abdominal area to rule out some things.

Paula Laubach has a neurologist appointment this week.

Vickie McNeas has foot surgery this week. Sue Soliday has been dealing with a cold this past week.

Of course, each of these would appreciate prayers on their behalf.

Shannon Soliday is working this weekend. All of the Soliday family will be travelling to Indiana this Tuesday and return Saturday.

Jeff Melton is doing well with physical therapy on his new hip.

Sunday Evening - **Daniel 8**. Wednesday Evening - **1 Peter 3:18**.

Let us also remember brethren across the world who are dealing with war and disaster. Pray for God's protection.

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

