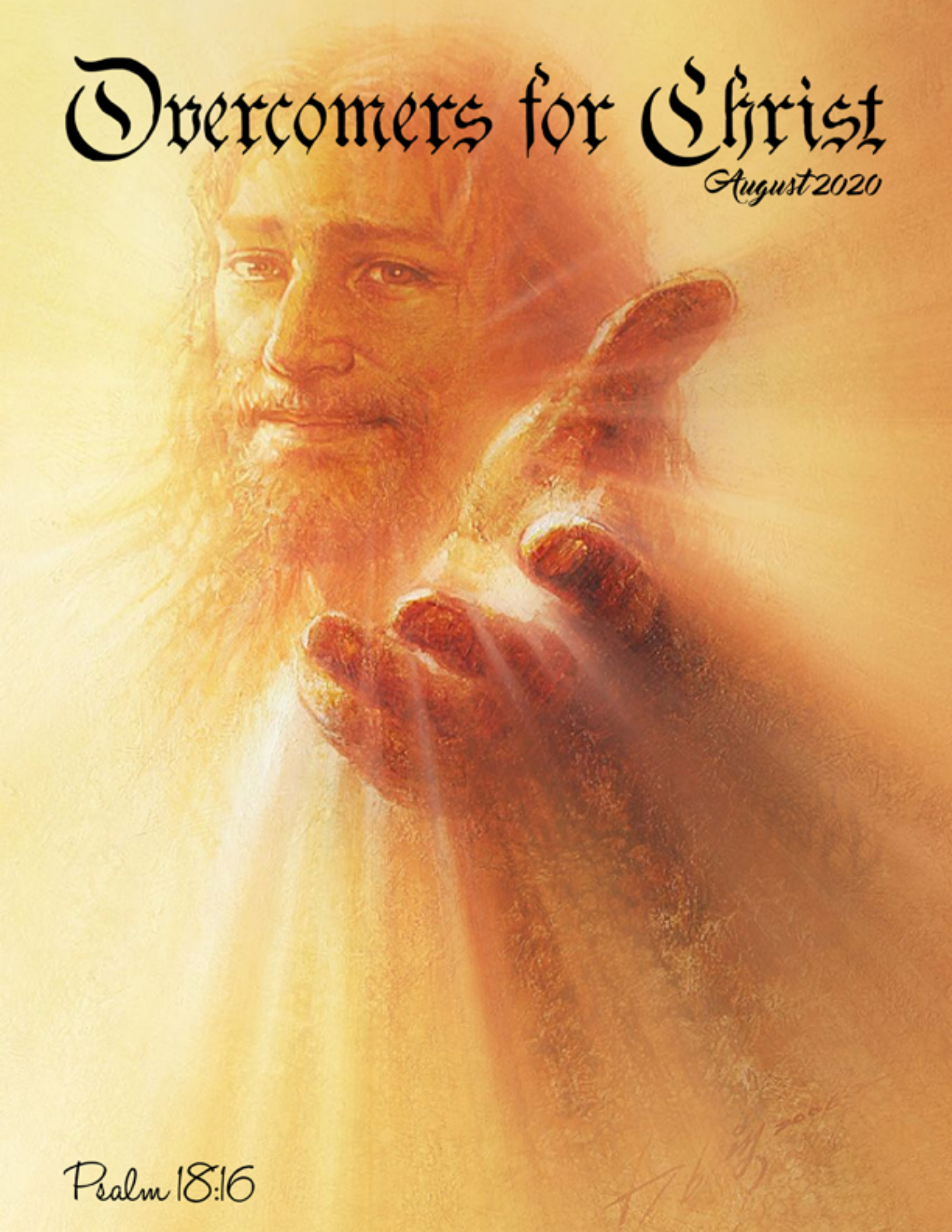


Overcomers for Christ

August 2020

Psalm 18:16



Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

September 2019



Being Built Into A Spiritual House

By W.R.

"And you are living stones that God is building into His spiritual temple. What's more, you are His holy priests. Through the mediation of Jesus Christ, you offer spiritual sacrifices that please God." (1 Peter 2:5) Scripture here from God's Word, tells us that we are living stones in a spiritual house. Some of us are diamonds in the rough, rubies and other precious gems.

Jesus worked as a carpenter when He was living here on this earth, but He never built a house in one day. And the good news is this ... God tells us in His Word that, **"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."** (Philippians 1:6)

Jesus is the foundation of our house. The beams, inner structure of a house is what gives it strength and durability and as living beings the Holy Spirit is our inner strength. In **Psalm 127:1**, Scripture tells us, **"Unless the LORD builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the LORD protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good."** And then Jesus, in **Matthew 7:24-27**, affirms, **"Anyone who listens to My teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears My teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash."** As Christians we will always find ourselves in a storm, coming out of one or getting ready to go into one.

