

Oberlinist

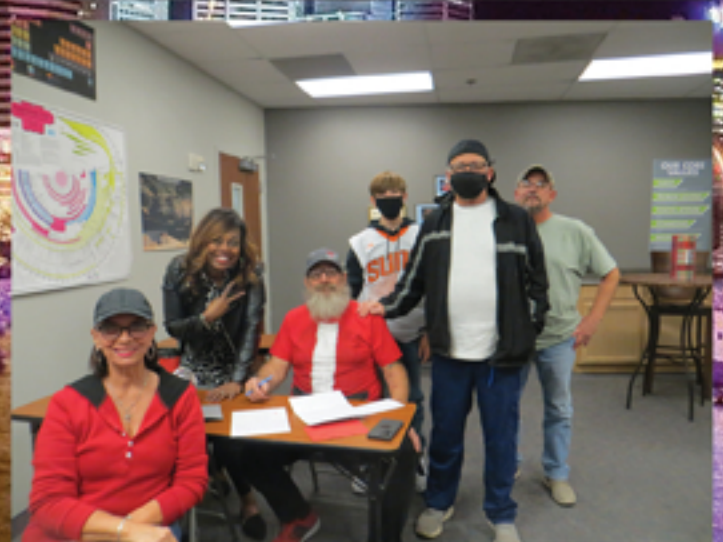
January 2022

EVEN THOUGH I WALK
THROUGH THE DARKEST VALLEY
I WILL FEAR NO EVIL
FOR YOU ARE WITH ME

PSALMS 23:4

Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

December 2020



??WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD TODAY?? - Daniel 1-4

By Wade Anderson

As we get started here, I want to preface that 'some' of the things I'm about to write some of you may think, "Why is Duck saying that? He knows that our words have power, and the enemy is just waiting for us to crack a door for him to come in and eat our lunch!" You are right, I do know that, but I also KNOW that under the blood of Jesus the liar CANNOT even touch a single word that is written here.

Let's pray: *Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your Son Jesus. I thank You Jesus for giving Your life as a sacrifice, shedding Your Blood that didn't just cover our sins, but removed them as if they never happened. Lord, You told the Israelites to put the blood (of animals) on the lintel and the two doorposts of their dwellings, and when You passed over those dwellings and saw the blood, You would NOT allow the enemy to come inside that dwelling. That was a type or shadow of the Blood of Jesus that was to come. I know Sir, that You want us to put You in remembrance of the things You have promised us. And Lord, I know the Blood of Jesus IS Your promise to redeem all who will open their hearts and receive Him! So, with complete confidence I put every word written here on these pages, under the Blood of Jesus, knowing that the enemy has no legal right to any of it! In Jesus' name I pray, and I believe. AMEN!*

Over the past couple of months, I've had this stirring, a little here and a little there. To the point that I wasn't completely clear on which parts of it I would write. I hadn't spoken with my brother Monty in a few days, so I called him. It was while we were both chopping it up, iron sharpens iron, that he said to me, "Wade, why don't you write about this for the newsletter?" I told him, "You're right, some of what we've just discussed is exactly what I've been feeling in my spirit these past few months. As soon as we hang up, I'm going to get started. Thanks Monty." Let's get started.

I know, in the September 2021 issue of the newsletter, I spoke a little about this COVID craziness. In the 6th paragraph, at the bottom of page 10 of that article, I was sharing from my own personal experience AT THAT POINT. I had mentioned how we had been back and forth across the United States many times during this pandemic and none of it was changing our faith in God's promises of being our protection. I also said, "I know that there are many of you that have been affected by this COVID ordeal in some personal way. Not for a second am I or would I suggest that if you've been affected, in any form, it's from a lack of faith!! NO!! That is a lie from the pits of hell! This virus is real!" I still believe and agree with everything I wrote there. It will be a minute, but I will address this topic further in this message.

You all know that the United States of America, and the world for that matter, is in a crazy place right now. But you don't believe that any of it has caught God by surprise, do you? ABSOLUTELY NOT! And when we get a new President we also get 'his/her' staff. It's important that we not focus on the individuals, but instead, focus on their principles. While many people believed this was a wise choice, there are still many others that don't. Funny how the more into this term, the many of those who believed that their choices were the right ones, are now starting to question that choice.

