

# Overcomers for Christ

*January 2024*

2024

A vibrant, multi-colored fiber optic light display, resembling a starburst or a large, colorful firework. The colors transition from yellow and orange at the top to blue and purple at the bottom. The year '2024' is overlaid in a large, stylized, outlined font, with the numbers filled with the same multi-colored light pattern as the background.

# Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

## October 2023



## Spiritual Warfare

By Art Lovato

***"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." (James 5:16)***

This is a lesson that was originally taught by my own pastor Tommy Hinojos. It is my personal belief that this lesson will revolutionize your prayer life and give your insight into the ability to pray in such a way that your prayers dispatch angels, as in **Daniel Chapter 10**. Let's begin with some scripture to establish some grounds.

In **Hebrews 4:13-14** we read, ***"And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession."*** The Lord sees all creation. Note that heavens is expressed in plural form.

### The Vision of Paradise

Now, in **2 Corinthians 12:1-3**, ***"It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows."*** Paul briefly touches on the Third Heaven. So obviously there are three heavens.

In Matthew Henry's Comments of **2 Corinthians 12:1-6**, he explains to us; "There can be no doubt the apostle speaks of himself. Whether heavenly things were brought down to him, while his body was in a trance, as in the case of ancient prophets; or whether his soul was dislodged from the body for a time, and taken up into heaven, or whether he was taken up, body and soul together, he knew not. We are not capable, nor is it fit we should yet know, the particulars of that glorious place and state. He did not attempt to publish to the world what he had heard there, but he set forth the doctrine of Christ. On that foundation the church is built, and on that we must build our faith and hope. And while this teaches us to enlarge our expectations of the glory that shall be revealed, it should render us contented with the usual methods of learning the truth and will of God."

As human beings, we have very little understanding of the spirit world. We cannot see, hear, or touch it. However, the Bible speaks of it, and we can gain insight into a world we cannot see by studying what God's Word tells us about it. Let's establish some grounds a little deeper yet. First of all, God is a Spirit. **John 4:24** reveals to us, ***"For God is Spirit, so those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth."*** He exists outside the bounds of time, space, and matter. His home is called heaven. Let's look now at **Isaiah 63:15**, ***"Lord, look down from heaven; look from your holy, glorious home, and see us."*** This is a distinct place, not to be confused with "the heavens," referring to the atmosphere, as referred to here, in **Genesis 1:1**, ***"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."*** or the "heavenly realms," which encompass all spirit beings. In God's heaven, He sits on a throne. Listen to **Matthew 23:22**, ***"And when you swear 'by heaven,' you are swearing by the throne of God and by God, who sits on the throne."*** Surrounded by adoring angels, ***"And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living beings. And they fell before the throne with their faces to the ground and worshiped God."*** (**Revelation 7:11**) Angels exist to serve God and minister to His saints. Listen, ***"Therefore, angels are only servants — spirits sent to care for people who will inherit salvation."*** (**Hebrews 1:14**) Angels also have the ability to appear as men when sent to deliver messages from God, ***"Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!"*** (**Hebrews 13:2**)

However, the dark side of the heavenly realms belongs to satan and his evil spirits. Remember, satan is not the counterpart to God. God has no challenger. Satan is a created being who has only the power God allows him to have for only as long as God allows it. Yet, for reasons known only to God, satan and his minions are allowed to wreak havoc upon the earth and the servants of God—if unchecked by spiritual warfare and the holy angels. Daniel 10 gives us the best glimpse into what happens in this world that we cannot see. In **Daniel 10:13**, ***"But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia."*** Here we see that an angel was dispatched by God to deliver a message to Daniel as he prayed, but the messenger was detained for three weeks by ***"the prince of Persia,"*** a demon. The angel later told Daniel that he had to have help from Michael, the archangel, in order to prevail and continue on the assignment God had given him.

