

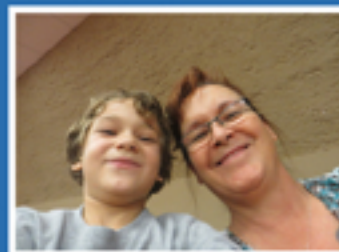
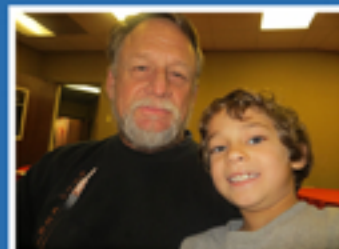
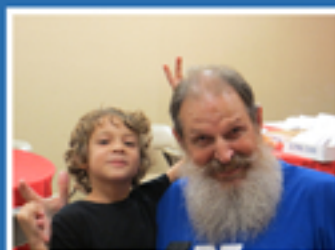
Overcomers for Christ

June 2017



Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

October 2016



Do You Still Remember? - Part 1

By Wade Anderson

Good morning, everyone! This morning as I sit here in my little 'Duck blind' on the front porch reading the Bible I'm in awe of all that's going on around me. First of all, I call this spot my 'Duck blind' because of the way that all the bushes and trees have grown up in front of me. From the sidewalk or for that matter even walking up to the front door you can't even see me sitting here until I say, "BOO!" "So," you ask, "What does all this have to do with the title of the article?"

Let's pray: *"Gracious and Almighty heavenly Father I thank You for the eyesight that You've given me so that I see all of the beauty that surrounds me. I thank You for the air that I am breathing. I thank You for Your grace and Your mercy that I am not the same person I used to be before I allowed You to come into my life! I thank You for the simple things in my life today and that without You in my life I would have missed the true meaning for my life here on this Earth. I ask and invite Your Holy Spirit to be the teacher here today. And everything that is not truth according to Your Word let it be washed away in the precious blood of Jesus. AMEN! AMEN! AMEN!"*

I bet you all are thinking it's a little weird that I started out talking about this 'Duck blind' thing huh? Well, actually it's from this very place that I can look out across the front yard and remember so many different things and changes that have taken place in my life. So, let's just say I choose to view it all sort of like a monument. As I'm sitting here, I can hear the many different birds singing. It sounds like they all are having a party perched in the trees and bushes above me. It's almost like they know I just wrote that last sentence because all of a sudden they ALL began singing at the same time and their party just became louder.

Ten years ago, you would have never caught me in the front yard and especially NOT just sitting on the front porch reading a Bible. Back then I was very angry with the city to the point that it seemed like we were at war with each other. Because of the old lifestyle I was in, I ALWAYS had at least 6-8 motorcycles and somewhere between 2-6 vehicles parked on the front yard or on the street. This was exactly why the city and I were at war. They told me that I couldn't park all MY STUFF on the dirt; it had to be a 'dust free environment'. To this point I had even received a couple different summonses to comply from the city. Each of them was from \$2,000-\$5,000. "THIS IS MY HOUSE AND MY PROPERTY," I demanded, "AND YOU CAN'T TELL ME WHAT I CAN OR CAN'T DO ON IT!" So, I obliged them and made the ENTIRE front area of our house a 'dust free environment'. I went and ordered 15 to 20 ton of gravel to be dumped across the whole front of our house. I guess I showed them. Huh? On top of this issue, as you all may also know, the city also has an ordinance or 'leash law' policy here in the city for our pets, right? Well, when I put that 9 1/2 foot tall, 17 foot long dinosaur sculpture on the gravel, in the front of our house, I knew I had to put it on a leash to keep them happy (smirk, smirk). So I put a long motorcycle tie down from its neck back to the eave of the house. After all the other stuff they were throwing tickets at me for, I sure didn't need any tickets for 'dinosaur at large'. Now that's funny right there!

Something else that comes to my remembrance as I sit here this morning is the fact that I very seldom went in the house through this front door. Being the self-centered individual that I was nearly everything I did revolved around me, motorcycles and my shop. Sure I loved my family and truthfully thought I was spending time with them, IF and when they came out to the shop to do it. And today I have to say 'OUCH' to that last sentence.

You may be thinking to yourselves, "Why is he, or should we for that matter, reflect and remember those things of the past?" It's a pretty simple answer actually. Looking back, reflecting and remembering my/our life before Christ and what and where our new walk with Him has taken us will reveal many, many great and wonderful things. Some of you may also be saying to yourselves, "Sure, it's all great and wonderful for you sitting there on your front porch, but I'm sitting here in a concrete cell surrounded by more concrete and razor wire!"