When I was on death row and the guards would escort me across the yard, people would always holler, in a loud voice, "Dead Man walking", and all movement would come to a halt. Before coming to the Cross, Christ Jesus, we all were dead men/women walking. Why? Because **Romans 6:23** tells us, **"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."**

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead the Word of God tells us, **"Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'" (John 11:43)** It's the same for us today. Jesus is still calling for us to **"Come out" or "Come forth!"** To come to the Cross, to shed our grave cloths as He resurrects us into a new life. For we are bound, not in grave cloths, but in sin, in old habits, attitudes, addictions and all sorts of things that keep us bound.

When the Hebrew people were delivered from bondage in Egypt, God led them into the desert. This was a place in which they did not feel comfortable, for they were out of their element. After a short period of time they started complaining that they were better off in Egypt ... that they had no cucumbers to eat. After 400 years in bondage you would think that they would be rejoicing. Though they were free, they still had a slave mentality. Even today, we all have been conditioned, by our experiences and environments, to think and respond in a certain manner to people AND situations.

A good example of that is the Apostle Peter. The night Jesus was arrested, **John 18:10** tells us, **"Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)"** For three and a half years Peter walked with Jesus, set up under His teachings, healed people, cast out demons and other than Jesus, Peter was the only other man to walk on water. You would think that he would have responded differently, but Peter too was still being built into that spiritual house **1 Peter 2:5** told us about. The Lord was still working on his house, He is still working on mine, as I'm sure He is still working on all of us. Some people have been Christians for years and the Lord is still in the basement of their houses!

Like Peter, there are times in which you too feel like cutting someone's ear off, I'm sure. Why is that? It could be that you are still chained to your old mind set. This is why the Word tells us, **"Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes."** (NIV), **"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind."** (KJV) (**Ephesians 4:23**) This doesn't happen overnight any more so than a carpenter can build a house overnight. If that weren't the case, then Peter would never have cut that mans ear off! Our old nature, the sinful nature, doesn't die overnight for it's always there lingering in the shadows, waiting to resurrect itself!

Recently, I took my Bible and went into the shower to pray. When I got in there I saw a frog sitting there in the corner just looking at me. I spoke to it and said, "The God that I serve didn't create you to hang out in the shower, you're out of your element! Like that frog and the Hebrew people in the desert, we too are out of our element until we come to the Cross, to Christ.

When Adam was in the Garden of Eden he was in the element that God intended. For God created us to have communion and a personal relationship with Him, to glorify Him. But, when Adam sinned he was cast out of the Garden of Eden. Not because God hated Adam but so that he couldn't eat from the Tree of Life and live forever. God still loved Adam but his sin separated him from the Garden, the true relationship that God had intended for them/him. And like Adam we too are out of our true intended element/relationship with God until we come to the Cross, to Christ.

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com

The Word tells us that our spirits are at war with our flesh and every time we yield to the flesh and it's desires, we are out of our element, spiritually, and the Holy Spirit reminds us of that by convicting us. Everyone sitting in a prison cell were at some point in their life, out of their element with God! Every time we sin, we separate ourselves from God, He doesn't separate Himself from us. **Hebrews 13:5** affirms this, **"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."** Sin puts us out of our element, but the Holy Spirit is always calling and redirecting us back to Him.

God didn't create us to use drugs, to sell drugs or to do any of the things that brought us to prison any more so than the frog that was in that shower. And we, like that frog, were out of our element when we did the things that we did. It was our disobedience that brought us all to these prisons. The choices that we made in our lives took us out of our homes, our communities and out of our element separating us from God. And like the frog in the shower God didn't create us to live in a cell in prison. Everyone in prison is out of their element.

God didn't create us to be put in chains, but we chain ourselves to our home boys, to gangs, drugs and all those things that keep us bound. We forge our own links to those chains by the choices that we make. We become the jailers of our own prisons. **Second Peter 2:19** says this, **"They promise them freedom, while they themselves are slaves of depravity—for 'people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.'"** So again, in that sense, we are the jailers of our own prisons. But, we can still be free even in these chains. For God has made a way to bring us out of our prisons, to free us from our chains and all those things that keep us bound.

God has given us the key to our prisons, to our chains and that Key, Jesus, was hung on a Cross over 2000 years ago to restore us to our natural element. Jesus came to bridge the gap that once separated us from God. And now, God is extending His hand to you today beckoning you to come to the Cross, to take the Key, to set yourself free. Just as Jesus called Lazarus from his tomb, God is calling you to come to the Cross!