This glimpse into the heavenly realms helps us understand a few things. First, we learn that there is fierce warfare taking place at all times. The truth is, satan and his demons are actively working to pervert the plans of God and destroy whatever they can. If a mighty angel on a mission from God could be detained by demonic forces, then demons must have great power. Second, God does not leave His children defenseless against this evil army. Let's read **2 Corinthians 10:4** together, ***"For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds."***

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**Ephesians 6:11-17** tells us to, **"Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."** Brothers and sisters, we NEED God's Armor! We NEED to stand firm against the temptations and schemes of the devil. In ourselves, we are no match for satan's devices. We need spiritual armor to fight spiritual battles. The third truth we can learn from the Daniel passage is that prayer gets God's attention and that His answer is on the way. There are forces unknown to us that may interfere with God's desire to aid us, and we must continue to persevere in prayer until the answer comes.

The heavenly realms are as real as the earthly realms. We will spend most of our lives living in the heavenly realms. In contrast, our earthly existence is only a "vapor that appears for a little while and is gone", as found here in **James 4:14**, **"Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."** Physical battles may seem intense, but the results are temporary. However, spiritual battles have eternal consequences. When we live our earthly lives in recognition of the unseen battles that rage all around us, we will be more careful about what we say and do. Let's read **Ephesians 5:15-16**, **"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."** We should be faithful to utilize our weapons of prayer and the Armor of God, knowing that the real battles are fought and won in the heavenly realms.

Now let's get down to the meat of the matter. According to the Scripture's we have seen "it happens" is referred to in the plural form. We have also seen, according to the Scripture, Paul, refers to a third heaven. According to theologians the first heaven is the atmosphere from the firmament, the earth, into the skies ending where outer space begins. NASA specifies this atmosphere, or first heaven is 62 miles from the Earth to space. Theologians believe the second heaven exists in what scientists refer to as outer space. Theologians go further in the belief that the third heaven, where God exists, as does his throne, is located somewhere far beyond outer space. I would take note that Paul did not find it noteworthy to expound upon these things because not all things are for us to know at this time. However, there is a very valuable teaching in this understanding and lesson. So, let's break off with clarity what are the three heavens and what they mean to us.

The realm of God, 3rd heaven, the realm of eternity, timeless. No beginning and no end. The realm of angels, 2nd heaven and the realm of everlasting, has a beginning but does not end. The celestial realm, heavenly places. This is where spiritual warfare takes place. This is where our spiritual gifts are. And the real of men, 1st heaven. This is where we live constricted to time.

So, at this time I want to expound upon the celestial realm. The celestial realm lies between the first heaven, or the realm of men, and the second heaven, or the realm of angels. It is in the celestial realm, also referred to in the Scripture's as heavenly places where spiritual warfare takes place. It is also here where our spiritual gifts lie. Let's look at some more Scripture's.

Again, **Ephesians 6:12** reads, **"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."** Now, **Ephesians 1:3**, **"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places."**

We MUST then understand how to tap into the celestial realm through prayer. **James 5:16** affirms, **"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."** Looking into **Daniel Chapter 10** is probably our clearest insight, biblically, on how prayer dispatches angels. When the archangel Michael came to Daniel, he said these words very specifically, from the moment you humbled yourself and you sought to understand the Lord heard your prayer. So then, was the Angel Michael dispatched to answer Daniel's prayer or to do warfare on his behalf in the celestial realm or in heavenly places where all spiritual warfare takes place? I had to ask myself this, "What could it mean to humble myself in prayer." We should be mindful of the Lord's prayer in this place. After we call upon the name of the Lord the next instruction was to praise or worship or honor God, this is what was referred to when the Lord taught us "hallowed be thy name". It is my personal belief that this is done in spirit and in truth, according to the Scripture, but it also refers to a posture or spiritual attitude or reverence in prayer.