Sometimes in the middle of the storms it's hard to see, in the natural, that anything good is going to come out of the hard times. The Apostle Paul tells us, in **2 Corinthians 5:7**, **"For we live by faith, not by sight."** Paul again, in **Romans 4:16**, **"Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to ALL Abraham's offspring - not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all."** You do know don't you that the 'ALL' Paul is referring to here is you and me!? That's why he said, **"... also those who have the faith of Abraham."** Notice Paul didn't say for us to have faith in Abraham but that our faith be like Abraham's, in God. Sure I'll agree that goodness and blessings may be hard to see at times. But that's simply because we've taken our eyes off of our Provider, our Promise Keeper, our Lord and Savior! I want to not only lift some of you but, hopefully, encourage you that when we do get our focus off the problem or situation and back on to God's promises like, **"I will never leave you; never will I forsake you," (Hebrews 13:5, Deuteronomy 31:6-8)** those things or situations will seemingly begin to dissolve and even look minimal in comparison to the Jesus that we serve! Let's move forward a few verses to **Hebrews 13:6,8** where the author tells us, **"So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will NOT be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?' ... Jesus Christ is the SAME yesterday and today and FOREVER."** Here's another powerful promise to remember, in **1 John 4:4**, **"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome**

them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." I know that in context John is speaking about false teachers. But think about this for just a second. When tough times come our way we have got to remember that because of the finished work of Christ we ARE ALREADY OVERCOMERS that He is in you and you are in Him, that there are NO weapons formed against us that will ever prosper! It's when we remember and stand firm on God's promises that we find His rest in the midst of even the storms of life.

One of the reasons we would get in a funk is because we've taken our eyes off of the One who NEVER fails us. In **Deuteronomy 31:6**, as Moses was commissioning or passing on the leadership to Joshua he encouraged Joshua with these words, **"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will NEVER leave you nor forsake you."** We have to go further back in Scripture, to **Exodus 3**, where Moses had his encounter with the LORD, through a burning bush, and where God soon introduced Himself as the great **"I AM WHO I AM."** It was right there, in **Exodus 3**, that Moses was given the commission to lead God's people, the Israelites, out of Egypt. In **Exodus 3:7-8,10,12**, the LORD spoke to Moses and said, **"I have indeed seen the misery of My people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the land of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey ... So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring My people the Israelites out of Egypt ... I will be with you."** Here is yet another picture of God's grace and mercy for His people. Not just the Israelites but for us as well. People, God just stated that He seen their misery and heard them crying out. We just read, in **Hebrews 13:8** that, **"Jesus Christ is the SAME yesterday and today AND FOREVER."** Seeing that He is the same God/Jesus wouldn't you think and even more so, use the faith you do have and BELIEVE that He sees your pain and hears your prayers as well? Of course He does! Okay, I heard a few of you but that wasn't a very strong AMEN from the rest of you.

God said it was a good and spacious land that they could call their own. God first called Moses and then He sent him. Was it God's fault that it took them 40 years to reach that Promised Land? No! It was while they were in this process, which by the way is exactly where most of us slip and fail to remember God's faithfulness, in the process. Under Moses' leadership the people began to gripe and moan saying, "Why is God doing this to us? Why has He taken us out from where we were (even though they were slaves for 430 years there) and led us into the desert to die?" Now let me ask all of you, does any of this sound familiar? While you're in the 'process' does your faith begin to fall short? Do you seem to focus more on the issue at hand rather than focusing on God's promises? Well don't feel like the Lone Stranger, it happens to all of us. The key here is to sooner rather than later recognize what has happened and GET BACK UP!