The only question left is, "Will you choose to come?" In **Deuteronomy 30:19** God states this, **"Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live!"** So this verse indicates that the choices 'we' make today, not only do they affect our lives, but they also affect the lives of our children as well.

Before the Hebrew people went into the Promise Land Joshua told them, **"But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve,"** (**Joshua 24:15**) Your promise land is waiting beyond these gates and don't be mistaken, as it says in **Jeremiah 29:11**, **"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."** Today, you can only see the promise land from afar but you don't have to wait to get to that location where you may be going to choose who you are going to serve.

I am doing two natural life sentences and can only see the Promise Land from afar, from a distance. For my Promise Land awaits me in the New Jerusalem and I am at peace with that. My prayer is that one day I will see each and every one of you that lays eyes on this article there, too! My prayer is that you too will go to the Cross and take the Key that will open the door to Paradise, the New Jerusalem!

Overcomer's Testimonies

You have asked me a few times to share my testimony. I do know that we are saved by the Blood of Jesus and the words of our testimony (**Revelation 12:11**) but I'm afraid that if I told you it all, it would be 100 pages. So, I'll start out when I first came to believe in Christ as my Savior.

I was born into a Catholic Church. I went to Catholic school through the fifth grade. I never once heard of the saving grace of Jesus nor one word about the truth in the Bible. The first time that I heard the Gospel, I was on the beach in Huntington. But the first time I believed I was in Clark County jail in Las Vegas. I was in the hole for fighting and someone slid the book, Prison to Praise under my cell door. It was while I was reading that book that I fell to my knees and cried out to Jesus. That's when I asked Him to forgive me of my sins, come into my life and help me to go and sin no more.

When I started reading the Bible for myself, that's when I found out that almost everything the Catholic Church taught me the Bible says don't do was only the law part. So, if you're Catholic and you're reading this, I encourage you to read the Bible for yourself. It's been a long road since then because I never got a hold of 'the repentance' part of the Gospel until about ten years ago. I was stuck on Jesus' forgiveness and in 2009 California struck me out. I choose to have joy now and the Holy Spirit gives me the power to sin less and less. - J.C.

THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WE HAVE IN APPROACHING GOD: THAT IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. AND IF WE KNOW THAT HE HEARS US - WHATEVER WE ASK - WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE WHAT WE ASKED OF HIM. 1 JOHN 5:14-15 (NIV)

Prayer Requests

Okay, it's not that often that we here on the outside add our personal prayer requests to the newsletter. But it seems there are two specific ones this month for all of you to lift in your prayer time. Tracy Kovach, president of the Deacon's MC was in a motorcycle accident on June 30th. He went in to surgery on July 1st for 9 pretty badly broken ribs. He also now owns a great deal of real-estate in road rash to recover from as well. We all began praying for him within minutes of the accident and the first report the doctors gave us, God has already intervened and of course, God's report has lessened their report a great deal. And He won't stop there. Many of you may know Tracy so I wanted to include you, our mighty prayer warriors, as we ALL stand in agreement ONLY with the Word of God for a speedy and complete recovery. In Jesus name!

AMEN ... **Wade Anderson**

Here's the second of our personal prayer requests. I'm asking ALL the prayer warriors out there in the *Overcomers for Christ* family to join together and pray God's Word, His precious promises, over our dear brother, Wayne. This is his prayer request "I've been in a lot of pain due to the nerves in my back from some surgeries a few years ago. I hurt so bad, sometimes I can't walk. They said I could never have surgery again on that part of my back, L2-5, because everything is bolted and fused together. I was told the only option was to burn or kill the nerves there. But I'm standing on the Word of the Lord, that my God is the One who will heal me of all diseases. That He will lift me up from my sick bed to declare His good works and that by His trips I am healed ... **Wade Anderson**

Anderson

I just wanted to pray for everyone, with "His love, continued strength and healing". I pray this for Living Word Bible Church, the entire *Overcomers for Christ* body and all of the people you guys pray for as well. I lift my prayers with all His continued strength and healing during these very dark times. And for those of us incarcerated, be assured, He's hiding all of us here in prison behind our faith in Him, His awesome love and healing power ... **S.M.**

If I may ask all of you out there, would you all please stand with me in prayer for all of the CO's working for the prison system. Pray for their loved ones as well as the inmates and their loved ones too. The world needs the Lord always but, right now more than ever during this whole Coronavirus ordeal ... **J.M.**

Well, that sickness hasn't hit this yard. I hear that some other units have been hit, but not this one. Let's all come together and stand together, praying God's promises. I do pray for you and your families and I know that Jesus is protecting us all ...