Number one, we know that the Scripture says, in **Psalms 100:4**, **"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."** I have read of men such as AW Tozer and Arthur Pink

*continued on page 9 ...*

**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

Thank you for reaching out, it means so much to me that you and all **Overcomers for Christ** family have me in their prayers. My prayer request is that everyone please pray for my whole family. They have a very bad addiction to drugs and alcohol. I have one daughter that is the only one who is clean. My other daughter is on drugs with the rest. They all need prayer, especially my sober daughter Leticia. She is carrying so much on her plate. I thank you all, with all my heart. May our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all. - **C.S.**

I had a visit this past weekend with my family, my girlfriend, her sister, and my God daughter. It was a blessing. We are going through a healing process, and it hurts, but it is much needed to move forward. My girlfriend wanted some closure on my past actions. We have been together for at least 22 years. So, to move forward she asked, and I answered, and by the grace of our Father He is healing her heart. She has come to forgive me in order for us to move forward. I encouraged them to start going to the church my uncle and aunt attend. They have been there before, and I like the church. They grew up Catholic but by the grace of God they decided to raise their children in a Christian church. So please keep us in your prayers, that they not only believe but they start seeking a relationship with our Father. - **P.G.**

Please pray for my 97-year-old grandmother. She fell and fractured her femur in three places. She had surgery and is now in a rehab facility. I pray that her spirits stay up while she is recovering and that she has the best care while there. - **M.A.**

### PRAISE REPORTS

I appreciate you all and feel really blessed and honored to 'belong' ... because I don't ever remember so before. We are all children of the Most High God!! How perfect and beautiful is this. Our Father created and established everything as He made us, to fit in with Him, to be the inheritance with others – a worth more than any material item counts for. A value that no amount of cash or coins could ever buy, priceless. Right now, that's reassuring because not much else is anymore. There's one thing that stands. As a connected family, it doesn't matter what anything looks like on the outside or around us. What we can always be assured of is, God's will is always being done! - **J.L.**

I've recently noticed major changes in myself. For the brothers and sisters in the **Overcomers for Christ** family, new and old, this newsletter is what has kickstarted my new journey! My life had been very notorious to say the least. Since I was a teen, I had been committing crimes without a care in the world. Today, with credit to the whole **OC4C** family my life is so different. Today, I try to teach the new and young about Christ that crime never pays! Just the other day I was approached with whether I wanted to by some drugs. That was my opportunity to explain to them that those things are no longer a part of my life. After truly serving Jesus for two years now, in this time I've realized how I have grown and how God is the **REAL** reason why my life is so different. Thanks to the Lord and ALL of the brothers and sisters that share your messages in the newsletter. Thank You Jesus! Thank You Jesus! - **D.P.**

Every Sunday night I watch *The Chosen*, a very good Christian show. Every day I also watch Andrew Wommack and still do his Bible studies. I've recently started reading this **FREE** book called *Biblical Manhood* by Joel Hilliker. I received this book from Philadelphia Church of God, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK, 73083. They also have a **FREE** magazine/book when you ask for it. I want to thank you all again for your ministry. - **R.S.**

Praise Jesus! I am about to become a grandfather, again, with my sixth grandson coming this February. I Praise Jesus, as I am very excited for that day to come. - **P.C.**

I want to share this awesome praise report with the **OC4C** family! I have received answered prayers as my brother just celebrated one year clean and sober! My oldest son is now running his own sober living house AND my niece, Brittany, has just completed a 90-day program as well! The Lord has obviously been leading my family AND they are all going back to church. It touches my heart, and I am grateful to be able to share God's faithfulness with you! - **M.D.**



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# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

### Matthew 6:33 Years

By J.H.

I truly appreciate the Christmas Card, lets us continue to push the real person with no shame, and no hesitation. I bet a lot of people give their lives to Jesus during these times. Let us fight the good fight and shine our light on what really matters.

We truly have the secret of life, let us give it freely! The vaccine is being distributed; God blessed the scientist with the wisdom to bring this devastating illness to a stop. While a lot of pain happened. I really hope many people got to take a time out and put things in perspective. Let 2020-2023, **Matthew 6:33** years, let us seek first the Kingdom in everything we do, let us move with the kingdom on the tip of our tongue.

Let us tell everyone we meet that Jesus loves them and has a plan for their life, let us start the morning on our knees, and before we turn on the news or the phones, let us fellowship, let us study, let us "All" taste and be added. "All" to me is a deeper connection, a deeper understanding a more personal relationship with our Father, "All" means a deeper development of the fruits of the spirit, an ever-increasing development of love, joy, peace, self-control, faithfulness, patience, kindness and goodness, gentleness. Let 2020-2023 be Matthew 6:33 years.