Let me share a couple of Scriptures on this particular subject. ***"Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves."*** (Romans 13:1-2) WOW! Regardless of who is in the White House, our God will ALWAYS be on the throne! AMEN?! While one leader is in his or her role, it seems that the other 'side' is always attempting to bring them down. That's NOT a Biblical principle. Listen to what God said here in ***Jeremiah 29:7, "And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare."*** I understand that to mean, WHOMEVER is in the leadership role, we, as Christians, are instructed to pray for 'that' leadership. It may not be the leader 'you' had in mind, but ***Job 12:23*** confirms, ***"He makes nations great, and destroys them; He enlarges nations, and disperses them."***

You and I are NOT supposed to be on one side or the other, especially when it comes to being Christ-like or Christians. But there has to be a hard line between good and evil that we do NOT cross. The Apostle Paul, here in ***Ephesians 2:13-16***, gives the truth about our being one nation, ***"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, (how) by setting aside in His flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility."***

Let me assure you that this 'back and forth, at each other' happens in nearly every area of society. Why? Because we ALL have our own opinion. But again, and more importantly, do you believe that any of this ever catches God by surprise? Absolutely not! Let's read, together, what ***Proverbs 2:6-8*** tells us, ***"For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds success in store for the upright, He is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for He guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones."*** We are called to be faithful to God. This means we are to be more like Christ than like the world. We MUST be informed and thoughtful of

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(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com

other people's opinions, especially when it comes to politics. Right here in Scripture, we see the correct way for us to approach these issues. **"If I shut up the heavens so that no rain falls, or if I command locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence and plague among My people, and My people, who are called by My Name, humble themselves, and pray and seek (crave, require as a necessity) My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear [them] from heaven, and forgive their sin and heal their land."** (2 Chronicles 7:13-14) God doesn't operate based on our opinions, but He is faithful to His Word which is FULL of His promises.

Maybe you can see how important it is for us, and biblically, to pray for the success of those in our government's leadership. If they fall, we fall! Instead of complaining about what we 'think' is going on, let's all pray for God's wisdom and righteousness to become evident in our nation's policies and leaders. **"First of all, then, I urge that petitions (specific requests), prayers, intercessions (prayers for others) and thanksgivings be offered on behalf of all people, for kings and all who are in [positions of] high authority, so that we may live a peaceful and quiet life in all godliness and dignity."** (1 Timothy 2:1-2 AMP) It is important that we not only listen to God's guidance, through His Word, but that we also obey what He has said. Here's what 1 Peter 2:13-17 (Message) tells us, **"Make the Master proud of you by being good citizens. Respect the authorities, whatever their level; they are God's emissaries for keeping order. It is God's will that by doing good, you might cure the ignorance of the fools who think you're a danger to society. Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government."** Please believe me, none of this has to do with politics. I'm simply trying to get this point across, "God is NOT surprised with ANYTHING that goes on in this world! From climate change to whomever is in office as president of this GREAT United States of America, God knows what's going on. God has assured us, in many places and many times, **"Whatever you may believe that you have done against Me, I WILL, turn it all around and use it for My glory."** (Genesis 50:20)

I'm not on a rabbit trail but think about what King David wrote in Psalm 139:13-18, **"You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank You for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in Your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. How precious are Your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, You are still with me!"** You do know this doesn't just apply to David, right? Jesus Himself said, in Luke 12:6-7, **"Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."** Regardless of what our parents might have thought or said, or however the conception came to be, NONE of us are a mistake! And, as Jesus hung on the Cross, He knew each and every single one of us, He died for every person that will EVER be born! Titus 2:11 shows us, **"For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people."**

Do you know that King Nebuchadnezzar authored the verses 1-18 and 34-37 of Daniel 4? Did you know that he was a Pagan king? In Daniel 1:2 it says, **"The Lord gave him (King Nebuchadnezzar) victory over King Jehoiakim of Judah and permitted him to take some of the sacred objects from the Temple of God."** Then, further back in Scripture, in Jeremiah 27:4-6, **"This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'Tell this to your masters: With My great power and outstretched arm I made the earth and its people and the animals that are on it, and I give it to anyone I please. Now I will give all your countries into the hands of My servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; I will make even the wild animals subject to him.'" Then in Jeremiah 43:10, "This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'I will send My servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and I will set his throne ...'"** Do you get what I'm saying here? Just because something or someone is not our personal choice, in whatever arena of life, God may be using that person or that thing to fulfill His plans and purpose. Look how upside down everything got when Trump was elected. At every turn, even though it seemed he was getting things done, the opposition STILL hasn't stopped. For that matter, LOOK AT US, most of us were the most unlikely candidates too but God chose us!