M.G.

Praise Reports

Greetings in the mighty name of Jesus! As you well know, DOC is allowing no visits, no volunteers, no services ... nothing! Life has changed as we know it much like society I'm sure. BUT we are Overcomers! Jesus has overcome the word! And with that ... Things are real good right now in here because I've got a solid group of brothers around me, we have all been gathering together for fellowship at every recreation time outside. Along with that I had six men in my cell yesterday as I prayed over them and with them. I am writing down encouraging words and corresponding Scriptures from my *Jesus Calling Devotional* and copying it six times each day to pass out to these men around me. Whoever the Lord has put on my heart that I might feel need a word of encouragement. We are praying for our country and the world asking the Lord to squash this 'virus thing' ...

M.D.

One of the brothers here with us at this facility, well, his father passed awhile back and his mother needs prayer for comfort, as she was very close with her husband. You and I both can relate to this kind of love and closeness that we have with our dear wives. Thank You God! Another Native brother here lost his wife to cancer last year, and he is so grateful for it was his wife whom God used to bring him to our Lord. He sometimes still tears up when he recalls the love of Jesus in his wife. He is daily coming to a deeper understanding of how much God loves him and his late wife, who is now asleep in the Lord. We all see how the God of all comfort is working in his life. I still remember the day that you and I agreed at our home and then you laid hands on and prayed for my wife and God healed her. She celebrated her 87th birthday a few months ago and we would like one more prayer from all of you. We need one final push for me being paroled - one final time, in Jesus' name ... **R.V.**

Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above! Praise His holy name! I want to give this praise report to you. On August 10, 2019, I got to see my baby brother after 22 years, and let me tell you when we saw each other in the visitation here, there was not one dry eye. The tears we shed were tears of joy that day, not tears of sorrow. We embraced each other for almost a minute. God is so good to us. We can't thank and praise Him enough. Please remember him in prayer and healing for his body as well. Once again, God bless all of you and your ministry. Smile, Jesus loves you, He lives, He saves, He reigns ... **E.C.**

First, thank you for your beautiful card. There has been a huge revival in here because of this pandemic. Men are flocking to our church on the yard. It seems everyone wants to go to heaven but nobody wants to die. Keep us in prayer here. I always pray for the *Overcomers for Christ* ... **J.C.**

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

First Fruits

By R.H.

As for my tithe, it is always my first fruits offered back to the Lord. Good stewardship of the money that the Lord has blessed me with is my duty to the ministry.

Thank you for the card! Blessings to you and everyone at Living Word.

Listen and Heed

By D.F.

Well hello there brother, friend and extended church family. With everything this virus has caused, I'm concerned that the spirit of fear that has come, will take a while to go away, unfortunately. But as you know, we as children of God are truly covered by the Blood of Jesus. Not only does it cover us but it also protects us from plagues, and it very well protects our mind from fearing those things that are under our feet. But, it's a choice to believe in His promises or not.

In here there is such a spirit of fear being embedded in the people and sadly, they run with it claiming, "It's facts, we seen it on the news!" I try to explain that being covered by the Blood of Jesus doesn't change the storm for believers or unbelievers alike, but what it has the power to do is to change the perception of His children going through that storm. In that, the power of the Blood lives in His children and in their faith, we learn to know that no matter what we may encounter, our heavenly Father and precious Savior will be with us through all of it. **First Corinthians 1:18** tells us very simply, **"The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God."** The people in here, even some Christians, don't want to hear His truth but I don't let that stop me from sharing it. My prayer is that one day their ears will hear and their eyes will be opened so they too will experience and taste the goodness of God!

Now let me share with you why I am where I am today. In short, It's because I didn't listen to the Lord when He told me to, "Separate yourself from the world and all its lusts - COMPLETELY." When I didn't heed His voice, I allowed my own desires and own lusts to lead me away. This inevitably, gave birth to sin, my sin, And it almost destroyed everything God had blessed me with, including my own life. Those selfish desires, my own sin, has resulted in me now doing five years flat here in D.O.C. By the grace of God, my family will be here to pick me up and throwing my own selfish desires away, I WILL NEVER mingle with the foolishness of the world again.

