

Overcomers for Christ

February 2018

**Love the Lord your God with all
your**

HEART

SOUL

STRENGTH

MIND

Love your neighbor as yourself.

Luke 10:27

Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

May 2017



TIME/TODAY By Wade Anderson

Second by second, minute by minute it all seems so effortless. But as the days roll one into another the months have come and gone and here we find ourselves at the beginning of a brand New Year, another fresh 365 days with the opportunity to make a difference for the Kingdom and glory of God! This implies to me that 'time is of the essence' and poses this question of importance, "How and what are YOU going to invest YOUR remaining days on this earth on/into?"

Let's pray: *"Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your unconditional and endless love for each and every one of us. Lord help us to better understand that You, Sir, are the Author of time. You know the beginning from the end. Holy Spirit we invite You to be our teacher and help us all to be more mindful of the resources and time that You have allotted each us to run our race and finish strong. I pray that anything that is not of You on these pages be washed in the precious blood of Your Son, Jesus. And it's in His name that we pray and believe. AMEN!"*

I see today that as a young boy I really had no true sense of what time was. When I was in school, time or the day started with breakfast, grabbing my coat and books, and running down the driveway to be just in time to catch the school bus. After spending 7-8 hours there at school the instant that the bell rang, it was as though the better part of our day was just beginning. I do remember that the afternoon bus rides were always a lot more chaotic. After being silenced and in a regiment of learning for that part of our day it was ON once we were released to run for the bus.

Today, I can still see the blood vessels in Mr. Sass' (bus driver) face bulging in that 5 foot wide rear view mirror. The Anderson's (5 boys) were probably the largest 'clan', and we were one of his last stops on that particular bus and I know that he did his very best to keep his cool, not missing a drop off point for 50-60 kids!

We were 'the other side of the tracks' country kids. Once we had our school cloths changed, we hit the fields ripping and running. Me being the oldest, I was running the show. My brothers didn't have a choice. If I was going fishing, then you were going fishing. No one stayed at home because mom was home sleeping. She'd already worked one job and was home 'power napping' for her night-time job. Depending on what time of year it was and what fish were biting where we'd sometimes walk 2-4 miles to go fishing. I remember one thing for sure about 'time' ... even though mom was at her 2nd job she'd call home just before the street lights came on and I'd better have every one of my brothers fed, dishes done, and filed in an 'unruly' order to take their baths.

A couple of the winter months offered me the opportunity to trap. I ran a Muskrat 'trap line' and I checked that line twice a day every day. I had traps in every little ditch, creek and stream within a 2 mile radius. That meant that I HAD to be up and gone at least a couple hours before anyone else even woke up. Every once in awhile one of my brothers, generally Monty, would want to come along to help. Even though another person was a lot of help it also meant that I had to keep us focused and at a fast pace, in the ditches checking and pulling rats. We had to keep the jaw jacking and side tracks to a minimum because we HAD to make it home, changed into our school cloths and running to catch the bus ... OR ELSE.

To some of you this may seem like a bunch of work and wasted time, but it wasn't. These things taught me responsibility, accountability and how to manage and get the most out of my days. Our mom worked hard to keep the five of us boys fed and clothed for school. So, if I wanted a new fishing rod and reel, tackle, new traps or shotgun shells I had to figure out how to make it happen. Every Muskrat or wild animal that I caught I skinned it, stretched it and sold the fur to an old fur buyer as I needed the cash.

If a Mink or another predator got to my traps before I did, they'd gnaw at and sometimes steal what I'd caught. That meant that if I chose to be lazy and not check those traps twice a day I could lose the extra money from that fur. Heck, even some of the little 'country stores' would buy all of the meat of these animals as long as they were frozen. So the time and the effort that I invested always seemed to bring great rewards and meet my needs.

Pushing through those fields with the snow sometimes 2-3 feet deep, in 15-30 degrees weather, at 5 a.m. in the morning wasn't really comfortable or enjoyable. That was UNTIL we seen one of our box traps in the middle of the ditch with 2-3 rats in it. Or, we'd reach a trap just before the rat was able to chew his leg off and gotten away and maybe died somewhere in the bushes. Sounds gross to many of you I'm sure, but it met my needs. I took it on, I set the traps, so it was my responsibility to see that these animals weren't wasted. There were times that I wanted to do something different for a couple of days, so I'd pull my traps in the evening and not set them back until I was ready to commit to it again. Fast forwarding now ...