The book of Daniel starts with Nebuchadnezzar's siege of Judah and Jerusalem. We know from Daniel 1:2 that the Lord allowed and gave Nebuchadnezzar victory over Judah. But why did the Lord allow Judah to be besieged? (read 2 Kings 20:12-19) Jeremiah, in Jeremiah 25:3-11, warned God's people, **"For the past twenty-three years—from the thirteenth year of the reign of Josiah son of Amon, king of Judah, until now—the Lord has been giving me His messages. I have faithfully passed them on to you, but you have not listened. Again and again the Lord has sent you His servants, the prophets, but you have not listened or even paid attention. Each time the message was this: 'Turn from the evil road you are traveling and from the evil things you are doing. Only then will I let you live in this land that the Lord gave to you and your ancestors forever. Do not provoke My anger by worshiping idols you made with your own hands. Then I will not harm you. But you would not listen to Me,' says the Lord. 'You made Me furious by worshiping idols you made with your own hands, bringing on yourselves all the disasters**

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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

Well, the enemy is on the attack again. Mom has been diagnosed with lung cancer; we are now on that road. I stood on the Word of God and some friends from church went up there and prayed for her. All of you all's prayers are welcomed. I know that God's will is that she be healed ...

B.A.

Please continue to pray for me and my family, especially Rita, my mom. She is a believer so please join with me so that she gets healthy again ...

V.I.

God bless and be with all of you there at the **DS&S**. We are in serious trouble, and I'm really concerned for America. I'd love it if everyone reading these words would come in agreement with my prayer petition, that the church wake up and fight against darkness and may we fight to overturn same-sex marriage and abortion rights before the Messiah arrives ...

A.J.

I ended up receiving 14 years for my actions, plus, I still do not know yet how much Federal prison time that I am facing once I'm done here in the State. I have been very depressed lately, as this feels like the end of my days here considering all of my health problems with seizures and constant headaches from being hit in the head with bats previous to my arrest. I love the newsletters that I receive each month, they really do help me with a lot to look at that I never realized before. I ask all of the **DS&S** prayer warriors to please lift me and my family in your prayer time ...

F.C.

I'm soon to be released and I ask all of you there to please pray with me and for me, that I continue to do good upon my release ...

S.L.

It's been a while since I last wrote. This Bell's Palsy has messed my vision up. It's hard to read or write with the glasses they sell in the store here. I'm able to use my friends right now to write this, but things are still a little blurry. It takes two weeks to see the doctors here and then another two weeks to get the reading glasses. I'm asking that you all have me in your prayers ...

W.R.

The other day I got news that my mama was admitted to the hospital for another stroke, her name is Susan. Please, can you have our community of **DS&S** pray for her? I've experienced isolation and being by myself has made me respect love and loyalty that much more. So, visions of my mama being by herself hurts my heart ...

J.H.

Praise Reports

Thank you for your mail and concerns for my new change of address. I'm good. They dropped my custody levels and I'm now on a level 2 yard. Let me just say, 'This place is definitely no Red Rock and they will not allow an inmate to preach. I

know I serve the Almighty God who's truly sitting on the throne calling the shots and His name is Jesus. In your card you mentioned about 'us being that fire' and on the inside of me I could feel that fire. It's such an awesome feeling and it's

hard to explain but I know I personally experience God's presence AND it's awesome! I've been ministering to some of the men here, sharing with them about who they are in Christ and whether they know about the power that they have within them. Seeing that some are more religious than others, I'm doing my best to share with them that it is NOT a religious connection but yet a personal relationship with God, made available for us all through what Jesus has completed on the Cross. You better believe that everything I've been taught at Red Rock I will freely give away for the glory of God. Thanks again for checking up on me ...

U.S.

Overcomers for Christ family! Hey! Just wanted to say, it sure is much more relaxing and comforting just to know Christ and put Him in control of our lives! And just how thankful I am that He loves me. Well, CDC changed my release date by a month and then the next week they moved it back to what it was. I've done 8 years, what's another month!? I'm also very thankful for all of the cards and encouragement over these years. To know you all love God and His Son the way that I do, I am very grateful ...

S.M.

I ran across your newsletter a few months ago, in the trash can, and was very much interested in the contents. I've been a prisoner for 32 years and a Christian for the same length. I'm interested in receiving your newsletter and I assure you it won't end up in the trash can with such valuable information. I have a ministry of 150 orphan street kids in Ghana, Africa. This has happened for 21 years now and is supported by prisoners, ex-cons, and family/friends. I send other papers of interest to them when I complete them, or I pass them on to other prisoners here. This may be the case where I found this copy. Some of your newsletters will probably end up in Mepom, Africa ...

J.S.

My son is doing very well and has received great news, he is only going to receive 3 ½ years. He has been out on bond for almost 3 years and has done so great for himself. I'm also now the grandfather of 3 beautiful grandchildren. Praise God ...

F.C.