Let us move with this mentality, this priority and then and truly then we can be that "city on a hill".

### Growing Up Is Hard

By J.L.

Hi brother Duck, you know, that's the first time I've ever called anyone brother before. As I began with your name, I also like the "tune" of how it feels to call someone, brother. I actually was adopted by my dad when I was a month old. I have four brothers too, but I never called them brother in the way I say it to you. It's a cool thing to be accepted and understood as we are, so, I'll definitely keep close and venture out to check out Living Word and wherever you all go to do your volunteer work. I know there's a gazillion churches out there, I guess where I best fit, with God's direction, determines where I'll get planted. Anyways, thanks for reaching out. I will write too, OK.

Yeah, so, I love you and Michelle, and the family God has given me with you all. I was very surprised, happy, and touched to see your message. Trying new things are a part of life and I know how the impact will be for people to receive emails, where they may be the only ones they get. I know I absolutely love the way my dad and I communicate, through handwritten letters. I like the old school way, and yet I guess I'm supposed to "get with the times", because everything's new technology out there. Thank You for putting me on your reach out list. It has been a minute since I've written, but I stay read up with my newsletters. I do lots of thinking while I'm here and when I'm released, which is in 2025, I will have me a little place and right away I'll go for a job, get into a church I feel part of to serve and love in, and volunteer for all the things that are positive.

That's nice that you WILL write a book and include US 'From the Inside'. I enjoy writing so much and have since I was a kid. I always wanted to write a children's book, telling them about Jesus. I procrastinated for many years, but a year ago, I went into the rec room all alone and decided to just start. There are nine fruits of the spirit, and so, I whipped out three chapters, on three occasions and I can say my part of the writing that particular book is finished. The spelling and grammar still need to be checked and edited. I chose nine children, who were given a Sunday school assignment by their teacher, to choose their favorite fruit to bring to class and choose a fruit of the Spirit that best describes their choice and an experience/story to go in front of the class to share.

It came out swell and the stories were real and true. So, my friend asked me to read it at church and all the girls told me they wanted one of the first copies. Your idea of a paperback book is great! Once they're done, I could give them as gifts for the inmate's children? If you could use my help, when I'm released, I could help you go through ALL your letters or whatever you may need. You, your wife and the OC&C family were there for me. I would love to just be placed in spots God sees for me, as His servant. I have lots to "walk" first, because to be trusted in much God has to be able to trust me with the little things of life. May Our Father continue to bless you all with His Peace. Thanks for the encouragement and good words!!

Making my relationship with Jesus as my center, I'd like to visit your church too and help give back and reach out however

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## From the Inside

you'll need me to help there. You all have impacted my life and forever I'll be thankful!!!! I believe **Jeremiah 29:11** but, getting the rest of the verses that go with it, **12-14**, is where I'm at. *"In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for Me wholeheartedly, you will find Me. I will be found by you," says the Lord. "I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land."*

I don't know if you remember me telling you this before but, long ago when I was incarcerated as a younger person, a woman named "T" introduced me to your newsletter and she spoke so highly of the effects of God working through you all. Since then, after serving her nine-year sentence, she passed away because of the effects of living with HIV since childhood. Then, upon my reentrance to prison in 2018, I was given a copy of the newsletter again. This was no accident, Duck. But God, is all I can say!!!!

Growing up is hard and yet, I'm at a place where I'm learning to trust God, learning to call out to Him first with as close to 100% of me as possible. I pray your ministry grows and that things continue to brighten up. Keep being you; your obedience and commitment to our Father, our brothers and our sisters surely shows. I feel privileged to be a part of it.

I'm a tutor for Rio Salado College and in our classes every day we do a quote of the day and word of the day ...here's a quote you all make true and with that I'll close for now, until next time!!!! "If you want to retain those who are present, always be loyal to those who are absent."

### Think Like God Thinks

By M.D.