Today, as I look at the lives of our four grandsons I find myself recognizing and celebrating not only their differences but as well how, where and why they delegate their time to in a day. Our oldest, Frank, who's 19 years old, loves marine biology, fish and reptiles. He has always had a passion for cooking and has had a dream for many years to someday have his own buffet restaurant. Recently though we seen his 'time focus' headed in the direction of a relationship. Dylan, our second

oldest (14 years old) has been playing football for the past four years. After his school work, Dylan dedicates every single minute of his time either at football practice or in the gym. He even started on the wrestling team this last year because it keeps him disciplined and in preparation for football season. Our next grandson, Caleb (12 years old), at about 8 years old he really wanted to play soccer. So, he played soccer for a couple of seasons and as he developed his breathing and coordination he knew he then wanted to play basketball. Caleb is a huge SUNS fan. Until this year Caleb played in leagues. This year he started playing basketball on his school's team. After three weeks of training/practice, last night they played their first game and won 35 to 30. And now our littlest grandson, Anthony (9 years old) ... I always refer to him as 'my littlest grandson' not our youngest. For his first five years, I wondered if he was ever going to grow out of grandpa's arms. All of our grandsons are smart and get good grades, but Anthony has such a passion for reading. Some of the afternoons when I pick him up from school he gets in the car and says, "Grandpa, I want to read to you." Nearly every time we get in the car to go any distance across town he always takes books with him to read. Anthony loves to play football as well and in fact, at this point, has dreams to be a running back for the Dallas Cowboys.

Anthony also loves to draw. It was in our *Overcomers for Christ* meetings where there was a huge white board available that we started seeing him drawing pictures of Jesus fighting evil. Michelle and I have always encouraged all four of our grandsons to either color a picture or draw something up on your own and we will use it in the newsletter, and three of them have contributed. After Christmas he came to Michelle and said, "I want to start drawing a picture for the newsletter each month." Michelle expressed to him that if that's what he wants to do then he will have to have each issue done ahead of time because the newsletter is on a schedule. He agreed that he would.

You can see in the January 2018 issue of the newsletter that he drew his first one. He calls the article, *The Adventures of ULTRA TONY*. He says he's a hero child of Christ who teaches people about God. (Excuse me for a second everyone. Something just flew in my eye and it's causing my eye to leak.) The Bible tells us in **Proverbs 22:6** that when we, "**Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.**" Our responsibility as parents and grandparents is to get them into church at every opportunity. Keeping them connected with other likeminded kids increases and further strengthens their relationships with others and their relationship with God. Paul tells us in **1 Corinthians 15:33**, "**Don't be misled: Bad company corrupts good character.**" Watching our grandson's determination, perseverance and focus to their time management has made Michelle and I very proud grandparents.

I know that I have shared this word from God with my group of men in the county jails, but I'm not sure if I've shared it in the newsletter before. Either way it's on my heart and bears repeating.

One morning as I was waking up I felt the Holy Spirit saying to me, "TIME, TIME, TIME." So, as I was wiping and clearing my eyes I immediately began asking, "What about 'time' God? What are You trying to tell me?" Staying there in that atmosphere I began worshiping Him and thanking Him for His endless love to/for me. Then I heard this in my spirit, "Time is the one thing that you, in the natural, can never get back. In one respect it's sort of like money. Once you've wasted or spent that money the only things you have from it are monetary and will eventually fade away. However, if you've taken and invested that money into something wiser you'll eventually see a return for that investment." He said, "Each and every person on the face of the planet has exactly the same 24 hours in a day. NO ONE gets even a single second less or more than another. So, I want you to consider 'TIME' from My point of view, like a 'TIME SHARE'. If you take the 'time' that I give 'you' each and every day and 'you' invest it into the lives of others, at that point each one of you have just 'TIME SHARED', INVESTED that specific amount of TIME into each other's lives. Then you haven't just wasted the time or spent it selfishly in some form or another, you've invested it. I promise you that when you get on board with My 'Time Share' investment plan I WILL give it back to you in ways that money can and ways that money can NEVER buy!"