Just wanted you to know how special you all, at the **DS&S**, are to me. And be assured, I'm still sober and in the Word daily. I feel great, NEVER BETTER ...

I.V.

David Cook

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

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

What Kind of a God Would Kill His Son?

By W.R.

A man once asked me that question, 22 years ago. But I had only been a Christian for a few months, and I had no real knowledge or understanding of the Bible, God's Word. So, I didn't know how to respond to that question. I didn't know the answer, because I didn't know God!

Today I've been a Christian now for 22 years. I've completed about 100 Bible courses and for these 22 years I've read, studied, and lived, to the best of my ability, God's Word. I still find myself, almost daily, asking God, "Who are You? You are God, You can create or have anything and do anything. Why would You want to have a relationship with someone like me? Of all the people in the world that You could adopt, why would You want someone like me in Your family? I've broken every law of Yours and that of man. So why would You show someone like me mercy when I've done everything not to deserve it?!"

For 22 years I've asked You, "What kind of a God would leave His throne in heaven, with all of its glory, and come to this earth in the flesh to die such a horrible death on a cross for someone like me? For 22 years I've asked You these same questions and for 22 years You've given me the same answer." I weep because I know the answer even before I ask.

Twenty-two years ago, a man asked me, "What kind of a God would kill His own Son?". I wish I could see that man today so I could tell him, "One who loves you!"

After 51 years of being confined, 22 of them serving God, there is and always will be a part of me that will always be free, regardless of my physical surroundings. I've learned to place my trust in the Lord regardless of the outcome of the things around me. In my innermost being I know that He has a hope, a future, and a plan for my life.

Over all of these years, I've learned that you can be free and still be a slave to the things of this world or whatever you crave. Or you can be in prison bound in chains and still be free just the same! The freedom that comes in Christ reaches far beyond the walls of this prison. You can't put chains on the spirit of God, nor the freedom that He brings into our lives!

Believe this, Overcomers for Christ family, what these Parole Board people don't realize is that we are already free, in Christ Jesus! So regardless of what decision 'they' may render, 'they' can't take that from us! 'They' can't be confined to a prison or put chains on the Spirit of God!

Not In Prison, On a Sabbatical

By J.S.

Hello my beautiful O&C family! I am pleased to share that Father blesses me daily with contentment and compassion to and for me. Mostly He shows me, daily, from the time my eyes open, to when my eyes shut and in between ... that He IS Love!

Since coming on this sabbatical, I have a new desire to share the Good News with everyone. Daily I desire to seek Father in His Word; and I find Him there always. All that He gives to me I share, it's compulsive. Sort of like a knee-jerk response, I also suffer from a constant spiritual giddiness that seems to be contagious. Highly contagious, caused by our Father, HALLELUJAY! All of my desires are granted by God! Yep, granted by our Father in heaven!

After reading **Psalm 34** I now have the desire, to share with the whole O&C family, this mysterious inspiration I've penned called:

FATHER, Our Point of Origin

My Father once taught me, the cure to all diseases.

THEN - the worries of the world, caused me to forget them before I could share.

AND - my Father once taught me, everything about love and honor.

THEN - the distracting world, caused my heart to harden before I could care.

AND - my Father once taught me, His love is real and loyal.

THEN - this darkened world, caused me to doubt and mistrust, instead of letting love flow.

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Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Going Through a Season

By S.B.

Jesus has placed it on my heart that you all there really do care about me and have love for me. It's been really hard for me to trust people, especially these past 5 – 6 years.

I'm going through a season right now and right now has been the hardest time in my prison time. As it stands right now I have right at a year left to finish here. My prayer is that it stays that way. Like everyone else, as it stands, I've been more than ready to be done here.

The difference being locked up this time is that satan has been trying to have a field day, trying to come at me in different ways. From the last time you came and visited me I have not stopped moving forward in my faith. It has been a testing time for sure, but with each hurdle I've overcome Jesus has brought me closer to Him. Even in this hard time right now God's voice has spoken to me through **Psalm 46:10**, "**Be still and know that I am God.**" Even in this tough time of what feels like pure chaos to me, God's Word, in **Psalm 46:8-9**, "**Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations He has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the shields with fire.**"

The way that I see it, our God is a busy God as He works to create calmness within the chaos of our days. I want you to know that I am pressing on. I've been so angry for so long and that has caused my heart to be hard. And it's hard to do mostly everything. But like I said in my last letter, I know without a shadow of a doubt that God has plans for me, with my new life. He continues to work on me as He works on my heart. As I read **Ezekiel 36:26**, "**I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.**" I know that Jesus knows that I mean what I say, and through the Holy Spirit He dropped that passage to me to let me know He's at work. And He IS for sure!