**Proverbs 23:7** teaches us that we become what we think, and I have certainly learned this truth over the years! Indeed, "Where the mind goes, the man follows." One of the first principles believers must learn, if we intend to walk in victory, is that our minds **MUST BE** renewed according to the Word of God. We **MUST** learn to think like God!

Sadly, we believe many things that simply are not true. For example, some people believe they have no worth or value simply because other people have said they do not or have treated them in such a way that made them feel worthless and devalued. However, the Bible makes clear we are so valuable to God, that He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ to die and suffer in our place in order that 'we' might be redeemed from 'our' sins in order to have a relationship with Him. Let's read **John 3:16-17** together, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."*

As we begin to learn to think as God thinks, we exchange depression and hopelessness for joyful expectation. We believe God has a wonderful future planned for us, no matter what our past looked like, so we believe God wants to bless us!

When we have negative thoughts, we end up with negative results. But positive thoughts open the door for God to work in our lives. If we think we are unable to do certain things, we will be rendered unable – even though God's Word says we can do anything God asks of us, because of His ability in us. Paul, in **Philippians 4:13** tells us, *"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."* YES! Our thoughts are that powerful!

If we really want our lives to change, we must first change our way of thinking. In **Romans 12:2**, again the Apostle Paul tells us, *"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."* When we are NOT conformed to the world and its ways, with our minds and attitudes completely renewed, THEN we are able to prove for ourselves the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God! In other words, God has good plans for us, but we cannot experience them if we are clinging to those old ways of thinking.

It's vital that we cast off wrong thinking and replace it with godly thinking. Our mind is the battlefield in which our war with satan is either won or lost. It's time we instead, make our minds available for God's ideas. That's when we'll begin to enjoy a life worth living and have the testimony of bearing good and lasting fruit for God's glory!

# Foot's Bible Study

## **Ezekiel 45:1-Daniel 2:23**

The Passover was an annual seven - day festival instituted by God so that His people would remember when He brought them out of slavery in Egypt. On the first Passover night, the destroyer passed over the homes marked by the lamb's blood, he struck only the unmarked homes. **(Ezekiel 45:21) Read Exodus 11-12**

Ezekiel continued to describe various aspects of daily worship. While allowing for diversity in worship, God prescribed order and continuity. This continuity gave a healthy rhythm to the spiritual life of his people. **(Ezekiel 46:1-15)**

It is easier to resist temptation if you have thought through your convictions before the temptation arises. Daniel and his friends made their decision to be faithful to the laws of God before they were faced with the king's delicacies, so they did not hesitate to stick with their convictions. We will get into trouble if we have not previously decided where to draw the line. Before such situations arise, decide on your commitments and what you will do. Then when temptation comes, you will be ready to say no. **(Daniel 1:8)**

If you know that you still have much to learn in life and if you have ever wished that you knew more about how to deal with people, then look to God for wisdom. While educational institutions provide diplomas at great expense, God's wisdom is free to all who ask. **(Daniel 2:21) James 1:5** says, **"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."**

## **1 Peter 2:1-4:5**

Rather than fear our enemies, we are to quietly trust in God as the Lord of all. We must believe that Christ is truly in control of all events. When He rules our thoughts and emotions, we cannot be shaken by anything our enemies may do. **(3:14-15)**

## **Psalms 119:65-80**

The psalmist regularly affirms his delight with the law. This is not the delight of a passive observer, but the delight of a disciple who has staked his life and security on a cause of principle. The psalmist maintains this type of complete commitment to the law, which he consistently values over material wealth. **(119:20-72)**

## **Proverbs 28:14**

Happy is the man is the beatitude about the person who is in awe of God. **Psalm 1:1** says, **"Blessed is the man, who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful."** The person who never thinks of God faces calamity. **(28:14)**

## **“Foot” Notes**

Hey family ... a little about answered prayers. A Christian brother in here is coming to the end of his season here and has been praying for God to show him his next move. Last night, P.G. comes to get me and is asking about Living Word Bible Church and what my pastor's name was. His aunt and uncle just changed churches out there and started at Living Word in Mesa. His aunt ends up having a conversation with our pastor, Wade Anderson, who tells her about **DEAC** and some transition place. He's blown away that God answered his prayer with people he knows of, as he is one of the brothers who I've been friends with for years and prayed over me when I had my massive heart attack back in April.

