

Overcome for Christ

January 2020



2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR!





# Glory Meeting of the Overcomers

February 2019





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## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

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### From My Heart to You All, BE AWARE!

By Wade Anderson

Over the past few months, and this is not only in my own life but MANY of yours as well, I've watched MANY brothers and sisters in the Lord leave this world as we know it. Some of our loved ones have run their race, with Jesus at the center, and finished strong to NOW stand in the presence of our LORD and Savior. That's a great thing! In fact a few months ago I shared with you all a vision that the Lord shared with me concerning the party that IS going on in heaven when even one of us steps into His glory. And again I will testify, by the vision I was shown, **THAT'S AN AMAZING SIGHT TO SEE!** Before we go on ...

Let's pray; *"Lord Jesus we thank You for Your great and precious promises. We thank You Sir that Your Word is truth AND You ARE faithful to Your Word. Father I thank You that it's not only in my times of troubles, deep concerns or cares that I am able to come close to You for Your Help and guidance, but also I bask in Your Goodness at all times. My prayer for ALL of Your people is that we all listen carefully to You in ALL circumstances, obey even as painfully as it may seem and follow You. You ARE a Good, Good God and You want nothing more than to have 'us' walk in the fullness of every one of Your great and precious promises that You offer. And Holy Spirit, I believe that You will convey these words written here today into the hearts of God's people. That they truly reflect on their ways and their calling and NOT half step the little time we ALL have here. Again, it's Your Word that is truth and I pray the love in which I am sending this message WILL be received, with love. I believe these things to be truth, in Jesus name. AMEN."*

God will always reveal truth to us individually, that's a fact. But when we share with one another what He has imparted to us it helps strengthen our belief system (faith) and understanding, believe that. **WE NEED EACH OTHER!** I see it like this. When ANY of us receives a message from God, through inspiration of Holy Spirit, that's the vertical part of the cross. When 'we' take that vertical message and share it with others, as I continually encourage us all to do through this newsletter, that is the horizontal part of the cross. In spite of what many of us believe a relationship with God is, it is NOT "It's all up to Him, que sera sera," where we have no input! I won't get into it right now but MANY people have a worldly understanding of 'Omnipotent and Omnipresence' and instead of 'doing something' they're always 'waiting on the Lord'.

Listen to James, from the Message translation, as he explains, ***"Dear friends, do you think you'll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? ... Isn't it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense. I can already hear one of you agreeing by saying, "Sounds good. You take care of the faith department, I'll handle the works department." Not so fast. You can no more show me your works apart from your faith than I can show you my faith apart from my works. Faith and works, works and faith, fit together hand in glove. Do I hear you professing to believe in the One and only God, but then observe you complacently sitting back as if you had done something wonderful? That's just great. Demons do that, but what good does it do them? Use your heads! Do you suppose for a minute that you can cut faith and works in two and not end up with a corpse on your hands?"*** (James 2:14, 17-20)

Those Scriptures alone should give us all A LOT to think about. It's a partnership that God is seeking to have with us and through us. When we do our part that indicates to Him that we believe the work Jesus did here, and on the Cross, is final. All we need to accomplish our assignments here on earth is to share His Word with others (**Matthew 28:18-20**). That completes the vertical and the horizontal message. God speaks to us all in a way that He knows we will hear. And as we take that, in the understanding that we have and share it with others ... well, it's up to Holy Spirit to take that heart touched interpretation and bring revelation truth to the person hearing or reading it. Again, from the revelation truth that I've learned and received from Dr. Tom Anderson, my spiritual father, "We are not responsible 'for' what people do with the message. We are only responsible 'to' them, to share what He has given us!"

Let me add this before we move on. It wasn't 'our' faith that saved us alone. It was Jesus' faith in Father God's decision to send Him to the Cross that 'WE' might receive Him and follow His direction! Yes, 'we' do have to believe but it was His faith that we first witnessed through Holy Spirit touching our hearts. I know for myself, when I heard Holy Spirit I did believe. But honestly I had very little understanding other than that at that point. And I most certainly couldn't even fathom I'd ever believe ALL that I believe today! Somebody say, "It's a process."