One of the good things in this lockdown is I have gone back to reading and rereading things from the newsletters that I have saved. I save everyone that you all send to me. Every time I open one, I feel the warmth of a family who loves me. I can also relate to who writes in, and feel they are my family as well, in Christ. I truly feel the love from the O&S family, and I'm very thankful for that. Every time I read 'Foot Notes' it causes tears to come to my eyes. He's the one person I let myself get close to, and I miss him a lot.

Finding Your Purpose

By M.D.

I gotta tell you it's uncanny how the few times that Michelle has written to me and encouraged me that she has written exactly what I needed to be reminded of. She reminded me of the power of my testimony, the love for the Lord and the mission to build the Kingdom right where I'm at.

It so happens that I got a new cell-mate and he has become a divine appointment. Allow me to briefly explain. This brother OD'd on heroin around the same time I had my own set of problems. He and I had been in max custody together and had known each other a little, enough to have actually mentioned one time that we felt like we would be good cell-mates, if we ever had the opportunity. Little did we know at the time how the Lord was at work at that very moment.

Approximately a year later, we were both moved to a new unit on the same day. By the grace of God, they placed us together in the same cell. As we began to get to know one another and he saw my Jesus piece on my chest, he told me about how he had OD'd and what not. As he saw me studying he expressed a desire to learn more about God's Word to help him stay clean. So, I invited him to pray and asked him if he'd be willing to sign a covenant and devote 40 days to go through the Purpose Driven Life with me, and to pray everyday together as well. He agreed, we both signed the covenant and from that day forward we have prayed and studied together and individually, every day. We completed the Purpose Driven Life and Battlefield of the Mind.

I gave him a contact of mine in order to get himself a good study Bible. Our cell is filled with the Spirit. We keep inspira

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Jeremiah 44:24-47:7

It is easy to lose the joy of serving our God when we take our eyes off of Him. The more we look away from God's purpose toward our own sacrifices, the more frustrated we will become.

As you serve God, beware of focusing on what you are giving up. When this happens, ask God's forgiveness, then look at Him rather than yourself. **(45:5)**

God punished His people in order to bring them back to Himself, and He punishes us to correct us and purify us. No one welcomes punishment, but we should all welcome its results ... correction and purity. **(46:28)**

2 Timothy 2:22-3:17

Running away is sometimes considered cowardly. But wise people realize that reminding themselves physically from temptation often can be the most courageous action to take. Timothy, a young man, was warned to run from anything that produced evil thoughts.

Do you have a recurring temptation that is difficult to resist?

Remove yourself physically from any situation that stimulates your desire to sin. Knowing when to run is as important in spiritual battle as knowing when and how to fight. **(2:22)**

Psalms 94:1-23

At times, God must discipline us to help us. This is similar to a loving parent disciplining his child. The discipline is not very enjoyable to the child, but it is essential to teach him or her right from wrong. The Bible says, **"No discipline is enjoyable while it's happening, it is painful! But afterward will be a quiet harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way."** **(Hebrews 12:11)**

When you feel God's hand of correction, accept it as proof of His love. Realize that God is urging you to follow His paths instead of stubbornly going your own way. **(94:12-13)**

Proverbs 26:6-8

Some people are so blind that they won't get much wisdom from reading these proverbs. Only those who want to be wise have the receptive attitude needed to make the most of them. If we want to learn from God, He will respond and pour out His heart to us. **(26:7)**

"Foot" Notes

As usual I'm sitting here in my gated community observing what's going on in the world and sadly it's pretty bad. This got me thinking that we all know people who have a knack for rolling with the punches no matter what and doing so with laughter and joy. When you look deeper into these people more times than not you find out they are Christians who are strong in their faith. I've gotten to this point myself quite a few years back and I believe the tipping point is this ...

We've all read in the Bible that God is ALWAYS with us and that our path was laid out long before we were even born along with the knowledge that in the end all people of faith will be okay. So as a believer in these words that should free all believers to face ANY obstacles/struggles with an inner peace.

Some it would seem were put here to face many struggles, but the example lies in the fact that even though their whole life would be a struggle the lesson is in how they face and endure the struggles with that unbreakable spirit of humor, peace, and joy not letting circumstance dictate attitude. All that leads to this ...

Right now, our religious freedoms are under attack like never before and in times such as this many tend to turn away from God. What we need to do is stand up for and fight for the religious freedoms they're trying to get rid of. Christianity is under attack. We need to do this keeping in mind that God has always had our best interest at heart and that no matter what, in the end we'll all be okay.