Never doubt that God does not hear your prayers. What's cooler-N-that is that in answering PG's prayer He also shed light on the questions of others right here on our yard.

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



who did tremendous works in the name of the Lord in their lives. It was said that they would go prostrate on their face before the Lord in worship, praise, and adoration for up to an hour before they even began to pray. So according to the Scripture I would parallel this to the posture Daniel took when he humbled himself before the Lord.

Secondly, I would look at the statement made by Michael the archangel, again in **Daniel chapter 10:12**, where he said, **"and you sought to understand."** I asked the Lord, "What do you mean? Sought to understand?" I believe the Lord said this thing; 'Many times in life your prayer does not line up with the will of God. You have no desire, often, to truly know the will of God nor do you seek to understand, and in this your prayers have become selfish. It's as if you were asking God, in prayer; "Oh Lord may my will be done!" This is not prayer; this is not in spirit or in truth! This is not the type of prayer that dispatches angels! This is the type of prayer that goes up and goes out and simply falls to the ground. These are the type of prayers **James 4:3** is referring to, **"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."**

Now, for more reference, let's take a closer look as we read the whole text, in context, found in Daniel chapter 10 (Amplified). Ready?

**"In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, who was named Belteshazzar; and the message was true and it referred to great conflict (warfare, misery). And he understood the message and had an understanding of the vision. In those days I, Daniel, had been mourning for three entire weeks. I ate no tasty food, nor did any meat or wine enter my mouth; and I did not anoint (refresh, groom) myself at all for the full three weeks. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was on the bank of the great river Hiddekel [which is the Tigris], I raised my eyes and looked, and behold, there was a certain man dressed in linen, whose loins were girded with [a belt of] pure gold of Uphaz. His body also was like beryl [with a golden luster], his face had the appearance of lightning, his eyes were like flaming torches, his arms and his feet like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words was like the noise of a multitude [of people or the roaring of the sea]. And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision [of this heavenly being], for the men who were with me did not see the vision; nevertheless, a great panic overwhelmed them, so they ran away to hide themselves. So I was left alone and saw this great vision; yet no strength was left in me, for my normal appearance turned to a deathly pale, and I grew weak and faint [with fright]. Then I heard the sound of his words; and when I heard the sound of his words, I fell on my face in a deep sleep, with my face toward the ground.**

**Then behold, a hand touched me and set me unsteadily on my hands and knees. So he said to me, 'O Daniel, you highly regarded and greatly beloved man, understand the words that I am about to say to you and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.' And while he was saying this word to me, I stood up trembling. Then he said to me, 'Do not be afraid, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart on understanding this and on humbling yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was standing in opposition to me for twenty-one days. Then, behold, Michael, one of the chief [of the celestial] princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision is in regard to the days yet to come.'**

**When he had spoken to me according to these words, I turned my face toward the ground and was speechless. And behold, one who resembled the sons of men touched my lips. Then I opened my mouth and spoke and said to him who was standing before me, 'O my lord, because of the vision anguish has come upon me, and I have retained no strength. For how can such a [weakened] servant of my lord talk with such [a being] as my lord? For now there remains no strength in me, nor has any breath been left in me.'**

**Then the one (Gabriel) whose appearance was like that of a man touched me again, and he strengthened me. He said, 'O man, highly regarded and greatly beloved, do not be afraid. Peace be to you; take courage and be strong.' Now when he had spoken to me, I was strengthened and said, 'Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.' Then he said, 'Do you understand [fully] why I came to you? Now I shall return to fight against the [hostile] prince of Persia; and when I have gone, behold, the prince of Greece is about to come. But I (Gabriel) will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. There is no one who stands firmly with me and strengthens himself against these [hostile spirit forces] except Michael, your prince [the guardian of your nation].'**