How soon they had forgotten! God had just sent 10 plaques (**Exodus 7-11**) against the Egyptian people to cause them to release His people, the Israelites. It was at the 10th plaque, the death of every first born male human and first born male animal of their flocks, that God finally got their undivided attention. God told Moses and Aaron, **"I will bring one more plaque on Pharaoh and on Egypt. After that, he WILL let you go from here, and when he does, he will drive you out completely. Tell the people that men and women alike are to ask their neighbors for articles of silver and gold."** (**Exodus 11:1-2**)

God knew what He was about to do would not only bring the Egyptians to their knees, but also cause the Israelites to always reflect and remember what God had done that night. God gave specific instructions to Moses and Aaron of what He wanted His people to do. The instructions were for each Israelite family represented that they were to take a one-year old, male sheep or goat, spotless and without defect and slaughter it at twilight, **"Then take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs."** (**Exodus 12:7**) God gave them specific ways to cook these lambs, how much to eat, **"Do not leave any of it until morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it"** and exactly what to wear while they were eating it. The final instruction was to **"Eat it in haste, it is the LORD'S Passover."** (**Exodus 12:8-11**) This last plague would mark and come to be remembered and known as the Passover celebration, which also marked the Israelites freedom from exactly 430 years of slavery. The Israelites placing the lamb's blood on their doorposts paints a picture of the Cross and the spotless Lamb (Jesus) that God provided for us when He sacrificed His Son and shed His blood on the Cross at Calvary.

By **Exodus 12:31**, we see that Pharaoh finally had enough. He called for Moses and Aaron and said, **"Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the LORD as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go."** The Egyptians had witnessed lots of crazy things going on around them throughout these other nine plaques. But it was during this last plaque that they became terrified and urged the Israelites to hurry and get out of there, **"For otherwise we will die!"** (**Exodus 12:33**) The Israelites had just watched with their very own eyes as God freed them from the clutches and stubborn leadership of Pharaoh. This is also a picture for us as well of being rescued and set free from the world and sin through Salvation, IN CHRIST. Not only were they set free but they were given favor and told to ask, **"The Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. The LORD had made the Egyptians favorably disposed towards the people, AND THEY GAVE THEM WHAT THEY ASKED FOR; so they plundered the**

... continued on page 9

Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done **Philippians 4:6 (NLT)**

Prayer Requests

Overcomers for Christ, please just keep me in your thoughts and prayers. Pray I am safe and my family is okay, since I've yet to hear from them. And pray that things will be better soon ... **M.A.**

☺ ... hi friends, how are you? I'm writing to let you know what's been going on with me. My grandfather has congestive heart failure. He needs our prayer. Please pray for him ... **K.C.**

My aunt, Della R., attends your church, will you keep her in your prayers. Keep us all in your prayers. I know the Lord is faithful in all He's doing. This time I'm doing His training ground to get me ready to hit the streets. Amen! **Romans 8:37, "We are more than conquerors through Christ."** Hallelujah! I believe the Lord is going to restore my relationship with my son ... **A.P.**

I am now awaiting surgery on my heart. I have a very bad infection around my heart from a bad pacemaker that burned a hole in my valve. I am now awaiting a condition medical release from the courts and parole commission. The doctors can't reverse the infection since June 15, 2015. I've been praying hard and appreciate all your prayers. I will keep in touch concerning the outcome of my surgery and medical release ... **A.B.**

Please keep me and all my family, in all your prayers ... **M.R.**

I'm truly blessed. Thank you for the inspiring card. I would like to continue writing you once I'm released. Thank you also for the invitation to ☺ meetings. I plan to visit one day with my children. One of my old neighbors told me she used to go to Living Word Bible Church and how big and beautiful the church is. I'm close to the gate, so please pray for the parole officer to approve my brother's house ... **D.D.**

The newsletters are awesome and it is pleasurable to share them with my fellow Christian sisters here. Thank you for giving of yourselves for loving us. Please pray for my family as my elderly mother is lost and confused and my brother does not know how to care for her and she tried to take her life. Pray in agreement with me she will find safety and stability and comfort in the Lord's hands and to stay focused on that until I get home, that she is safe and my brother opens his eyes on how to care for her until I get home ... **K.W.**

I'm writing you to thank you for the support that you guys give me and also the encouragement to get through another day. I know I will be out soon. I pray every day that the Lord keeps me away from the drugs. I'm 23 years old and this is the 3rd time in prison. I would also like for you to pray for me to stay away from the drugs as I do my time ... **D.A.**

Praise Reports

I am now on an integrated yard. I am working on my GED. I've been blessed to be on this programming yard. I've been spending more and more time in prayer. There is so much power in prayer. It is amazing, only God could answer my prayers to be on this yard. He moves strong. Please continue to send me the newsletters. I enjoy reading them ... **K.C.**

Things are going better now, but for a while I was in a struggle, but then I realized it wasn't my struggle but the Lord's, so I gave it up to Him. I've been blessed with a job which is great. Now, I'll have money to call my daughter. She is 5 years old, we've never met, and we only talk on the phone. Maybe everyone at the church can pray, so I can see my daughter. I'm kind of getting emotional over here ... **D.M.**