On a brighter note to all of that ... This place is so much in need of God's love and sincere repentance. So as soon as I could wipe my eyes from my own broken and contrite heart, the Lord said to me, "You are forgiven. My love is enough for you to get through this season, keep your eyes COMPLETELY on Me. Go now, and gather My sheep together, those who are lost and hurting. Show them the love and mercy that I have shown you. Tell them of the precious, most blessed gift ever. Let them know that I have bridged the gap between them and Myself by sending My Son to die in the place of all man kinds sins. Gather those who have strayed and lovingly guide them back by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that I may shower them again with My love, truth, grace and mercy. And to those who are yet to be My people, speak My Words in truth and love to them showing them there is no other God besides Me. Help them to understand that by believing in Jesus they may become My people."

So, after I heard what He had to say ... I began to yield my days to Him, to be able to listen and hear Him better and praying for those He was placing on my heart, whether I knew them or not. He's teaching me to speak when He gives me words to say to those that need encouragement or edification. And most importantly, that I continue to heed His voice when He draws me to Himself to guide me, speak to me, prune me, reproof me and correct me, and always in His amazing love!

I'll end with this ... This may sound really silly to some people, but coming here has humbled me and made me realize that I was never truly free - until I arrived here. Today I feel more free inside than I ever have in my whole life even though I'm behind all this concrete and barbed wire fences. God figure.

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Free To Be Me By M.D.

In **2 Corinthians 3:18**, we read, **"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."** This is stating that in order to receive the benefits God wants and desires for us to have from the New Covenant we are to come with **'unveiled faces'**.

To me, this means that when I stop being religious and legalistic and simply come to Jesus, when I lay aside all 'my' works and begin to see Him, when I allow Him to remove the veil from my eyes, then He and I can enter into personal relationship that will ultimately change me into His image. If we want to grow in our relationship with Him, it's so important that we learn to 'be' and not always feel that we must 'do'.

In Christian circles today there is big emphasis on spending personal time with the Lord, and rightly so. More than anything else, we need His presence. He is the only One who can bring any good and lasting change into our lives. Unfortunately, many people are frustrated by this emphasis in teaching. They want to spend time with God, but feel uncomfortable; or they do not know what to do during these times. Others say they never sense God's presence. They find prayer and fellowship to be a dry experience.

I believe one reason this happens is that people live under the law instead of under grace. Grace is NOT the freedom to sin; it is the power to live a holy life. But grace also sees when our hearts are right toward God and even though our performance may not always be perfect, grace forgives and helps us get from where we are to where we need to be.

The law condemns. Grace however removes the condemnation and sets us free - free from and free to. Free from condemnation, self hatred, self rejection, fear of God, and many other negative traps. Grace frees us to serve God without pressure, frees us to use the life and energy we are given to behave better, rather than fight condemnation.

When you spend time with God, do not try to be or sound religious. Just be your authentic self. Talk to Him and listen to what He will speak to your heart. **READ HIS WORD** and other Christian books that will help you grow as a believer and Overcomer in Christ Jesus. Do not make your time with Him complicated, keep it simple and trust Him to teach you in all areas of your life.

God Is In Control By B.A.

WOW! What a crazy, crazy time! I can only imagine what it must be like out there. Praise God for this time of challenge for it is His Glory that will shine through in the end! Things in here are changing day to day. The yard is packed due to the cancelling of all work crews. It's only a hand full of crews that actually 'get' to go to work. Those of us here on the fire crew are getting to go do complex work - weeding and what-not around the complex.

I'm not sure, but it's up in the air on whether or not they even have a plan for week to week. Even the plan for when wild-fires start to happen is yet to be seen and from what I am told, it may get pretty interesting. I guess, when and if they call us out to a wildfire it is going to be a twenty-one day thing due to the need to quarantine before we return to the yard.

In my own opinion, it doesn't make much sense to worry about quarantining 'us' after we go to a wildfire when the yard in general is exposed to three separate shifts of guards who are rotating into here on a daily basis. It is like a fresh flow of contact to the community through the revolving officers, three times a day. But in the end, God is in control so whatever happens with all of this, **"And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."** (Romans 8:28) So again, I can only say "Praise God" and settle in to see the results.

So how are things out there? Are you all doing church with Skype or something? With the weather being so nice and so much less traffic on the roads, I hope some of you are enjoying great riding conditions. Out there and even in here, I can only imagine, but I would think that this may be a great time to get closer to God and family. I hope all of you are well and thanks again for everything. You all are in my prayers, and I am grateful for you.