We can't be too concerned or do much about the time gone by, yesterday, or the time in tomorrow because it hasn't arrived yet. Our most perfect opportunity to share time is in the NOW, in the TODAY. Let's look at what the Bible has to say about 'today'. In fact let's start with what Jesus has to say about that topic 'today'. Jesus begins, in **Matthew 6:25-34**, leading into the topic with yet another very interesting and powerful topic about 'worry'.

As we look at **Matthew 6:25** (NIV) we see the first word is 'Therefore'. That means that we have to look back to the previous verses to keep things in context of what Jesus is teaching. In **Matthew 6:24**, this is what Jesus is saying. "*No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You CANNOT serve both God and money.*" Now I know that Jesus said, "*You CANNOT SERVE both God and money*", and I just said that we were going to keep this in context, and we are. I see the emphasis in the first teaching is 'money' and the following teaching is about 'worry'. So the most obvious and key word to me, that ties these two teachings together is 'SERVE'.

"Therefore I tell you, do not 'worry' about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than

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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

I would like to make a prayer request from you guys. See, my brother and I haven't talked to each other in quite some time and I really do miss him. When my mom died in 2015, he had his wife call my unit to let me know, but they wouldn't let the Chaplain have a phone number so that I could call them back. To this day I don't even know how my mother passed away and I would really like to know. I truly would love to reconnect with my little brother. I also miss all of my nieces and nephews and would really love to talk with them as well. Please join me in praying for reconciliation with my wife who I haven't heard from in 3 1/2 years. I really do miss her and I continue to pray that our Father return her to me in whatever state she may be in ... **R.G.**

My uncle went home in January. Please put him in your prayer requests. He's been in more than out since 1980. So, I want him to stay out for good ... in Jesus' name, Amen
E.G.

Hello and God bless you and the brothers and sisters of the House. I really want to apologize for taking so long with answering your letter. I've been struggling bad in here. I can't go to work because they only want special people and I ain't in that group. Please pray for me and guidance in order to keep me from doing something wrong. I am doing bad and I am tired of being without in here. I struggle daily to control myself in order to not beat someone up and take what I need. I really need someone to find pity and help me just a little bit and I will be fine. I got my time fixed so my new release date is January 2021. I can't wait to see my little girls and hold them in my arms. But it's going to take me some time in order to hopefully get them in my house again. But the Lord will bless me, I know it in my heart. Please pray for all the victims of all the shootings going on out in the world. Pray for our president so he may find knowledge and the strength to grow up and deal with our nation as a real leader that we need ... **J.M.**

Thank you so much for the birthday card! I am sorry I haven't written much, I got a lot going on here in Prisneyland ... LOL. Between work and college my time is going fast but limited to free time. I have a prayer request ... they found a tumor in my brain a while ago. The biopsy report confirmed the C word. It is stable at this time, yet I know God can eliminate it. Please pray for my three children, they are worried and for my beating this. I know that we have the greatest Healer that there is and He will listen to the prayers of His children. God bless you all, thank you for being my extended family ... **G.P.**

I would like to ask you to pray for me and my family that God restore us back together better than we was before. I also ask you to pray that the Father continue to do a work in me, and to make me a true man of God ... **R.G.**

Praise Reports

Praise, prayer and thank you!! Wow!! It's been a journey ONLY Jesus could and did get me through! I am being released in three weeks. Hallelujah - Praise be to God! Your newsletters and cards have been a staple for me that God has blessed me with through your consistent ministry. Thank you and my prayer is for God to continue to bless your ministry to reach those who are desperately and simply in need of your continued outreach ministry. God bless you all ... Jesus is awesome ... **C.B.**

Blessings to you and all of the *Overcomers for Christ*. I pray all your holidays were blessed. An update, my brother has now been clean and back in church for three months! Amen!! Thank you for all your prayers. My kids are alright and my mom finally got guardianship of them. Praise God ... **E.G.**