I've been staying strong in the Word daily and preparing myself for the challenges I'm gonna be facing in a year or so. What's amazing is I no longer have to be a slave to what's had me down before. I'm not where I want to be but thank God I'm not what I used to be. Throughout these years, I transformed into a person that never thought had a chance to have that second chance. But we serve a God of chances and it's beautiful how He transforms something out of nothing. Praise God!! What's crazy is on Mother's Day, I turned 42 years old and never could I have imagined reaching this age with the life I once lived. I know God has a plan for all His children. Glory to God on high ... **R.V.**

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and since I have found Him, He has blessed me in so many ways. He has helped me get clean and sober. January 8th was my six months clean and sober. I have no desire to use and I believe that Jesus Christ has many plans for me when I'm released from here. I believe He has plans for me in here, too. I put all my faith in Jesus Christ; He will guide me to where I need to be ... **C.C.**

I'm writing to let you know that I've moved. Please continue to send me your newsletter, they are uplifting to me. This prison is just filled with fellowship, it's amazing. I know I'm going to like it here. I went to chapel for the first time and there was over 150 inmates worshipping and singing. The Lord has truly sent me here so that I may mature in His Word. I hang out with about 30 Christian brothers every day, they preach the Word and we hear testimonies, it's wonderful. They welcomed me with open arms. How blessed I am to know that God walks with me through the lowest points in my life. He makes it possible to discover blessings even in here. I got joy inside of me that says everything is going to be alright because I rest in Him. The hope of glory moves in this place ... **C.S.**

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Taking a Look at the Big Picture

By C.P.

Hello my Overcomers for Christ family! Let me begin with these three questions. 1) Does the life I'm living glorify God? 2) Do I sin intentionally? 3) If I was on trial for being a 'Christian' would there be enough evidence to convict me? A brother in Christ brought me a book of Andrew Wommack's that brought these questions to my attention, THANK YOU!

I know that straddling the fence or being 'lukewarm' won't cut it. So I asked myself, "Can others see Christ in me?" Just going through the motions will NOT save me, or you. Then I asked myself, "Would I have nailed Jesus to that Cross?" We'd all like to say NO!!! But if we keep on sinning, intentionally, after ALL that Jesus has already done for us, we're not only nailing Him to that Cross, but in a sense, we're also spitting in His face while He is hanging there.

Right now I'm sitting in the county jail and I thank God for the Overcomers for Christ. When I moved to a new cell I found one of their newsletters laying in that cell. So I decided to write and see if I could be added to the mailing list.

Sometimes it only takes a spark to get a fire going in us. ALL of us need help and encouragement to grow deeper in our faith and send our roots deep into the soil of God's grace. Amen? We must never forget what Jesus told us in **Matthew 4:4**, "*Man shall not live on bread alone, but on EVERY word that comes from the mouth of God.*" If we don't read the Bible AND follow what it tells us our fire will eventually die out.

Here's another 'real' question I've asked myself. Do others want what I have? And now back to the big question I mentioned in the beginning. "If I was on trial for being a 'Christian' would there be enough evidence to convict me?" Today, I ask the Lord to help me have the fruit in my life that would produce the evidence to find me guilty of being a 'Christian'!

Just wanted to give a shout out to say, THANK YOU! Sometimes we have to refocus and take a step back to really look at our walk. Let me encourage everyone as I encourage myself, "Walk by faith not by sight, stay in the Spirit and we won't live in the flesh! God NEVER gives up on us so we shouldn't turn our backs on Him!" Don't ever forget this promise God gave us, in **Jeremiah 33:3**, "*Call to Me and I WILL answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.*" Keep us in your prayers and I'll do the same for all of you!

Understanding the Grace of God

By C.L.

I am convinced anymore that the greater need is with the body of Christ, and not the unsaved, because until the body understands and knows God through grace alone, we are not a very good advertisement for Jesus. In fact, the unsaved need to hear the law to lead them to grace. For now at least, my ministry is to the blood bought saints who don't know what that actually means. Satan has done a wonderful job at the pulpit, tricking the church into cheating on Jesus with her ex ... **Romans 7:14** ... "*For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.*"

It is our obligation, those to whom grace has been revealed to overturn the tables of legalism with the whip of grace. And we must do so regardless of the cost! I pray God give you the boldness and strength to reject every bit of legalism from your ministry (for it is a platform to many with a great audience), and the knowledge in grace to answer the critic with renewing truth. I pray God use your ministry mightily in the strengthening of the church by the knowledge of Grace and the Love of God, so the church will be equipped for the harvest of souls, in Jesus name, Amen.