When God came to me with direction for this ministry I was confused, to say the least. I even thought to myself, "Why am I feeling like this? This voice that I'm experiencing, could it really be God? There really is a God?? So if it really is You God, what do You want from or with me?" This is what I now believe: The fact that we even wonder if we're hearing God is a great indication that He is drawing us to Him to believe. Kind of like, "Maybe God is real and maybe He 'will' use me." I'm

telling you all first hand that God will take your 'maybe' and turn it into an amazing miracle working ministry, for His glory! Not all of us are called to do a prison ministry, or pastor a church, or go to Africa on the mission field. BUT we are all called! Perhaps God is calling you to be the best mother or father to your children. Maybe He is calling you to work with other people's children, showing them the way until their own parents pull it together. Whatever your 'maybe' might be, with God in the middle, you WILL accomplish great things for the Kingdom of Heaven. With that we will move on and I will begin.

The issue that's heavy on my heart is this. And I'm going to get right to the point, without any sugar coating, because life and death ARE at stake! Even when I was in the world I observed MANY people that I thought of as 'close to me' die and not only in drug addictions but in some HORRIFIC situations where drugs were involved. And many, many of them died way before they even experienced LIFE! It did hurt me then, and a lot. Not truly knowing how to deal with these issues the liar invited me and coaxed me deeper and DEEPER into his lies to bury my emotions in even more drugs. I KNOW THAT LOTS OF YOU READING THIS HAVE BEEN OR ARE IN EXACTLY THE SAME LIES!! At one point I began tattooing MOST their names in 'bricks of a wall of remembrance' on my upper left arm thinking, "that way they would always be with me". But I too, like them, was headed in a similar direction with little or no clue of what I was throwing away. "Running hard and living my own life! Opportunity is in the fast lane!" What lie's from the pits of hell! And if this defines ANY of you reading these words, I believe it's your heart that Holy Spirit will bring REAL revelation of repentance to.

Since this re direction of life these past thirteen years I've watched so many people be released from prison, be on fire for the Lord, and slowly find themselves right back in 'the scene' and catching another even longer prison sentence or DEAD! The devil is such a liar! After being on this side of his lies for this long it gets harder and harder for me to understand WHY so many people THINK they have to go back to taste it one more time. In this, I am NOT saying when someone who hasn't tasted the love of God is having a hard time finding their way out of it, I don't understand that. I DO UNDERSTAND THAT! The WHY that's unsettling to me are the people that HAVE tasted and experienced the goodness of God and yet keep believing the lies of, "I wonder if it's changed? Just a little shot and I'm done." Friends, those are straight up deceptions, lies and traps! You know it and I know it! The dope is so full of fentanyl and who even knows what all else! For those of you that may still be interested, the dope, not only out here but you all know it first hand in there as well, is KILLING people left and right!

People everywhere are handing over their existence here on earth to the enemy over a stupid shot of drugs! PLEASE believe me, I'm NOT judging anyone, I did the same stuff for 37 years! I DO know the traps and how deep they became inside of me! That's exactly why this is so heavy on my heart. I know there's some religious folks reading this next sentence that may throw rocks and curse me for this and I really hate saying it BUT, "If you have sincerely given your life to Jesus at one point and you die from an overdose I DO believe you will still end up in heaven." BUT WHY CHOOSE TO ENTER HEAVEN IN THAT MANNER?? I'm NOT 100% convinced that God would be standing at the Gates when that person arrives with a "Well done My good and faithful servant". But again, those are my beliefs and opinions. GOD HAS PLANS FOR YOU!! Plans for a long and prosperous life. A life with bus loads of people for you to witness to! Selfishly, YOU will be walking streets of gold. The selfish part is, "But what about the ones that won't be there with you because YOU left your assignment too early and didn't witness to them OVER A SHOT OF DOPE!!"