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

??WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD TODAY?? - Daniel 1-4 By Wade Anderson ... continued from page 4
you now suffer.' And now the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: 'Because you have not listened to Me, I will gather together all the armies of the north under King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, whom I have appointed as My deputy. I will bring them all against this land and its people and against the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy you and make you an object of horror and contempt and a ruin forever. I will take away your happy singing and laughter. The joyful voices of bridegrooms and brides will no longer be heard. Your millstones will fall silent, and the lights in your homes will go out. This entire land will become a desolate wasteland. Israel and her neighboring lands will serve the king of Babylon for seventy years.'" (Jeremiah 25:2-11) The short explanation here, much like the world today, would be pride and worldliness!

Brothers and sisters look around you! These very Scriptures are relevant to what's going on in the world TODAY! The word Babylon means 'confusion' and traces its roots back to **Genesis 11:9** where God confused the people's language at the tower of Babel. As a type and like, Babylon stands for the world, its false religion and systems. The future fall of Babylon, worldly living, is prophesied in **Revelation 17** and **18** where these two systems are shown.

In **Revelation 17:1-8** the Scriptures speak of the destruction of the world's false religious system, and it's called straight forward, prostitution. **"One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, 'Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits by many waters. With her the kings of the earth committed adultery, and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries.' Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. The name written on her forehead was a mystery: BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES, AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of God's holy people, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. Then the angel said to me: 'Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns. The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and yet will come up out of the Abyss and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have NOT been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because it once was, now is not, and yet will come.'"**

I encourage you all to read **Revelation Chapter 18**. Before you start reading, pray and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal to you your own personal accountability to God. Then read it carefully and maybe even a couple times as it shows us the fall of the world's financial system as well as representing the world's political and religious systems against God. Like Daniel, in many ways, our Christian lives are one of exile. We too are under siege and are to consider ourselves as exiles and strangers on this earth because it is not our real home! (read **Hebrews 11:8-16**)

Remember, King Nebuchadnezzar has just overthrown Jerusalem, taken some articles from the temple of God and now in **Daniel 1:3-5** he's rounding up all of those he chose to serve him in his palace. Scripture tells us his intentions were to, **"teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service."** It's interesting to see the method used to make good little 'Babylonians' of the exiled Israelites.

Everything being done was meant to separate these men from their Jewish roots. In short, brainwashing and indoctrination! Babylon didn't want them remembering or thinking of their real home. The idea was to make the Jews so taken up by the things of Babylon that they had no time to think of their own home and their own God. The 'enemies' plans are no different for Christians today! The world would rather that we are just like them. But we're not! I know I keep saying this but, doesn't this sound a lot like what is going on today. They're attempting to teach us, and our children, to know only what they want you to know and speak only the way they want you to speak.

Over these last 22 months, in particular, there has been an ever-mounting attack on history. The 'new thing' at hand is to remove certain monuments and defacing many others with graffiti all over the United States. People are claiming that 'those monuments, or figures' are offensive. Folks, this isn't being done by one certain color or race. It is being done by a generation of people that have already set under the indoctrinated teachings in our schools and universities. Slowly, history is being attacked as they are attempting to rewrite it to fit and 'not offend' a certain new generation of people. Sadly, there's always an agenda. The lessons of our history are trying to be erased and when they are not there as a reminder of where we came from, we are bound to repeat those same mistakes AGAIN!

Believe me, I am NOT taking a stance for either political party! For many years I never even thought about voting. I NEVER use my one vote for a person or a party. It took many years before I realized how important 'my' one vote really was. After I finally had my rights restored, I wanted a deeper understanding of our Constitution, as 'We the People'. This

new desire in me was not just about my voting rights or my right to bear arms. I wanted to better understand what or what not the government had the right to do, to me and you. It quickly became obvious, to me, this was NOT a specific party decision, but instead, where God stands on a lot of these topics. In the Constitution, our founding fathers wrote this, "Freedom and power come from God, then that freedom goes directly to the people and then power is 'given' to the government ONLY as the people see fit." So, if our freedom doesn't come from the government, then the government CAN NOT rightfully take it away from, 'We the People!

Let's look at this one short paragraph in *The Declaration of Independence*:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed (the people),—That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future securities."

We ARE all in one family now, the family of God our Creator! Let's get back to Daniel.