Freedom from the Law

By C.L.

It's always an uphill battle with the legalists who desire to be under something that God delivered them from ... **Romans 7:6** - "*But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.*" Satan has subtly tricked the church into committing not idolatry, but straight up adultery against Jesus ... **Romans 7:4** - "*So, my dear brothers and sisters, this is the point: You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ. And now you are united with the One who was raised from the dead. As a result, we can produce a harvest of*

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

good deeds for God."

Anyone still under a schoolmaster (the law) doesn't have faith in the finished work of Christ ... **Galatians 3:25** - "**And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.**" So, we must press forward with the truth and reject all error against the truth allowing no amount of leaven in our ministries.

The ABC's of Faith

By S.L.

Always give thanks - **1 Thessalonians 5:16-19**
Build others up - **1 Thessalonians 5:11-15**
Cast your cares on Him - **Psalms 55:22**
Delight in God's Word - **Jeremiah 15:16**
Expect great things - **Ephesians 3:20**
Forgive, as you have been forgiven - **Colossians 3:12-14**
Give cheerfully and generously - **2 Corinthians 9:6-12**
Humble yourself - **1 Peter 5:5-6**
Increase your faith - **2 Peter 1:5-10**
Joy in the journey - **Philippians 4:11-13**
Know His love - **Ephesians 3:16-19**
Listen to wise counsel - **Proverbs 11:14; 24:6**
Make peace with others - **Matthew 5:22-24**
Never give up - **Galatians 6:9-10**
Overflow with kindness - **Ephesians 4:31-32**
Pray without ceasing - **Ephesians 6:18**
Quiet yourself - **Psalms 46:10**
Renew your mind - **Romans 12:2**
Seek to do His will - **Matthew 7:17-27**
Tell the truth in love - **Ephesians 4:15-16**
Use the gifts God has given you - **Romans 12:4-8**
Value godliness - **1 Timothy 4:7-9**
Work unto the Lord - **Colossians 3:22-24**
eXperience His presence - **1 Peter 1:8-9**
Yield to others - **Philippians 2:3-8**
Zealously share the reason for hope - **1 Peter 3:14-26**

Gratitude

By R.G.

Thank you Pastor Maureen Anderson at Living Word Bible Church. I can't find the words to express my appreciation for your great noble personhood. It takes a noble person to stand up to the truth without fear. A lot of people want to speak the truth, they lack the bravado to do so. I want to give you my gratitude and high praise. You understand freedom which is spiritual wisdom.

Everybody liked reading your book *Are You Spirit Led or Emotionally Driven?* You have gotten famous in this prison.

It's amazing to have a supreme female minister. Womanhood needs your supreme strength. So women can embrace their husbands and children with strength, love and peace. The family unit needs your spiritual leadership, so that mankind may be saved.

We want you to pray for us, daily we overcome.

2 Chronicles 19:1-20:37

God holds us accountable for the authority we exercise. (19:5-10)

As the enemy bore down on Judah, God spoke through Jahaziel, "Don't be afraid ... for the battle is not yours, but God's." We may not fight an enemy army, but every day we battle temptation, pressure, and rulers of the unseen world who want us to rebel against God. (Ephesians 6:12) Remember as believers, we have God's Spirit in us. If we ask for God's help when we face struggles, God will fight for us, and God always triumphs. (20:15)

Romans 9:25-11:12

Paul explains that God's plan is not for those who try to earn His favor by being good; it is for those who realize they can never be good enough and so must depend on Christ. We can be saved only by putting faith in what Jesus Christ has done. If we do that, we will never be disappointed. (9:31-33)

If we believe in our heart and say with our mouth that Christ is the risen Lord, we will be saved. (10:8-12) For anyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (10:13) We must take God's great message of Salvation to others so that they can respond to the Good News. How will your loved ones and neighbors hear it unless someone tells them? Is God calling you to take part in making His message known in the community? Think of one person who needs to hear the Good News, and think of something you can do to help him or her hear it. Then take that step as soon as possible. (10:14-15)

We are saved through faith in Christ, not because we are part of a nation, religion, or family. On whom or on what are you depending for Salvation? (11:2)