This is probably NOT what you thought you were going to be reading after that introduction. But guess what? It's the message that has GOT TO BE SHARED! You people getting close to the gate, planning to get in the wrong car with drugs and alcohol from jump street ... are you willing to ante up to the consequences? Maybe you think because you know 'your' people and they have the 'good stuff', they wouldn't do me like that. But guess what? You're right, it's not 'your' people trying to take you out. It's the enemy of God, satan himself! The devil knows that if he can get you to take a bite of that lie then you take yourself out, and he doesn't have to be concerned with you leading anyone else to the Lord. Don't you get it brothers and sisters?! The liars game is not personal to you, he HATES God's plan! But because we've heard our grandparents, grandparents saying this we sometimes believe that God is slow in His promises and the enemy has many of us believing that we've got all the time in the world to get it right. The liar, satan, will stop at NOTHING to pick off Jesus loving Christian family, one at a time. Listen here to **2 Peter 3:9**, "**The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise, as some people think. No, He is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.**" Repentance, that's the key here. Turning from those old ways of thinking and living and following 100% the Lord's direction, to the best of our ability, with His help.

Look here at **1 Peter 5:8** for a second, "**Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.**" How then should we believers live, believing in a real devil: a spiritual enemy with an agenda to bring harm to Christians? YES! Peter's answer to that question is the beginning of this verse: Be sober-minded. Be alert. It's the third time in this letter Peter has urged his readers to be clear minded (**1 Peter 1:13; 1 Peter 4:7**). It matters that we are paying attention, with serious minds, to what's going on in our lives and in the world

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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

Just a quick note to bring you up to date on things with me and to ask for your prayers. I was taken to the hospital for an appointment with a kidney specialist. The appointment was a result of my numbers being down for the last two blood tests. The doctor told me I had stage 3 kidney disease. She also said my kidneys were operating at 47% deficiency (Editor note: On the other hand that's 53% efficient). In addition, my numbers on prostate were up. She said I did not have diabetes, but with these other situations, I need to be careful with sugar. I guess they go hand in hand. I have no idea what if any treatment I will get. She did say she wanted to help me stay out of stage 4. There are five stages. She said I was in the middle. The Lord has given me peace. One of my close friends in the pod laid hands on me and prayed for my healing. Also at Bible study, a group did the same. I am totally in His hands and I am at peace with that. Praise His name! I want His perfect will in my life. I will keep you up to date on things, I feel fine now ...

**J.M.**

I thank you for the card you sent. I look forward to getting these cards. I haven't heard from my family on the outside. The last time, I heard from my cousin and aunt was in January 2019, right before my birthday. One of my cousins called and told me one of my aunts passed away, that really got to me. The aunt that passed away was the one that raised me. Red Rock was good, I really loved going to church in the visitation room when you all went there. I got a NKJV study Bible and a KJV Bible with my name on it. I pray to our Lord every day. I read my Bible but there's some words that I don't understand. I don't want to be in here anymore and I don't want to come back here. When I was out there I was really lost, I didn't know what to do. I would like it if you all could pray for my little ones and their mother. I don't know where she is at or what she is doing. I just hope she is safe. She hasn't gone to see our children. DCS took my children from her last year, she depended on me to be there. It's been tough on her, when I first came down. I want to make it better by staying sober and drug free ...

**N.R.**

Please keep praying for my brother, Juan ...

**E.G.**

**Matthew 18:19** - *"I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, My Father in heaven will do it for you."* Lord God, we ask in the name of Jesus for the Good News of Jesus to spread rapidly and for revival in the prisons. For Gayle, Mark and Gregg's hearts to be strengthened and they will be made whole spirit, soul and body. For George and other believers in Christ in prison shall receive relief in the courts with Senate Bill 1393, and with people in authority in Jesus' name. Peace in Jerusalem in Jesus' name ...

**G.M.L.**

We have one request, this very old man has been here in prison (53 straight years), he was taken for chemo treatments.

We are praying for him, we love him ...

**R.V.**

## Praise Reports

I've got one year to go to the gate. It's almost surreal, time goes by just as fast in here as it does out there. God has been good to me. I started teaching the inmates sign language two times a week. I applied for a nine month Christian re-entry program. I got a new, great job. Plus two other volunteer jobs. I'm so blessed ...

**V.H.**

I loved the card and it's message. Thank you and all the brothers and sisters at **DS&C**. I hope to have snow in heaven. As we celebrate our Lord's birth, know that I'll be thinking about you and why Jesus was born into this world. What a gift to us, especially me who didn't deserve anything and surely not mercy ...