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com

Isaiah 51:1-57:14

Abraham was only one man but look how much came from his faithfulness. Just think how much could come if we were to all show that same faithfulness. **(51:1-2)**

If people give you grief because of your faith in God they are not after you personally but after God. God will deal with them. **(51:7)**

It is a great privilege to be able to share the Good News of God with others. His news of salvation, peace, and redemption is for all to receive. **(52:7)**

Christ would become 'disfigured' but because of His suffering all nations could be cleansed. **(52:14-15)**

Who could believe that God chose to save the world not with a glorious king but with a suffering, humble Servant. **(53:1)**

In the Old Testament, animals were offered up in sacrifice for sin now the sinless Servant of the Lord offered up Himself for all our sins. **(53:7-12)**

Food costs money, lasts only a short time, and meets only physical needs. But God offers us free nourishment that feeds our souls. How do we get it? We are to come **(55:1)**, listen **(55:2)**, seek and call on God **(55:6)**. God's salvation is freely offered, but to nourish our souls we must eagerly receive it. We will starve without this food, as surely as, we will starve physically without our daily bread. **(55:1-6)**

Isaiah clearly proclaims the radical message that God's blessings are for all people. Whatever your race, social position, work or financial situation, God's blessings are as much for you as for anyone else. No one must exclude in anyway those God chooses to bless. **(56:3)**

Philippians 1:1-26

When we speak fearlessly for Christ or live faithfully for Him during difficult situations, we encourage others to do the same. Be an encouragement by the way that you live. **(1:14)**

Psalms 71:1-24

A person is never too old to serve God, never too old to pray. Though age may stop us from certain physical activities, it need not end our desire to tell others, especially children, about all we have seen God do in our many years of life. **(71:18)**

Proverbs 24:17-20

David, Solomon's father, refused to gloat over the death of his long time enemy, Saul. **(2 Samuel 1)** On the other hand, the nation of Edom rejoiced over Israel's defeat and was punished by God for their attitude. **(Obadiah 1:12)** To gloat over others misfortunes is to make yourself the answer and to put yourself in the place of God, who alone is the real judge of all the earth. See **Deuteronomy 32:35**. **(24:17-18)**

"Foot" Notes

Hey ya'll, with the fast pace of life we all get caught up with our to-do lists that never seem to dwindle but instead always seem to grow, keeping our lives chaotic and hectic. It's easy to start pushing stuff aside due to lack of time.

Well, it's at these times we need to have our quiet time to be able to listen to God's voice guiding us on our walk. Taking time to just sit and be quiet helps us to retain our focus on God's work for us.

Vaya Con Dios ... Love to you all short and tall ... Don't ride faster than your angel's can fly!!!

Eye of Your Understanding

By G.B.B.

The book of *Ephesians* was written to show you what God has already done. The prayers listed in Ephesians don't petition God for something new, but that the eye of your understanding be enlightened to see what you already have.

"Asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowing and knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope He has given to those He called His holy people, who are His rich and glorious inheritance." Ephesians 1:17-18 NLT

Note how *Ephesians 2:1* is written in past tense; a "done deal" perspective: **"And you hath He quickened & made alive who were dead in trespasses and sins ..."** (KJV) If you've received Jesus, you've been made alive. But, as a born-again believer, you have been quickened. You may not have manifested (realized and experienced) the life of God in you, but your spirit is as alive as it will ever be. Even though your physical body may be hurting, and your soul (mind/heart/emotions) may be wrestling with depression, hurts, etc., your born-again spirit is alive, the way Jesus is alive.

You have God's resurrection power inside you. You aren't trying to be made alive; you were made alive in the spirit realm.

Through faith, you can draw that life out of your spirit and into your soul and body. Pray according to God's Word, understanding who you are and what you have in Jesus. Don't pray and petition God from a place of unbelief, opposite the Word. Here's an example: "Father, I thank You that I have resurrection life inside of me. There is a sickness working in my body, so I'm drawing out Your life, which is in me. I thank You that it is already done. I take my authority and command sickness to leave my body, and for my healing to manifest, in Jesus name."

Ephesians 2:2 says, **"You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil-the commander of the powers in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God."** Notice how following and being dominated by satan was something in the past. You might be thinking, "I'm a Christian, but I'm still dominated by the powers of darkness." If that's so, it's because *Ephesians 2:1* isn't reality for you. You don't understand how you've already been made alive (quickened) and delivered from the death that was in trespass and sin. When you truly understand that you've been made alive, it breaks the power of sin, and you live in victory. Your life will be characterized by victory instead of defeat.

It's not that you reach sinless perfection and never make a mistake; it's just that when you understand and acknowledge that Jesus has already done it, that you already have resurrection life and you are as Jesus, in the spirit, victory is an inevitable by-product.

And I am praying that you will put into action the generosity that comes from your faith, as you understand and experience all the good things we have in Christ. (*Philemon 6*) Your faith works and you'll see victory manifest physically, financially, emotionally, etc., as you acknowledge every good thing in you, in Christ.