I have to ask myself what is it that Daniel prayed? I believe that God would have us to understand that Daniel's prayers were in alignment with the will of God, that Daniel came before God in a posture of humility honoring God and again, he prayed the will of God. How can we know this? Knowing that Daniel was part of the captivity into Babylon. Daniel, being one of those people who were taken captive in the Babylon, he was surely familiar with the prophecy of the Lord given to the prophet Jeremiah, in **Jeremiah 29:10**, **"For thus says the Lord, 'When seventy years [of exile] have been completed for Babylon, I will visit (inspect) you and keep My good promise to you, to bring you back to this place.'"**

Jeremiah's prophecy stated that the Lord would take of His people taken captive to Babylon for a period of 70 years! It is my personal belief that the prophetic word, whether spoken through a man of God, revealed under the anointed preaching of the word of God or written in His Holy Word, expresses without ambiguity the will of God! So, I'm certain that Daniel had to be crying out; "Lord You said we would be here for 70 years. The 70 years have passed, why are we still here? Lord take us home to the promised land where we belong." Prayers that are in alignment with the Word of God, which is the will of God, THEN those prayers will dispatch angels to do battle in heavenly places on our behalf! How do we tap into these realms? I would answer like this; from the moment you seek to humble yourself and seek to understand, God will hear your prayer. This has revolutionized my prayer life and I pray it will be helpful for many of you that will be reading this. In Jesus name amen. Love in Christ, Brother Huero