I am wanting to thank you so very much for the sign that God sent me through you guys. Before I explain, I want to let you know about me. I am a Chicano that is 38 years old and have been in the correctional system most of my life. I think I have been out for a year once in my life since I was 11 or 12 years old. I am doing a 6.5 year sentence right now and barely started it. I was always caught up in the mix and in politics. I'm doing this time cause of it, and there is not one of them helping me. I lost my Dad while in here and feel that I never got to say bye to him or any closure, so I got some pain in my heart. Just pray for my mother to hold on until I'm out. Tell you the truth, I wouldn't know what to do if I was to lose her. She is a strong Christian and I know God will keep her with me until this is over. She is a very strong lady. As I was saying, I was in all the mix and politics and got to a place seven months ago and was told to do something that I didn't do before all this. An OG came up when I was alone and said, "Hey, bro, you ever turned to the Lord?" I said, "I'm Aztec." He then said, "Look I've done it and it was good." I then told him, "At this place, they would get mad and feel some type of way." He said, "Oh!" But I thought hard and I mean very hard because there could be consequences and repercussions. But I thought hard, one night a guy came up to me to go and do that in the morning. So, I called the only people I have left, they said, "We want you home." I said, "I am going to change today. So, I went to sleep and woke up and did what I had to. I changed my life and gave God a chance and that was October 19, 2017, and the next day I got your publication and read it, and I said I am going to walk with Christ from now on. I gave all of it up, no matter what happens, I felt in my heart it was the right thing to do. On October 24, 2017, I read your whole publication and decided I want to live this life. I'm in the hole because I didn't do what they wanted me to do, but I feel I did the right choice for my family, I have left the politics. I leave any danger it brings in the Lord's hands and ask for His protection. I am going to live happily as an *Overcomers for Christ*, thank you all ... **J.S.**

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Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Uplifting Scriptures
By D.G.

Here is some Holy Scriptures to you all:

Judges 9:8-12

8 One day the trees went out to anoint a king for themselves. They said to the olive tree, 'Be our king.'
9 But the olive tree answered, 'Should I give up my oil, by which both gods and humans are honored, to hold sway over the trees?'
10 Next, the trees said to the fig tree, 'Come and be our king.'
11 But the fig tree replied, 'Should I give up my fruit, so good and sweet, to hold sway over the trees?'
12 Then the trees said to the vine, 'Come and be our king.'

Zechariah 1:1-3

1 In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo:
2 The Lord was very angry with your ancestors.
3 Therefore tell the people, this is what the Lord Almighty says, 'Return to me,' declares the Lord Almighty, 'and I will return to you,' says the Lord Almighty.

Matthew 10:24

"The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master."

Daniel 7:9-10

9 As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.
10 A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

Revelation 1:14

"The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire."

Hebrews 1

1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,
2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.
3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.
4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.
5 For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?
6 And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, He says, "Let all God's angels worship Him."
7 In speaking of the angels He says, "He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire."
8 But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. 9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."
10 He also says, "In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands.
11 They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment.
12 You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."
13 To which of the angels did God ever say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?
14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

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Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Hebrews 2

- 1 We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.
- 2 For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment,
- 3 how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.
- 4 God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.
- 5 It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking.
- 6 But there is a place where someone has testified, "What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?"
- 7 You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor
- 8 and put everything under their feet." In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them.
- 9 But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.
- 10 In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.
- 11 Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.
- 12 He says, "I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing your praises."
- 13 And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."
- 14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—
- 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.
- 16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants.
- 17 For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.
- 18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Psalms 35:1-6

- 1 Contend, Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me.
- 2 Take up shield and armor; arise and come to my aid.
- 3 Brandish spear and javelin against those who pursue me. Say to me, "I am your salvation."
- 4 May those who seek my life be disgraced and put to shame; may those who plot my ruin be turned back in dismay.
- 5 May they be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the Lord driving them away;
- 6 may their path be dark and slippery, with the angel of the Lord pursuing them.

Daniel 9:21

"While I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice."

Isaiah 10:12-14

- 12 When the Lord has finished all his work against Mount Zion and Jerusalem, he will say, "I will punish the king of Assyria for the willful pride of his heart and the haughty look in his eyes."
- 13 For he says, "By the strength of my hand I have done this, and by my wisdom, because I have understanding. I removed the boundaries of nations, I plundered their treasures; like a mighty one I subdued their kings.
- 14 As one reaches into a nest, so my hand reached for the wealth of the nations; as people gather abandoned eggs, so I gathered all the countries; not one flapped a wing, or opened its mouth to chirp."