Now, in **Daniel 1:5**, **"The king assigned them a daily ration of food and wine from his own kitchens. They were to be trained for three years, and then they would enter the royal service."** These new accommodations seemed that nearly all of Daniel and his friend's outward lives were now changed. But the real question is, could they change their hearts? **Daniel 1:8** addresses Daniel's deep conviction and stands out as guidance for us as well, **"But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods."** Let me assure you, when your convictions are based on God's principles and not rebellion, God WILL shower favor on your obedience. Watch this, **"Now God had given the chief of staff both respect and affection for Daniel."** (**Daniel 1:9**)

Remembering **"They were being trained for three years, and then would enter the royal service"** in **Daniel 1:5**, let's now look at **Daniel 1:6-7** and see how Babylon was 'attempting' to reprogram them for the ways of the world they were now in. **"Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were four of the young men chosen, all from the tribe of Judah. The chief of staff renamed them with these Babylonian names: Daniel was called Belteshazzar. Hananiah was called Shadrach. Mishael was called Meshach. Azariah was called Abednego."** In this passage we are introduced to four important Jewish youths - Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah - although you might know Daniel's friends by their Babylonian names - Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, it is interesting to look at the meaning of their names before and after the change. According to the Ryrie Study Bible, these are the meanings of Daniel and his friends' names. Daniel, in Hebrew meant ("God is judge") but became Belteshazzar, which means ("May Bel protect his life"). Hananiah, in Hebrew meant ("Yahweh is gracious") but became Shadrach, which means ("command of Aku"). Mishael, in Hebrew meant ("Who is what God is") but became Meshach, which means ("Who is what Aku is"). And Azariah, in Hebrew meant ("Whom Yahweh helps") but became Abed-nego, which means ("Servant of Nebo"). In each case, their Hebrew name spoke of the true God. Their names were now changed to speak of the Babylonian gods. The bottom line for our lives is clear: Don't let the world change your name or your character, you ARE a child of the Most High God, God Almighty!


Daniel resolved, or as the KJV says 'Daniel purposed in his heart', not to defile himself. They could change his name, but they couldn't change his heart! He was not swayed by the lure of Babylon even though he lived right in its midst. So, think about the effect that the world has had on your life? Now let me ask you, is there a difference between the desires of your life and of those who don't know the Lord? It is fair and right for me to add, non-Christians watch you a lot more than you think, and as they watch they are interested in your actions more than your words. My encouragement to us all would be, watch the things we're involved in, the people we have in our inner circle AND the things we watch and listen to in the media!

Proverbs 25:26 states: **"Like a muddied spring or a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked."** If Daniel had given up his convictions and become just like the other Babylonians (as they wanted) then the Bible says he would have become like a muddied spring or a polluted well. Daniel and his friends were a people that had the ability to give life and sustain the thirsty... but had they changed to those seemingly insignificant compromises they would have become useless for that which they had been created! But thankfully, Daniel had a greater resolve than that! Strengthened by his faith, he wasn't someone who was going to buckle ... nor should we.

From the Inside **Finding Your Purpose** by M.D.

...continued from page 7

tional reminders on our cell walls. We speak to the Lord or about the Lord all the time. He's so hungry, it's amazing the transfiguration this man has made. We don't miss a service, men are asking him how he has made such a change, and he tells them it's all because of Jesus!

I got him to write to  and he's enjoying the newsletters. Cash sent him a card and he's super encouraged and grateful.

So, I have to admit I've found a purpose in helping this man find the truth and apply it to his life. We have an accountability agreement between us, and we are both super grateful at what the Lord is doing in our lives and how blessed we feel to be comfortable in our cell. We are focused and our lights are shining brightly on these men around us which is starting to bring others to come around seeking the peace they see in us.

So once again Michelle was right on point with my mission/assignment from God to build His Kingdom right where I am, and it has begun with my cell-mate and now seems to be moving on to others. Praise God!!! The Lord is at work!!

This Month in History

- Jan 5th - In 1781, British naval forces led by Brigadier General Benedict Arnold captured and burned Richmond, Virginia.
- Jan 5th - In 1914, Ford Motor Co. raised basic wages from \$2.40 for a nine-hour day to \$5 for an eight-hour day.
- Jan 19th - In 1915, two German zeppelins dropped bombs on the towns of Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in England.
- Jan 19th - In 1966, Indira Ghandi was elected as India's first female prime minister.
- Jan 23rd - In 1944, the Detroit Red Wings set a record for the most one-sided hockey game by beating the New York Rangers 15-0.
- Jan 26th - In 1802, the U.S. Congress passed a bill that established the position of Librarian of Congress.
- Jan 26th - In 1837, Michigan was admitted as the 26th U.S. state.

Quote Worthy

"When hope is taken away from the people, moral degeneration follows swiftly after."

- Pearl S. Buck (1892 - 1973), also known by her Chinese name Sai Zhenzhu, an American writer and novelist. As the daughter of missionaries to China, and later as a missionary herself, Buck spent most of her life before 1934 in Zhenjiang.