**W.R.**

They put me back in GED, which was an answered prayer, and my mother is out of the hospital and sounds better. She has dialysis three times a week though. Also, my sister got sober from opioids; prayer is powerful. Thanks to all of you, I love you all ...

**R.W.**

Thank you for all of the prayers for my brother, Juan. He is doing really well. He is the brother that I asked you all to pray for. He is the one with liver cancer. He is doing really well. Thank you all so very much for your prayers. God bless you all and be safe for the New Year ...

**E.G.**

Thanks for the prayers. I have that bus ticket for Jacksonville, Florida. So, I can be close to my family. Good looking out ... Amen, Praise the Lord!! **3 John 2** says, *"Dear friend, I hope all is well with you and that you are as healthy in body as you are strong in spirit."* ...

**R.N.**

I'm sorry that it's taken so long to respond to you. I've been working nights here in the bakery. I'm on the 2nd shift which is 2:00am to 10:00am. It's really hard work for only 40 cents an hour. The sucky part is that I only see half of that because they take 51% for my gate fees and restitution. I like it though because for 8 hours a night it's like I'm not even in prison. The Lord has blessed me with that much and I'm thankful ...

**D.T.**

Praise God!! We thank you for all that you have done for so many who are hungry for Christ and who are searching for answers in the Word with the help of your newsletters. We are all in. My wife visited this weekend, hugs, kisses, prayers, the Word, and sharing testimonies of our friends ... God is so good to all of us! I thank you for the October 2019 issue, I was approached by a few brothers here asking about your ministry since my face and my beautiful wife's face was on the cover along with the beautiful members from the ministry. I was honored to witness to these men about your God given, God inspired ministry. All glory to God...

**R.V.**

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# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

### God IS with You in the Wilderness

By D.R.

I am sorry to say that it's been a long time since I've written to you, six years to be exact. All those years ago, I lost my family and the woman I was to marry to a year prison sentence. My life was at an all time low, and I didn't know how I was going to make it. I was praying and reading my Bible, but God did not take away the pain. I saw your publication and a quote was in the back, "Sometimes people can stay in your heart, but not in your life." It hit me hard! So, I wrote your ministry, you not only wrote to me, but you prayed for me. You also published my prayers, which I still have in my photo album today. Those prayers changed my life! They set my feet on solid ground, and gave me hope and a sense of direction.

I ended up being put in the first faith-based program for serious offenders in the state. I also became a chapel orderly. For two years, God moved on my life like never before. I ended up running that program. Even had a phone interview and went to be the clerk of another program at another institution. I ended up getting a paying job as the staff canteen orderly. Last two years ... best staff canteen orderly there. I even went to another unit to work as a staff canteen. For six years, you sent me your publication, birthday cards, and prayers. However, in those six years, I slowly but surely drifted away from God and away from those prayers that changed my life, all those years ago.

It's only now as I sit inside this six by twelve, hotter than ever cell, praying to Jesus that I realize how far I've come. In here I realized, your publication is the only mail I have received. It hit me like a ton of bricks, I know what God is doing, He's humbling me in the wilderness. **Deuteronomy 8:2 - "Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep His commands."**

Since I have been in this cell, I have found Jesus like never before. It is suffocating hot in these cells, and the people around me are losing it. Yet, I am at complete peace spending time with the Lord. I was prompted to write this to your ministry and say this with tears in my eyes, "I thank God for your ministry. It's your faithfulness and your prayers that has changed my life forever."

### Our Driving Force

By W.R.

I pray that this finds you well and with the peace of our Lord Jesus resting upon your hearts and household. I think you know that you'll always have a special place in my heart. I understand very well what you were saying in relation to your love for God motivating you to do what you do. Only God's love in us and for us can motivate us in the manner that it does, to equip us with the desire to do what we do. We have to do it. It is a driving force (God's Spirit within us) that drives us to do what we do. We have to do it. I think that is even more true for guys like us, because we know what God has done for us, what He has brought us out of, so we're compelled to serve Him and others.