Psalms 20:1-21:13

As long as there have been armies and weapons, nations have boasted of their powers, but such power does not last. Throughout history, empires and kingdoms have risen to great power only to vanish in the dust. David, however, knew that the true might of his nation was not in weaponry but in worship, not in firepower but in God's power. Because God alone can preserve a nation or an individual, be sure your confidence is in God, who gives eternal victory. Whom do you trust? (20:6-8)

If you aspire to leadership, keep the Lord God at the center of your life and depend on Him. His wisdom is the best strength you can have. (21:7) When we trust in God, we have permanence and stability. We may lose a great deal - families, jobs, material possessions - but we cannot be shaken from God's favor. He will be our foundation of solid rock. He will never leave or desert us. (21:7)

Proverbs 20:2-6

A person who is truly confident of his or her strength does not need to parade it. A truly brave person does not look for chances to prove it. A resourceful man can find a way out of a fight. A man of endurance will avoid retaliating. Foolish people find it impossible to avoid strife, men and women of character can. What kind of person are you?

You've heard similar warnings, if you don't study you will fail the test, if you don't save, you won't have money when you need it. God wants us to anticipate future needs and prepare for them. We can't expect Him to come to our rescue when we cause our own problems through lack of planning and action. He provides for us, but He also expects us to be responsible. (20:4)



"Foot" Notes

Hello brothers and sisters, I just finished reading a testimony in the August 2015 newsletter and this person has written how God came back into their life or they had let God back in. This caused me to smile due to the fact that no matter how stupid we get or how much we want to ignore or distance ourselves from God, He is never out of our lives. He's always there waiting patiently for us to ask for His help. Like a Father of unruly children who think that they have all the answers. Reminds me of the poem *Footprints*, when there's only one set of prints we truly believe we're on our own. The reality is that is when God is carrying us through our toughest trials. Stay at peace even in the deepest sand for God will carry you through. Love to ya'll short and tall. Vaya on Dios!

Do You Still Remember? - Part 1 *continued ...*

Egyptians." (Exodus 12:35-36) I encourage you all to read further on in this story. Invite the Holy Spirit to enlighten you to the types and shadows there of the Christ to come. It's so important for us to understand that every one of those Israelite families was covered because of the blood they put on the doorposts. Then how much more are we covered and protected by the REAL DEAL, JESUS CHRIST, and not a shadow!?

I bet you all are wondering, "Where is he going with this? First he began sitting on his front porch and now he's off in Egypt somewhere." The point or place I'm going is this.

I'm learning over time and through the Scriptures that it is important to stop for a few minutes every day and remember where and what God has reached down and brought me 'out of'. It's equally as important to praise God and thank Him for all that He has ALREADY done in our lives to date. People, this shouldn't be that hard! If you woke up this morning you have something to praise God for! If you were then able to throw your legs over the edge of your rack you have something to praise God for! Believe me, there are millions of people out here on the streets that are in worse prisons and bondage than you are right where you may be sitting today. It's the people that have either never heard of or refuse to acknowledge that praise, honor and thankfulness to God that entangles them in bondage, a prison within themselves. These are the people that remain locked up and unable to find true peace.

With that we'll pick back up right here next month in **Acts 16**.

Cryptograms – Quotes

Instructions: A cryptogram is a phrase or quote that has been encrypted by simple letter substitution. You solve the cryptogram with a trial and error process, guessing the letters that have been replaced. After you work on cryptograms for a while you learn to see patterns of common words - practice makes perfect!

The phrase THIS IS A CRYPTOGRAM might turn into the encrypted phrase FKDR DR U BAZOFMIAUC. In this cryptogram you can see that throughout the phrase the letter "T" has been replaced by the letter "F", the letter "A" has been substituted with "U", and so on.

Here are a few tips to get you going:

- A letter can never be substituted with itself.
- The only (well...by far the most common) single letter words are "A" and "I".
- Look for common letter combinations, like "TH" and "SH".
- The word "THE" is the most common three letter word.
- Watch for the pattern "XCBX". This is usually the word "THAT".
- All words generally have at least one vowel.