ATTENTION

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Editor's Note

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Hello everyone! 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!

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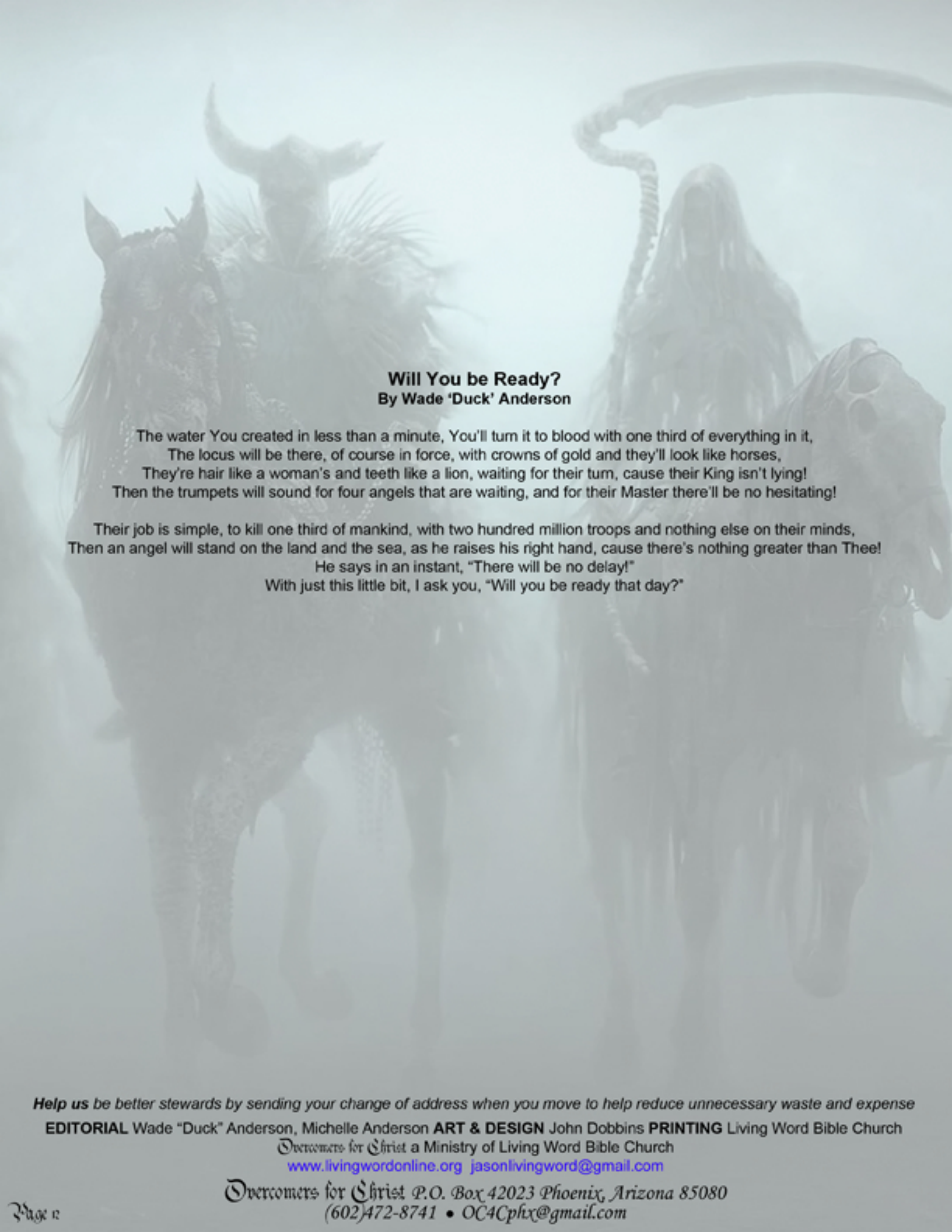
Ministry Tithes & Offerings

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.

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(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com



Will You be Ready?
By Wade 'Duck' Anderson

The water You created in less than a minute, You'll turn it to blood with one third of everything in it,
The locust will be there, of course in force, with crowns of gold and they'll look like horses,
They're hair like a woman's and teeth like a lion, waiting for their turn, cause their King isn't lying!
Then the trumpets will sound for four angels that are waiting, and for their Master there'll be no hesitating!

Their job is simple, to kill one third of mankind, with two hundred million troops and nothing else on their minds,
Then an angel will stand on the land and the sea, as he raises his right hand, cause there's nothing greater than Thee!
He says in an instant, "There will be no delay!"
With just this little bit, I ask you, "Will you be ready that day?"

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