All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very own nature, we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else in *Ephesians 2:3*. For He raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. (*Ephesians 2:6*)

This isn't something to seek after or try to attain unto. It's something to be received as a gift, it is already done, and you are already in relationship with God. You are raised from the dead (spiritually) and you are now seated with Jesus in heavenly places. **"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."** (*Romans 12:2*)

"Since you have heard about Jesus and have learned the truth that comes from Him, throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes." (*Ephesians 4:21-23*)

I pray this helps someone in some way. I know when I was studying; it opened up so much for me and my health.

Quote Worthy

"Sometime during this day, you will probably be gripped by a strong negative feeling. Distrust it. Reign it in. Test it. And turn it over to God. Your emotions will inevitably change; God will not. So trust Him completely as you watch those negative feelings slowly evaporate into thin air which, of course, they will. Our feelings do not affect God's facts." - Amy Carmichael (1867 - 1951) - a Protestant Christian missionary in India, who opened an orphanage and founded a mission in Dohnavur.

What Others Are Saying...

"The photographs your precious wife, our sister in Christ, shares with all of us in the newsletter each month are truly appreciated. They allow us to connect with the *Overcomers* group and we always share, with big smiles on our faces, these beautiful photographs Michelle offers us. I'll admit, I do get excited when I remind the brothers here just how much work it takes to operate this ministry, and how blessed I was to get my feet wet helping on two occasions with your group. Both my wife and I attest to that! Thank you, all of you for that." - **R.V.**

"I appreciate the card you all blessed me with for my birthday. I'm amazed that of all the people in my life, it never fails that a card always finds me from all of you there at the *Overcomers for Christ*. And that's every year." - **J.M.**

"I'm writing you all with the hope that everyone in the *Overcomers* ministry is doing well and that God is protecting you all from this whole 'virus' thing. I'm listening to my *Rebound* CD, Pastor Jason's band, that you all donated to me when I was at Red Rock Academy four years ago. It always reminds me of my time serving the Lord there as an usher at the Mesa campus. I'm on the last two years of the twelve they gave me. I am really looking forward to meeting all of you and being able to serve the Lord at some capacity upon my release. I also wanted to let you know how much many of us appreciate all you do for us in here with the donated books, Bibles, newsletters and cards." - **P.B.**

"Hello to the whole *Overcomers for Christ* family! I just wanted to say that Jesus loves every one of you and so do I. Every one of you are special to Jesus and to me. It is so wonderful how every one of you help and love one another and everyone around you. I love how you all care for everyone and reach out to so many with prayers and guidance without delay. If it weren't for the Lord Jesus Christ working through all of you I don't think there would be many of us holding on to our faith." - **B.T.**

"I do believe that you guys and gals started sending me monthly newsletters sometime around 2009. I will back up to January 2007, the month and year I was arrested. Let's just say that by the time I'm released it will be close to fourteen years. That's twelve issues a year and a birthday card. This adds up to one hundred sixty-eight newsletters and twelve birthday cards, a grand total of one hundred eighty! Thanks again for not forgetting about me and never giving up on me, it has meant more than you know. To be honest, I never expected to be on your mailing list this long." - **J.H.**

"Brothers and sisters, thank you so much for the birthday card. To know that I am on your minds and in your hearts is very comforting." - **B.A.**

"I would like to have someone to talk to. I kind of fell off reading my Bible but I'm finally getting back into it. You probably thought that I forgot about you all, I didn't. I always read your publications and then stare at the pictures with you and the people from the church and tell myself, you all look happy. I would love to go to one of your church locations because I don't think I would feel out of place. I think your church would accept me with opened arms and I could live life happy and on the right track. I do get cards from you and you just don't know how that makes me feel. So happy, like, these people were put in my life for a reason by God, and that's good." - **J.S.**

"Through all these years you have stayed faithful sending your newsletters. You have never missed one of my birthdays, even though I don't really write you back. One thing that's never going to stop no matter what is the spreading of our Father's Gospel. You all know what's up because some of your ministry team have done time and know what this struggle is. I'm writing now to let you know that I will be keeping in touch from now on. I've been through a lot of battles these fourteen years but I'm still standing in Christ, and I will continue to do so little by little. I just wanted to say "What's up?" to you and let you know that your work isn't in vain. It's multiplying fruit for our Father daily. We are called to live in victory, Christ paid the way for us to do nothing but prosper in every area of our lives, even when the whole world is in chaos. Continue to obey our Lord and don't let nothing stop you." - **O.V.**