NM'P SGCX FYMNM CWQ, KGM ZCPM SGCX FMMNM CWQ, MVFM WQM QXINKQP

SGCX CBMNIFMQ FBMNM CWQ. - Zig Ziglar

IAO NMKKOQOBPO FOICOOB X VZQXJ VXB XBN X VXB ZK AZBZQ MH IAXI IAO

JXIIQQ QOTQOIH X NMHPQONMIXFJO XPI, OYOB CAOB MI AXH CZQEON XBN AO

AXH BZI FOOB PXWTAI. - H.L. Mencken

MBLO HDTKMNS BWO HDEQ MD YQQV MBQ OWEQ FBQK HDKINQOO LO LK

OQOOLDK WO FBQK MBQ RWRS IQMO BDVZ DY W BWEEQN. - Will Rogers

A CD KMQKCMQO WP DQQW DS DCEQM. VGQWGQM DS DCEQM AB KMQKCMQO

IPM WGQ UMQCW PMOQCN PI DQQWARU DQ AB CRPWGQM DCWWQM. - Winston Churchill

look for the answers next month

Overcomer's Testimonies

I'm sending my testimony, I pray it moves you and touches others.

Since I've been with Christ, many say I've lost my mind. In a sense, I have, because now, I have a new mind and a new heart. I serve a God who changes people's minds and hearts. This God can take the coldest of hearts and fill it with His peace, joy and love. What you are reading, I put together months ago because I felt the Spirit urging me to put it to paper.

There was a time in my life, when I didn't have a heart. I had no peace in my life, no joy. I never had anything to smile about. Every day, I woke up in prison, I was in torment. I felt like I was buried alive in a tomb, but thank God, I've been saved and resurrected from that tomb and freed from that prison of hatred that had kept me bound for so many years.

Now, when I get up in the morning, I have a smile on my face. Peace and joy consumes my heart like a fire. I don't have the words to describe this God-given peace, joy and love. One thing I do know, I understand that there is no prison so secure, no walls so high, no pit so deep, no soul so lost, and no heart so cold that God's love cannot penetrate. There are some things that man cannot place chains upon and that cannot be confined to prison. God's Spirit and His Love cannot be bound, even in chains. I'm still bound in physical chains and I'm still in prison, but there are some people who are more bound than I will ever be. There are many kinds of prisons, and sometimes we are our own jailers.

I can confidently say that Jesus can set us free. For the first time in my life, I feel free. I have a peace that can only come from truly knowing that I am saved. Only by God's grace and mercy I'm alive today. I faced death many times throughout my life, and surely should have died, but the Lord spared my life. He has given me a new life. If He can show someone like me love and mercy, then there is hope for everyone. If God's love can reach into the darkness of my heart and my world and change my life, then there is hope for everyone. The Lord has broken the chains of compassion and love for others, Amen! The God we serve is an all powerful, miracle working God. He changes lives, and He changes people's hearts. I stand here today as proof of that. I wrote this while in lockdown in prison. I feel very confident that these few faithful words will touch you because the Holy Spirit has inspired my heart to release it to you. It's amazing how far we've come to recognize Who we serve. - R.V.

What Others Are Saying...

"I am a follower of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I accepted Jesus into my life and heart in November of 2014 and I was baptized in December of 2014! I was recently given one of your newsletters by a fellow inmate. I read through it and loved the articles and testimonies inside it. I'm writing in regards of making a request to receive these newsletters and any other Christian literature that may be helpful in my walk with our Lord and Savior." - H.A.

"First, I want to thank all of you at the *Overcomers for Christ* for continuing to send me your newsletter every month, you are all very blessed by Christ and I like Wade's quote of **Matthew 6:33** that helps to motivate me to do good and to know that we all have hope in Jesus Christ." - A.P.

"Hello my friends in Christ, I have not written to all of you in a long time. I just want you to know that I look forward to your newsletters every month. I love hearing from you all and all of us on the inside. My prayers are with all of you and all the amazing work you people do through our Father. I am sowing this seed on behalf of all of us on the inside that you guys devote your time to. You *Overcomers* are a blessing." - S.T.

"Thanks for the blessing card. It was good to hear from you guys, your card was on time and on point. It was like, wow! You knew what I was going through, and picked the right words and card. It was a big spirit lifter, thank you very much. It's crazy because I've personally been going through some tough times these past few days. Once again, thank you guys all at the *Overcomers for Christ*. You all are great. Much respect and love, my prayers and thoughts are with you all too. **1 Peter 3:15** says, **"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear."** Thanks *Overcomers for Christ*, you guys are a big blessing and spirit lifter." - M.A.