I did communion early this morning and I was just thinking about all that Jesus went through at His trials, at that whipping post and on the Cross and I cried/sobbed like a baby, just thinking about how much God loves us and how much Jesus suffered for us. I think about these things all the time, and I always ask God "What kind of God are You that You would suffer so much and die such a horrible death for someone like me?" How can we not love and serve Him?! May God continue to bless you and all the brothers and sisters at O&C who are working so hard to bring others to the Cross. Stay strong and keep me in your prayers.

### Jesus Christ, the One True Living God

By R.D.

**"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone." - Deuteronomy 6:4**

**"That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the West, that there is none beside Me. I am the LORD, and there is none else." - Isaiah 45:6**

With these two verses it's clear there's only one God!

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# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

*"The LORD is my strength and song, and is become my salvation." - Psalms 118:14*

*"Behold, God is my salvation; I will Trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also is becoming my salvation." - Isaiah 12:2*

Here we see a prophecy about God becoming salvation. Now if we go to the New Testament we see this clearly; there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon who was devout and just, waiting for the consolation (or a calling to come near) of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon Him, he took Jesus up in his arms and said **"Mine eyes have seen thy salvation."** (Luke 2:30)

Peter said in **Acts 4:12**, **"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."**

Finally, Paul said in **2 Timothy 2:10**, **"Therefore I endure all things for the elect sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory."**

Looking at all these verses together makes it clear that Jesus is the Christ, the one true living God, and there is no other God, Amen!!!

### Basic Instructions from God

By R.W.

I'm really looking forward to doing God's work; I'm studying day and night, also lots more praying. I've been feeling pretty blessed lately. Sometimes I worry about life, I've been through so much and I just want to be a happy man of God, who is able to take care of his children. **Proverbs 13:22** says, **"A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children; and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just."** I know that in my heart I'm a good man; all my life I've been chasing wealth that I was never able to keep because I feel that God knew I wasn't ready to do the right thing with a blessing, I needed the fear of the Lord. **Proverbs 15:16** says, **"Better us a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith."** This, to me means too many worldly treasures will only bring me trouble, but fearing God and doing right will bring me true treasures in heaven. Alcohol was my get away. **Proverbs 20:1** says, **"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."**

I've read the Bible throughout my 34 years and never have I understood the meaning behind it all, but my history showed me the meaning behind why the Bible was left for those like myself. Sometimes I fear someone coming back to harm me for my past mistakes, but **Proverbs 16:7** says, **"When a man's ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."** Then I lean on **Proverbs 3:5-6**, **"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."** All this time God has been molding me for His will.

I always felt I was a mistake, but you know what? God don't make mistakes, and it was no mistake that I met you. You see lately I've been seeking wisdom and walking humbly, instead of with my chest poked out. **Proverbs 11:2** says, **"When pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom."** I've been reading **Romans** over and over, and **Romans 8:1-3** says, **"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh."**

Thank you Wade, my brother, my friend. You barely know me and said things that no one has told me, like I can still pursue all my passions and talents to glorify Him. I've been writing lots of songs lately and they are "Me". I love it; I ripped up all my "worldly" music and promised I will never write another song or poem unless it is to glorify Him. I love God and I also fear Him, and I know I can't turn back, I understand now. I just hope that these things get far behind me, because they get in my way at times, worry, stress, lust, anger and pride. Lately I've been pretty cool and content. It's just that life in here is pretty crazy, you wake up full of joy and life and you're in the middle of something you didn't do or had no control

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**Isaiah 33:10-36:22**

If we are fair and honest in our relationships, we will dwell with God, and He will supply our needs. (33:14-16)

God is just as thorough in His mercy as He is severe in His judgment. God's complete moral perfection is revealed by His hatred of all sin, and this leads to judgment. This same moral perfection is revealed in His love for all He has created. This leads to mercy for those who have sinned, who have sincerely loved Jesus and put their trust in Him. (35:1)

Satan tries to confuse or deceive us. People don't necessarily need to be sinful to be ineffective for God. They need only be confused about what God wants. To avoid satan's deceit, study God's Word carefully and regularly. When you know what God says, you will not fall for satan's lies. (36:7)