"*Overcomers for Christ*, I am a fellow believer in Christ and my friend here let me read one of your newsletters and you guys really speak the truth in love, without sugarcoating or compromising the Word of God. I would greatly appreciate it if you would please put me on your mailing list for the newsletter." - **J.A.**

"This is short, quick, fast and in a hurry. Thank you for your words, time and prayers. God bless you and everyone that helps you do what you do. Hope to shake your hand soon and be a part of this ministry and a soldier for the Lord." - **R.R.**

"I became aware of your newsletter through my bunkie, L.R., who is on your mailing list. He was kind enough to let me barrow a few older issues to read. I really enjoyed them and blessed by the testimonies and the poetry submitted by other inmates. I am respectfully requesting to be added to your correspondence so I may likewise receive your newsletters. Thank you for all that you all do and may God bless and prosper your faithful work." - **V.R.**

The Cruise of a Lifetime Trivia

1. You can find the story of Noah's Ark in the Book of ...
 - a. Genesis
 - b. Revelation
 - c. The Love Boat
 - d. Noah
2. In Noah's time, God was pleased with His creation.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. In Noah's time, God decided he would ...
 - a. Rain manna on all people
 - b. Destroy all the people, animals and birds He had created
 - c. Give everyone a computer for school
 - d. Send missionaries to give everyone a New Testament Bible
4. Noah was the only good man living in his time.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. How many sons did Noah have?
6. Can you name Noah's sons? Hint: One of them has the same name as a famous Virginia meat product.
7. Did you know that God told Noah to take seven pairs of each type of bird with him into the Ark? (Genesis 7:3) He also told Noah to take one pair of each ritually unclean animal and seven pairs of each ritually clean. (Genesis 7:2)
8. What is a ritually clean beast?

Answers: 1. a 2. false 3. b 4. true 5. 3 6. Shem, Ham and Japheth 8. a beast acceptable to God for sacrifice

ATTENTION

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Editor's Note

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Hello everyone! Over this past year, we have been working with Andrew Wommack Ministries, Charis Bible College, to have their books and Inmate Bible Study (IBS by mail) available to ALL of you that are currently incarcerated. The request was finally approved! This is **FREE** of charge! Each month when you write they will ship your requested book, **FREE!**

To obtain these materials in either English or Spanish you simply need to write: **Andrew Wommack Ministries - P.O. Box 3333 Colorado Springs, CO 80934-3333** and begin to grow even deeper in your relationship with the Lord. Get started today, your walk will never be the same!

Living Word Bible Church Locations

Mesa - 3520 E. Brown Rd. Mesa, AZ 85213 Ahwatukee - 14647 S. 50th St. #165 Phoenix, AZ 85044
Scottsdale - 8551 E. Anderson Dr. #105 Scottsdale, AZ 85255 Gilbert - 202 S. Gilbert Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85296

Ministry Tithes & Offerings

Here is how you can give to the *Overcomers for Christ* ministry:

By **check** or **money order** – Make checks payable to **Living Word Bible Church** and in the memo section put "For Overcomers for Christ". Mail your check or money order to PO Box 42023, Phoenix, Arizona 85080

Your giving does qualify as a charitable contribution on your taxes. For donations of less than \$250, your cancelled check is sufficient proof for taxes. For donations of \$250 or more, you will receive a contribution statement from the organization. If you have any questions, please call or write Wade Anderson.

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com

Del Pearson

The Knowledge From A Mote

By J.S.

'Stirred to flight by a vagrant breeze', The dust mote tumbles through surreal sunlight,
On its collision course with the wall of glass - my window.
Tracking its course with corrective lens assist - my eye catches its every move.
Without a blink; its sunbathed kaleidoscope of color - I record.

At ease, my mind's eye begins to play -
I meditate on God's knowledge and gravitate towards the magnificence of God's designs -
Learned from His powerful Word.
Recollecting the facts I have consumed, a billion truths; assuredly more to come.

Like how easily a simple dust mote, from God's dimensionless design,
Would cause me to quickly enlarge, step by step, from the size of one microscopic 'dust mote',
To the furthest reaches of my knowing.
All the while realizing that my Creator designs and controls it all!

From the furthest galaxy to the tiniest 'mote', anywhere in my mind.
Right back to the 'mote', now being captured by His gravity's pull; to rest upon my window sill.
I close my eyes, I rest assured in the fact that,
God has got this all under control.

Help us be better stewards by sending your change of address when you move to help reduce unnecessary waste and expense

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Overcomers for Christ a Ministry of Living Word Bible Church

www.livingwordonline.org jasonlivingword@gmail.com

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com