May these Holy Bible Scriptures lift you all up like they did me. Praise the Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you all!!

Ezra 4:24-8:20

When we are doing God's work, others may try to delay, confuse, or frustrate us, but we can proceed confidently. God will accomplish His purposes in our world no matter who attempts to block them. Just as He did over the Jewish elders, He watches over you. Concentrate on God's purpose and don't be sidetracked by intrigues and slanders. **(5:3-5)**

God's will is supreme over all rulers, all historical events, and all hostile forces. He can deliver us in ways we can't imagine. If we trust in His power and love, no opposition can stop us. **(6:14)**

Ezra praised God for all that God had done for him and through him. Ezra has honored God throughout his life and God chose to honor him. Ezra could have assumed that his own greatness and charisma had won over the king and his princes, but he gave the credit to God. We, too, should be grateful to God for our successes and not think that we did it in our own power. **(7:27-28)**

God has gifted each of us with abilities, so we can make a contribution to His kingdom work. **(Romans 12:4-8)** Don't wait to be recruited, but look for opportunities to volunteer. Don't hinder God's work by holding back. God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of special gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you. **(1 Peter 4:10) (8:15)**

1 Corinthians 4:1-5:13

It is tempting to judge fellow Christians, evaluating whether or not they are good followers of Christ. But only God knows a person's heart, and He is the only one with the right to judge. Paul's warning to the Corinthians should also warn us. We are to confront those who are sinning **(5:12-13)** but we must not judge who is a better servant for Christ. When you judge someone, you invariably consider yourself better and that is arrogant. **(4:5)**

The Bible consistently tells us not to criticize people by gossiping or making rash judgments. At the same time, however, we are to judge and deal with sin that can hurt others. **(5:12)**

Psalms 29:1-30:12

The same power that raised Christ from the dead is available to help us with our daily problems. When you feel weak and limited, don't despair. Remember that God can give you strength. The same power that controls creation and raises the dead is available to you. **(29:10-11)**

Like a shot given by a doctor, the discomfort of God's anger lasts only a moment, but the good effects go on for a long time. Let God's anger be a sharp pain that turns you from sin. **(30:5)**

Proverbs 20:24-30

This royal act presents discipline as a merciful act to punish wickedness is entirely appropriate. When the wicked are sifted out and punished with the security that their crimes demand, all of society benefits. **(20:26)**

Each stage of life has its own advantages. The young have their youth and vigor; the aged have their wisdom. **(20:29)**



"Foot" Notes

Hello, again! As I was sitting here sharing thoughts with Wade, it hit me or maybe God hit me that I should share it with all of you.

Our faith in Jesus Christ, I believe is a constant evolution of ourselves from what was to what we desire to be. As you know this evolution comes with trials, so you could state that when it comes to our faith in Jesus Christ we dedicate ourselves daily ... some days hourly ... other days constantly. Food for thought ... Que no?

Love to ya'll short and tall ... Vaya on Dios!!

they? Can any one of you by 'worrying' add a single hour to your life? And why do you 'worry' about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not 'worry', saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not 'worry' about tomorrow, for tomorrow will 'worry' about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:25-34)

It's interesting, to me, that in these ten verses Jesus spoke six times about the word 'worry' and I believe it's to get us reigned into the 'Today'. Let's look here for a few minutes. Is it possible that 'worry' could also be one of those 'masters' that we are serving? Let's see. **"Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteous living."** (Romans 6:16) So yes it is possible that we could be giving 'worry' so much of our time that it has become another master. But Jesus just said that we cannot serve two masters, giving anything other than God that much of our time always derails our focus.

Some of these next issues we'll be addressing may seem a little harsh to some BUT if we're following Jesus and it was important enough for Jesus to walk through and God to put in His Word then it's important for ALL of us to get in our hearts as well. Please know this, anything and everything that I am led to write is generally a direct result of something I too have had to walk through in my own life. In the 'process' not all of it is comfortable for me either, but God does not call any of us to 'veg' and become complacent in some 'little bubble' comfort zone. He calls us to be front and center, to always be prepared and willing to grow in His Word in order that we might be a light into the hurting lives around us. As we make the conscious decision, wanting more of Him and less of 'self', He ... well let's listen what Jesus spoke about the 'process', in **John 15:1-2, 8**. **"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit ... My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples."** If we are always in a state of complacency, being pruned is NOT a comfortable place to be. However, when we bear up under His grooming it always gives place to growth and maturity. Again, as the 'process' IS A NECESSITY for growth there is no other way to obtain this spiritual growth than to undergo the pruning of 'self'.