**Galatians 5:14-26**


When we are not motivated by love, we become critical of others. We stop looking for good in them and only see their faults. Soon the unity of believers is broken. Have you talked behind someone's back? Have you focused on someone's shortcomings instead of their strengths? Remind yourself of Jesus' command to love others as you love yourself. See **Matthew 22:39**. When you begin to feel critical of someone, make a list of that person's positive qualities. If there are problems that need to be addressed, it is better to confront in love than to gossip. (5:14-15)

**Psalms 64:1-10**

We may believe that God hears only certain requests from us. While it is true that we should offer praise, confession, and respectful petitions, it is also true that God is willing to listen to anything we want to tell Him. David expressed himself honestly, knowing that God would hear his voice. God will always listen to us, and He fully understands us. (64:12)

**Proverbs 23:23**

Here we read to get the truth, wisdom, discipline and discernment, this is the type of knowledge that helps us become better people and better servants to Jesus Christ. (23:23)

 **"Foot" Notes**

Brothers and sisters, sometimes we need an eye opener or be put in check so to speak. As Christians in America, we can become complacent and comfortable as Christians. Yet right now in other parts of the world thousands of Christians die every day for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Sadly, you won't hear of this in the media. That being said, let's remember brothers and sisters who are being persecuted and murdered every day. So, the next time say a non-believer gives you some unfriendly words at work, realize that's not what I would call persecution that's just someone who doesn't know any better. Please add the truly persecuted to your prayers.

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

**Quote Worthy**

**"When you think about it for a moment, it certainly makes sense that if people can establish a loving and compatible relationship at home, they have a better chance of establishing winning relationships with those with whom they work on a regular basis."**

**- Zig Ziglar (1926 - 2012) an American author, salesman, and motivational speaker**



around us. This does not mean to be more sin conscious than God conscious though! Take heed (listen)! And remember, temptation is NOT sin. Temptation only becomes sin when you interact and partake of it!

Peter writes that there is danger beyond the physical persecution some of his readers were facing. There is a deep agenda, far beyond that of the powerful men who might inflict that persecution. The devil, not the men or women who might harm us, is the real enemy of a Christian believer. Our enemy the devil desires to devour us, to cause real and lasting harm. The Greek word here is *katapiein*, literally meaning to "swallow" or to "drown". Peter has made it clear that our place in eternity with our Father is secure. The devil cannot take that from us, but he does seek to damage our faith. He wants fear to shake our submission to the Father, and lies to distort our understanding of God's goodness. Since He cannot touch the believer's soul, satan seeks to leave us as weak and ineffective servants of our King.

In the next verse, Peter will describe how to fight that enemy. Notice, also, what he doesn't tell Christians to do. He doesn't say to live in fear. Nor does he say to live as if the reality of the devil is unimportant. We are not instructed to ignore the devil, nor to cower in the shadows. Listen here to **1 Peter 5:9**, "**Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.**" In other words, resist the temptation, it's a lie! Stand firmly and have faith in what you have already experienced God do in you, for you and through you. And don't think that you are the only one going through these things. The liar, satan, hates everyone of your Christian brothers and sisters just as much as he does you! It's NOT personal to you! Jesus told 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.*" (**John 15:18-20**)

And because you are a child of God listen here to what your God will do WHEN you tune out the lies and tune into the promises of God. **First Peter 5:10-11**, "**And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To Him be the power forever and ever. Amen.**" Come on now! You can shout louder than that! Praise God! He called us and He will protect us! HALLELUJAH!!

I'm going to close with the whole chapter of **Psalm 91**. As read the first **13 verses** put yourself in the place of 'you' and 'your' with the first person 'I', 'me', or 'my'. That's what I want you to reference here. And because you are a child of God you ARE a **'Whoever'**!!

**1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty,**

**2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

**3 Surely He will save 'you' from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.**

**4 He will cover 'you' with His feathers, and under His wings 'you' will find refuge; His faithfulness will be 'your' shield and rampart.**

**5 'You' will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.**

**7 A thousand may fall at 'your' side, ten thousand at 'your' right hand, but it will not come near 'you'.**

**8 'You' will only observe with 'your' eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.**

**9 If 'you' say, "The LORD is my refuge," and 'you' make the Most High your dwelling, 10 no harm will overtake 'you', no disaster will come near 'your' tent.**