"I want to thank you for taking the time to come to this yard. The music was awesome ... The song Good, Good Father is so awesome. The word Brother Scot brought was powerful and we really appreciate you all so much. I pray that the Lord shower blessings on you all. I would like to visit you all one day upon my release." - A.P.

Quote Worthy

**"Trust is that rare and priceless treasure that wins us the affection of our heavenly Father."
- Brennan Manning (1934 - 2013) - an American author, laicized (defrocked) priest, and public speaker.**

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

Cory's Corner

Accountability in Life ... The Doors We Choose (Life or Death)

Hello dear brothers and sisters. May the peace of God fill your souls with happiness as you read this. I pray that what I write is led by the Spirit and not me.

Well, just a short update about my life today ... ALL IS GOOD! I have been faced with a new blessing from God and that is something I'd like so much to express to you all and ask for some much needed prayer.

I just found out this year that I have a 16 year old daughter. I've always had an idea that it was a possibility but now it is real as ever. See, years ago I made a life choice that brought 'life' into this world. But because I was leading a life of 'death' no parenthood was established. So for the past 16 years this little girl has had to live not knowing who her dad was.

In **John 10:10** Jesus said, *"The thief comes only to steal and to kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly."* The thief came and stole, killed and destroyed years from this child. There it is, in one moment I was being selfish in my sinful ways and 'death' was the ultimate outcome. The sad thing about this whole issue is this child was conceived out of a cheating relationship. Yes, I was that man trapped in my sin so terribly that I shattered lives that loved me.

Many of you know that the other side of this story is in fact part of His healing powers. Jesus has 100% completely restored my marriage after 9 years of divorce, a FULL family restoration! So anyways much prayer would be appreciated as my family and I begin to journey in to another rebuilding of a relationship from choices I made in the past. Thank you all so much. Now I want to tell you of another 'Accountability'.

"Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money holding the mystery of the faith with pure conscience. But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless." (1 Timothy 3:8-10)

I start off with these Scriptures because I have recently become a member of a Christian motorcycle club that rides for nothing more than the 'soul' purpose of furthering God's Kingdom. Having this new extension of accountability is more real now, to me, than it was by me just going to church. A lot has come into play since I have joined up with these other men of God. I've met with several new men, new brothers interested in putting together functions that bring joy to our Lord Jesus Christ. The fact is I ALREADY belong to the greatest ministry in the world which is Jesus. I must say, "It's pretty cool" to be out on two wheels with the intent of sowing seeds to those not so ministry bound; if you know what I mean. On the pocket area of our jackets we carry a patch that is in a diamond shape and reads, '1 more for Jesus'. This really catches the eye of those that know what's usually on that diamond patch. This is what is great about that. That one eye just may be that one person that really wants to turn their life around and change. So the seed that was just sown may save a life headed down the wrong road. This is why I call this 'Accountability'. Being out in the world now also representing Jesus on two wheels you better believe all are watching. It's just like when I walked the yards as a Christian; I knew I may be the ONLY Bible some of the guys would ever read. I've just added another facet. Now I'm a Bible on two wheels.

Again I ask that you all keep my family and these two great new journeys in our lives in your prayers. You ALL there are always in my every prayer. Love and blessings!

Ministry Tithes & Offerings

It takes the body of Christ working together to create, print, and mail this newsletter. None of this would be possible without the faithful support of many people who believe in this ministry. The vision of this ministry is to offer hope, love, and encouragement to those who are incarcerated. You are investing in spreading the Word of God to lost souls, encouraging, mentoring, and discipling believers.

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

We thank everyone who sows into this ministry. We pray all that your hands touch will be richly blessed, and that you will have abundance in every area of your life.

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.

Flames
By R.H.

Burning heat hearts on fire, flesh and spirit fiery darts, lake of fire with roads to walk.

Bars and pits, hole of destruction, furnace of smoke, chambers of death, bottomless graves, oh prisoners of hell, straight is the gate and narrow is the way, your moments await, choose ye this day.

Son of righteousness grant us grace, fill me to the brim, come down, come down, come down. Light on light, path is clear, roads to walk.

Flowers in the fields, grass today, wind blows man is gone. Life is short, a vapor away, father of lights, streets of gold, power and glory blessed eternity Father above come down, come down, come down.

Be blessed, roads to walk.

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

EDITORIAL Wade "Duck" Anderson, Michelle Anderson **ART & DESIGN** John Dobbins **PRINTING** Living Word Bible Church

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