I truly don't believe that many of us, that intentionally make the commitment to follow Jesus, have it settled in our hearts to become complacent after receiving our salvation. Although there are PLENTY of 'couch potato/arm chair' Christians, I for one WILL NEVER SETTLE for just enough! And I'm NOT knocking any one's walk with the Lord, but, as our enemy watches our every move, be assured that he is completely at ease while some of us slip into complacency. In **1 Peter 5:8** we're warned of this very thing, **"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."** The devil knows that complacency and an 'I've got this' mentality can sometimes become a sense of pride, and even before we recognize it we have slipped and slowly lose sight of the Cross and His love. In **Proverbs 16:18** we read that, **"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."** While most of us easily recognize one end of the stick of pride we never acknowledge that we're holding the other end. Here's the definition of haughty: proud, arrogant, vain, conceited, snobbish, superior, self-important, pompous, condescending and patronizing. In **Proverbs 8:12-13**, wisdom cries out and warns us, **"I, wisdom, dwell together with prudence; I possess knowledge and discretion. To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech."** When we continue on in **1 Peter 5:9** we see an antidote to the liar's toothless and harmless roaring, **"Resist him, standing firm in the faith,"** and watch as we continue the verse Peter encourages us, **"because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings."**

Yes, it's true, if you're pushing hard against the prince of darkness and taking back territory for the glory of the Lord, you DO have a target on your back. But SO WHAT!! Many of us have had targets on our heads for the worldly things we once were apart of! Don't ALLOW the liar to scare you and keep you out of the battle to rescue more souls for the glory of God! Our battle plan is NOT to retreat! We ARE OVERCOMERS! SO PRESS IN AND MOVE FORWARD!!! In **John 15:18-19** Jesus assures us, **"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you."** Jesus hung for us the least we could do is STAND for Him! AMEN!?

As I mentioned above, most of us recognize the opposite end of the stick we are NOT holding. Rarely letting loose of the other end, we fail to recognize we're gripping yet another kind of pride. Some of you may be wondering how this could be a pride issue? Let me use this Scripture to bring to light what I just said. **"Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."** (John 14:12) Did you hear what Jesus just said? When you read this are you someone that quickly resolves,

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"Well, that's Jesus. Of course He has done great things but I don't believe that I could do 'even greater works' than He has done." Jesus didn't say that you would be elevated higher than Him. NO! That's pride. When we say, "I could never do that" after Jesus has just assured us that we CAN we have instantly turned our focus on our own lack of incapability, SELF. The only prerequisite that Jesus mentioned above was to 'belief on/in Him' then *"greater works than these shall he do."* The way that we accomplish ANYTHING that's profitable to God is to surrender, submit and begin to serve. BELIEVING that it is Him in us that does these **"greater works"**, allowing Him to cut, prune and shape us into usable vessels brings glory to God the Father with the purpose of bearing much lasting fruit.

In a natural sense NONE of us could EVER do these things Jesus has done, WITHOUT HIS HELP! NONE of this is about us brothers and sisters! Jesus breaks it down, in **John 15:5** when He said, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING"* Again, in **John 15:16**, Jesus encourages us with, *"You did not choose Me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will remain—so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He will give you."* Jesus is the One that has called and chosen us. It's His anointed power that He is trying His best to get to flow THROUGH us. All He needs for us to do is to get to the end of OURSELVES! When we lose the 'I'm all of that' and the 'I could never do that' attitudes and believe in what He says He can do, He will do **THEN** and only **THEN**, will we begin to witness the supernatural flowing into the natural! God so deeply desires our partnership with Him so that He can work through ALL of us. Jesus tells us so right here in **Matthew 18:18-20** when He says, *"Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them BY MY FATHER who is in heaven. For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."*

About now some of you may be wondering what all of this has to do with the title of the message. EVERYTHING! The very first question I asked was, "What are YOU going to invest YOUR remaining days on this earth on/into?" Are you holding on to 'worry' as your master? Are you in 'doubt' or 'disbelief' that God can do what He says He can do, through you? Well, that's a selfish pride as well and it's TIME to put that up on the Cross with the rest of sin! LEAVE IT THERE!! YOU have to choose TODAY what YOU'RE going to allow to suck and waste the remaining TIME YOU have left here on this earth! As Pastor Jack Flash always says, "Surrender, Submit and Seek HIM!"