**11 For He will command His angels concerning 'you' to guard 'you' in all 'your' ways; 12 they will lift 'you' up in their hands, so that 'you' will not strike 'your' foot against a stone.**

I intentionally separated **verses 11 and 12** to share with you that the devil, satan himself, knows the Word of God better than most of us. **Matthew chapter 4** is where Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil, in **verse 6** the liar said to Jesus, "**If you are the Son of God,**" he said, "**throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command His angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'**" The devil quoted **Psalm 91:11-12** and even referenced, "**For it is written ...**" But, he quoted the Word out of context. The first time Jesus was tempted He said, "**It is written.**" But the second time when the devil came at Him with the Word of God, Jesus said, "**It is also written,**" meaning that the devil was out of context with the Word. Again, in **verse**

**8** the devil came to Jesus one last time tempting Him. And again Jesus answered him with, *"Away from Me satan! For it is written ..."*

So, let's recap what just took place here in **Matthew chapter 4** and then we'll move on to the rest of **Psalm 91**. Fare enough? First off, satan was well aware of all that Jesus had been through there in the garden where He was, I believe, interceding for all of us. He'd been there for 40 days on the whole world's behalf. When He left there Jesus didn't just wander into the desert. In obedience, He was led there by Holy Spirit. And remember, Holy Spirit doesn't do or say anything without God's direction. So why was Jesus led there by God? I believe that these were the last three things God knew Jesus would have to complete before His mission was fulfilled here on earth. I also believe these three things are the most often used temptations still today for all of us here and now!

So, what are these three things? 1) The lust of the flesh. 2) The lust of the eyes. 3) The pride of life. So, I ask you all to look at these three things closely and then you tell me if those aren't the most frequently used tactics or temptations we deal with? Instead of being content with where we're at, with what we have we WANT more than we can even endure. Without counting the cost we say "So what, we still want it." Right? What I'm saying is this. Jesus went through ALL that He did to show each and every one of us how to overcome the enemy! If Jesus was tested three times why do we believe that the devil won't do the same to us? As a matter of fact, the devil knew exactly who Jesus was, is and will always be! Sometimes we may still act a little like the world. And when we do the "enemy comes like a thief in the night" in attempts to trip us up by listening to his lies! Jesus was prepared and in these verses He shows each of us how to be prepared for temptations. **FILL OURSELVES WITH THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD!!** That was Jesus' best defense and it is ours as well. The Word of God are the arrows in our quiver of defense to fire away at the devil with! I can show you all this through just this last verse, **Matthew 4:11**, *"Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him."* Jesus did it and Peter re iterated it in **1 Peter 5**, telling us, resist the devil, stand firm in our faith and he will flee from us? Let's continue.

**13 'You' will tread on the lion and the cobra; 'you' will trample the great lion and the serpent.**

Believe me, the devil watches our walks to see that they line up with the words that we confess. So 'we' MUST believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths, *"He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in Whom I trust"* and IMMEDIATELY God steps in, comes to our rescue and answers the devil with ...

**14 "Because he loves Me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges My name.**

**15 He will call on Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.**

**16 With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation."**

I pray you all know by now that every time God says, *"I will,"* it's His promise to us. So look at just these last three verses for a second. Not once, not twice, but six times in three verses God promises *"I will!"* That right there ought to be getting a lot of us excited! Somebody say, "It's a process." "It's a process" that we do NOT go through by ourselves. Both the New Testament and the Old Testament, **Hebrews 13:5** and **Deuteronomy 31:6** clearly state, *"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."* And **Hebrews 13:8** verifies, whether Old Testament or New, *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*

I'll end with this plea, "Please, please, please do not allow yourselves to fall to the temptations of the devil! Even if a loved one or family member that you may be getting released or paroled to are still living the life you were already set free from, steer clear. Let me say it like this. You need Jesus to be first in your life before anyone or anything else! If Jesus is NOT first in your life and you instead think you can half step it, all those other relationships will pick up right where you left them and NEVER grow to the place that God has designed for both you and them." We love you ALL deeply and know that God has placed this on my heart. God would have me write this message if it were to touch even a single one of your hearts! Believe that! Is it you?? See you next month.