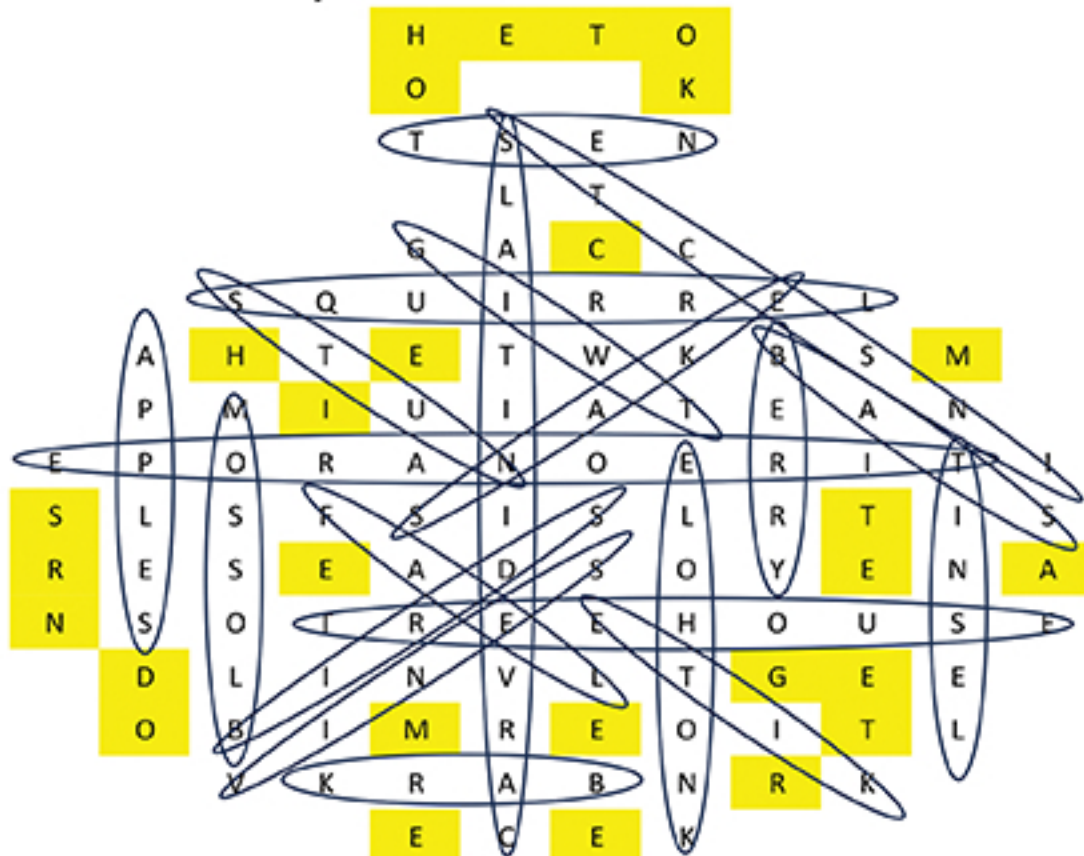
## Overcomer's Testimonies

Duck! Man, I'm so excited to see you wrote, I'm genuinely happy! As I sit here in my room I have great appreciation, and God in my heart. Thank you so very much for writing to me. I know you are a busy man. And you do lots for the community and fellowship with all of us incarcerated. So again, thank you.

As for my story, I tried to take my life twice over addiction both times, and as you also mentioned in your email, I also had enough substances in me to kill a herd of elephants. The 3rd time I attempted to take my life, I prayed before and said, 'If You are real and You love me, get me out of here. Please put me someplace I can kick this stuff and change. I'm not good here. I'm not happy here.' I asked God to take me out of that current situation. Shortly after that prayer I was in handcuffs, saved not simply arrested. However, I didn't realize I would be serving an 18-year bid. I've learned so much on this journey, although unpleasant sometimes to say the least I've grown immensely and now follow God's path not my own! I have a beautiful wife and 2 daughters, and my wife is doing this time with me.

But now I have you to add to my friend list and one day will most definitely go donate sometime to your organization in return for reaching out to a Christian brother in need of direction. Although I follow God's path, the directions aren't always clear. Honestly though, most of the time His way is pretty obvious. Thank you for taking the time to reach out! God Bless you, be well! Your new brother in Christ. - A.H.

### Up A Tree Word Search Solution



He took chemistree and geometree

# WORD OF THE MONTH

Pomaceous

Pronunciation - pō- mā-shēs

Adjective - 1: of or relating to apples; 2: resembling an apple or pear

"The pomaceous aroma of apple pies baking in the oven made the family look forward to dessert after dinner."

*Did You Know ...* Pomaceous was planted in the English language during the early 18th century. Physician Edward Baynard in 1706, advised, "Apples and pomaceous juices are the greatest pectorals." Pectoral is now a rarely used word for a food that helps digestion. Since then, pomaceous has mainly been sown by botanists and poets. The word, which is ultimately derived from Late Latin pomum, meaning apple, was originally used of apples and things related to apples, but later it was also applied to things that look like pears. Pears, like apples, belong to the pome family.

## Quote Worthy

"If you wish success in life, make perseverance your bosom friend, experience your wise counselor, caution your elder brother and hope your guardian genius."

- Joseph Addison (1672 – 1719) an English essayist, poet, playwright, and politician

## Christian Comedy

So, this drunk guy stumbles into a female biker bar. The bouncer is 6' tall and very muscular. The drunk says, "You're a big one," as he strolls past her. He asks the bartender for a drink. As she is giving him a drink he asks if she wanted to hear a blonde joke. She looks at him and says, "I'm blonde, my girlfriend is blonde, the girl next to you is special forces and she's blonde. The girl on the other side of you is blonde and she's an MMA fighter. The bouncer you walked by is a body builder and she's blonde. So let me ask you, are you sure you want to tell a blonde joke in here?" The drunk says, "Well, not if I have to explain it to everyone in here!" Hahaha!

ATTENTION

ATTENTION

Editor's Note

ATTENTION

ATTENTION

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!

## Living Word Bible Church Locations

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Scottsdale - 8551 E. Anderson Dr. #105 Scottsdale, AZ 85255    Gilbert - 202 S. Gilbert Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85296  
Phoenix - 3525 W. Lewis Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85009    Español Mesa - 3520 E. Brown Rd., Mesa, AZ 85213


## 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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**Life's Road**  
By W.R.

When you travel life's road  
And it seems all up hill  
Then look to faith  
For your strength and will

And if the burden becomes too heavy  
And you stumble along the road  
Then look to faith  
To lighten your load

And if you should see my brother  
Stumbling along one day  
Then reach out your hand  
And show him the way!

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

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