In **Matthew 13:4-8** Jesus tells the parable of the four soils. Then in **Matthew 13:19-23** Jesus explains the parable. And I'll close with this. Listen, *"The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message about the Kingdom and don't understand it. Then the evil one comes and snatches away the seed that was planted in their hearts. The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God's word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the 'worries' of this life and the lure of wealth, so no fruit is produced."* YOU have to make the choice; no one can make or do it for YOU! Chose to be like the seed that fell on good soil, in **Matthew 13:23**, *"The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!"*



Ultra Tony knows that God does not like lying. "Thou shall not lie" is one of the Ten Commandments. Ultra Tony defeats the Acid Monster who destroys all that he touches, just like lies destroy.

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." – Ephesians 4:29

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Overcomer's Testimonies

Hello Overcomers for Christ family! I know that it's been a minute since I last wrote you all but I knew I had to share this testimony with everyone out there, for the glory of God. It seems that my life has been a roller coaster lately and not always a fun one.

In October, I was sent to the hospital. I was at church service that day in a Bible study. We were in the **Book of Ephesians**, an amazing book by the way, when first my left arm went numb and then my whole left side went numb. I didn't want to leave or make a big deal of it because I wasn't done worshiping yet. Within a couple of minutes I couldn't talk good and a friend of mine knew I just didn't look right so she helped me outside. As soon as we got outside I fell to my knees. We have great caring officers here that helped me and kept me calm until the nurse came.

They rushed me to the hospital where they said that I had had a stroke and it was a good thing they got me there when they did! They wanted me to stay there at the hospital, but I didn't want to take their medication because in my heart I KNEW that my 'medication' was Jesus and I just needed my Bible to help me feel better.

I'm still working at getting my family back and I will have the opportunity for them to see what He is doing in my new life. Which by the way will be in 10 days! In one sense it scares me so much because this is where I found myself and I truly love who I now am. I know that I won't return to that 'ole person' but I'm asking you all for your prayers. See, parole doesn't want my husband and I to live together when I'm released. And even though I know we can't live together it is great just to know that he is still there for me. I'm getting out homeless and without anything, except Jesus.

I would appreciate it if you would place this 'Special Peace' in your newsletter.

"Hello Foot, first I would like to thank you for leading me to Christ. You don't know this but I want you to. I've been locked up here for going on six years now and I didn't always believe in God because of all the bad things that I've seen happening. I've been reading your newsletters most of this time. It was about four years ago that my heart was touched by something that you wrote. It was that message that made me want to believe not only in God, but believe in myself. You also helped me see how great a love Jesus has always had for me! Anyways, I love my newsletters and when I get them the first place I open it to is your page to see what message God has given you and see what's going on with you. I always keep you and this newsletter in my prayers. Thank you." - J.O.

Answer to Bible Logic Problem - Prophet Reunion

Prophet	Town	Age	Miracle
Mosus	Bethlehem	87	Fire maker
Elishin	Jerusalem	89	Darkness
Jannah	Nazareth	85	Heal sickness
Jezemiah	Jericho	86	Run fast
Neham	Damascus	88	Freeze water

Quote Worthy

"Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish."

- John Quincy Adams - (1767 - 1848) an American statesman who served as a diplomat, minister and ambassador to foreign nations, and treaty negotiator, United States Senator, U.S. Representative (Congressman) from Massachusetts, and the sixth President of the United States from 1825 to 1829.

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.