### **What Others Are Saying...**

"I hope and pray you all are having a Happy New Year. Mine is awesome, praise God!! Thank you all for making sure that I get my monthly newsletter. I'm always anxiously awaiting for it to come in the mail. When I get it, I grab it, then open it to look at the cover then I open the first page to see the smiles of all the angels involved in making the newsletter. A few of you have written me directly and sometimes I wish I could match the name with the face." - **A.R.**

"I want to thank you all again for showing me that I'm not alone. I thank God every time I've gotten a card from you. It means so much to me when I get one. God bless you and thank you." - **D.T.**

"Thank you for the newsletter. Always after I'm done I leave it in the chapel here so others can read it." - **G.N.L.**

"We are grateful for the newsletters, especially for the words of encouragement, spiritual food" - **R.V.**

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over and it frustrates me. A friend told me to put my foot on the devil's neck and remind him who I am and for me to know whom I am in Christ.

Wade, I hope all is well with you, and you should know who you are in Christ, an ole grey bearded biker who helped a lost soul find his way back home, and I am forever humbled and grateful to have met you and I'm sure that I am not the only one that feels this way. Take care and I pray for you and the *Overcomers for Christ* family every night.

### **God Understands You Can't Change Overnight**

**By Rick Warren**

***"Put on your new nature, created to be like God - truly righteous and holy." - Ephesians 4:24 NLT***

When God helps you grow spiritually, he doesn't just snap his fingers so that it happens instantly. He does it incrementally. When God wants to make a mushroom, he takes six hours, but when he wants to make an oak tree, he takes 60 years. Do you want to be a mushroom or an oak tree?

The Holy Spirit will make changes in your life far beyond anything you thought possible, but it's not going to happen overnight. When Saddleback Church did our "Decade of Destiny," my prayer was that, through the work of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God and with support from our small groups, our church would become more mature, more Christ-like, and further along in our purpose 10 years from that point. My prayer is the same for you: that in the next decade, you would grow in spiritual maturity and Christlikeness and purpose.

I want you to be stronger emotionally, physically, spiritually, psychologically, and financially, but you've got to be intentional about it. The Bible says, ***"Put on your new nature, created to be like God - truly righteous and holy." Ephesians 4:24 NLT***

This is how we become more like Jesus. We throw off the old things and the old ways that keep us from getting to know Christ and becoming like him, and we put on our new selves with the help of the Holy Spirit. We let God do his work in us - no matter how long it takes.

***"As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him." - 2 Corinthians 3:18 TLB***

**ATTENTION**

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**Editor's Note**

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

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



### **Living Word Bible Church Locations**

**Mesa** - 3520 E. Brown Rd. Mesa, AZ 85213    **Ahwatukee** - 14647 S. 50th St. #165 Phoenix, AZ 85044  
**Scottsdale** - 8551 E. Anderson Dr. #105 Scottsdale, AZ 85255    **Gilbert** - 202 S. Gilbert Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85296  
**Florence** - Florence High School 1000 S. Main St. Florence, AZ 85132



### **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.

*By The Blink of an Eye*

*By R.W.*

*Soil is its birthplace,  
Peeking its head out of the dirt, born and fragile like a baby's face,  
As months go by you see this seed is a beautiful Rose, going through its faze,*

*But, By The Blink of an Eye its life could be changed,  
If planted right and raised in a pleasant place,  
This Rose will become plenty and all bloom to the sun's ray,*

*Life is a precious gift this Rose never took for granted,  
It never argued or disagreed with the places it was planted,  
All it ever asked for is water, sun and shelter from the storm's wreckage,*

*It never asked to be clipped, sold and placed in a package,  
As this Rose is taken to its destination, its colors began to change,  
It's in a dark place and praying that it brings one smile upon a face,*

*It hasn't had water or sun so its petals are darkening and starting to fade,  
It remembers its stem has been clipped from its roots to lifeless days,  
But then remembers By The Blink of an Eye it still can bring a smile to someone's face,*

*The package reaches its destination and is opened to the Rose's answered prayer,  
A ten-year-old cancer patient named "Rose" has the biggest smile on her face,  
She immediately puts the Rose in a vase and tells it,  
Don't worry, we're off to a better place, By The Blink of an Eye.*

**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

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