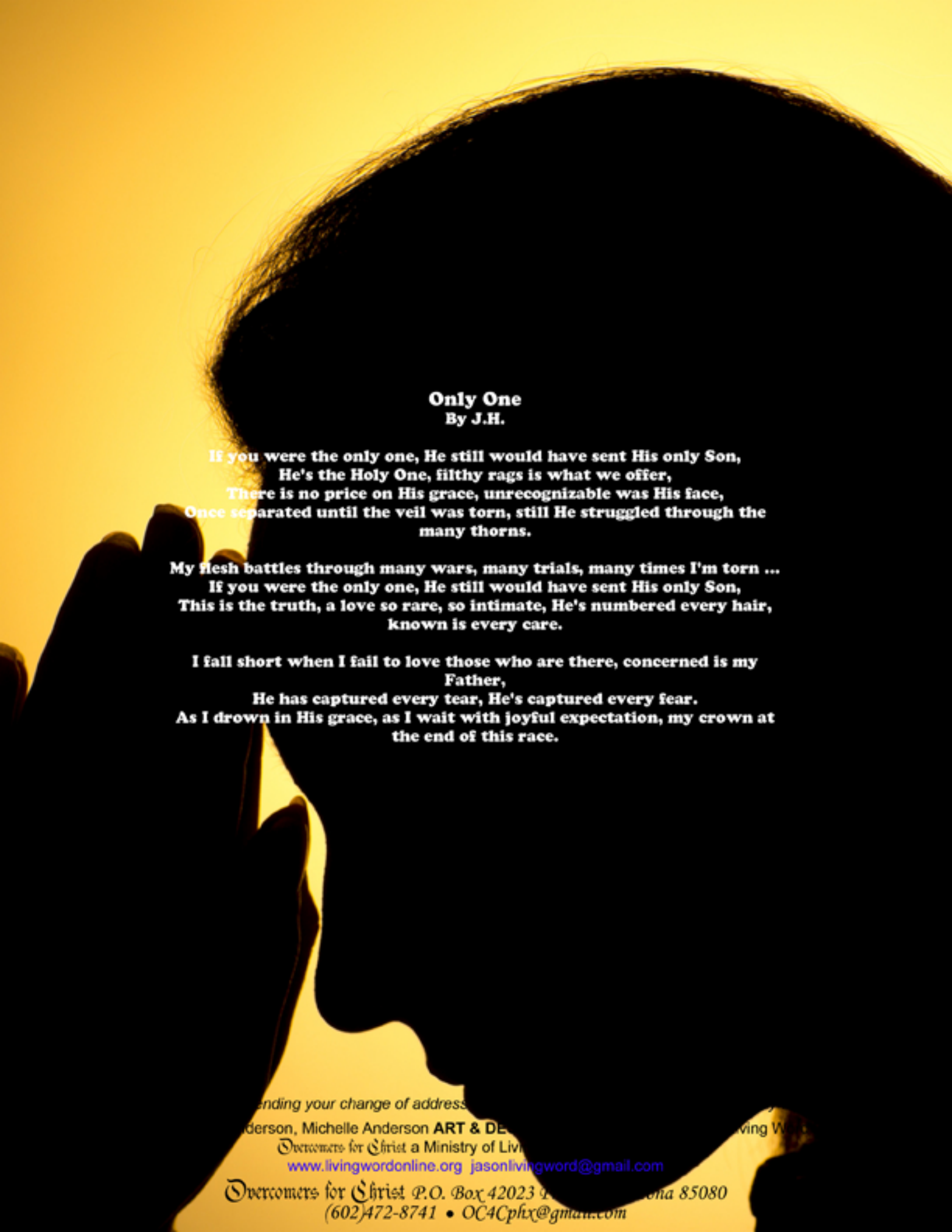
Here is how you can give to the Overcomers for Christ ministry:

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.

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Only One
By J.H.

**If you were the only one, He still would have sent His only Son,
He's the Holy One, filthy rags is what we offer,
There is no price on His grace, unrecognizable was His face,
Once separated until the veil was torn, still He struggled through the
many thorns.**

**My flesh battles through many wars, many trials, many times I'm torn ...
If you were the only one, He still would have sent His only Son,
This is the truth, a love so rare, so intimate, He's numbered every hair,
known is every care.**

**I fall short when I fail to love those who are there, concerned is my
Father,
He has captured every tear, He's captured every fear.
As I drown in His grace, as I wait with joyful expectation, my crown at
the end of this race.**

ending your change of address

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