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SALVATION

If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, or aren't sure and would like to become one, then you need to believe that Jesus Christ was and is the Son of God, that he was God who became a man, that he lived a sinless and perfect life, keeping the Law of God perfect in every way, that he kept faith perfectly, and that he was crucified on that cruel cross for your sins, mine and the entire world - he died for our sins! His death on the cross paid the penalty fully, one time for all sins that we have ever committed and that we will ever commit. He died; he went down into the bowels of the earth, even into Hell, and was raised from the dead on the third day in a resurrected, eternal body. He ascended back into heaven, was seated at the right hand of God, and is now Lord over heaven and earth. He is coming again to judge the world, to raise the dead, where he will give an eternal, resurrected, glorified body to everyone that has believed on him as their Lord and Savior, and to establish his kingdom one earth.

You come become a Christian right now as you read this, by personally placing your faith and trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior; believing that he is God's only begotten Son, that he died on the cross for you and that he was raised from the dead and is now seated in heaven at the right hand of God the Father. *“Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..” Acts 16:31a* And when you do trust Christ, and Christ alone, as your Lord and Savior, then go to God the Father in heaven in prayer and tell him so. Tell him that you have believed on his Son, thank him for his Son, and thank him for forgiving your sins and saving you! *“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord”, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” Romans 10:9,10* *“For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans 10:13* *“Therefore, being justified by faith (declared righteous), we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:1*

The Winners

"Who is he that **overcometh** the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?", 1 John 5:5

Intro:

It is easy for believers to get down and depressed, to think of themselves as being losers in life, when they go through severe trials. When their friends abandon them, or their spouses divorce them, the believer will often wonder why? Is it me? Is it something about me that caused them to leave? Then they start to think less of themselves. When others in society are accumulating wealth and security, acquiring homes and property, making advancements in their professions or labor, and they're not, then they start to think and act like losers - but they're not. This study is about us seeing ourselves as we truly are, not losers, but - the Victors!

Definition:

There are several English words used to translate the words *nikaō* and *nikē* denoting the idea of being a **vector**: conquerors, victors, to prevail, super-conquerors, victory, overcoming, and to triumph. The word really doesn't need that much defining because competition in sports, businesses, and other endeavors are so prevalent in America. It simply means to win! It means to defeat your enemy, to come out on top, to overcome your adversary, to stand triumphant at the end of the battle.

There is one reference to **more than conquerors**, *hupernikaō*, which Thieme has translated as super-conquerors and it referred to a warrior, or athlete, who had faced every earthly affliction, and overcome them. For someone at this level the term conqueror was too weak a term, so they used super-conquer.

1. John 16:33, "*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*" - ταυτα λελαληκα 'υμιν 'ινα εν εμοι ειρηνην εχητε εν τω κοσμω θλιψιν εξετε αλλα θαρσειτε εγω νενικηκα τον κοσμον. To **overcome** is the perfect active indicative of *nikao*.

The perfect tense denoted completed action with existing and continuing results. Christ had already, by this time, won over the world system. We can use the word overcome, but we can also use expressions that we are familiar with as well. He had triumphed over the world; he gained the victory. And we note this was while he was still alive. Of course, his resurrection from the dead was a victory also, but this shows that he had already triumphed over the world system before this time.

This also indicates that we have triumphed over the world while we are still living in it! It's not that we will gain the victory over the world, but that we already have! And it's this attitude of victory that Christians need to have and we will have, once we have the teaching on these things.

There are two victories that lay before the believer in Christ. 1) There is our victory over the world, which we already have because we have believed on Christ. 2) And there is our tactical victories that we can have in the angelic conflict where we continue to move on in the Father's plan for our lives and continue to love by faith. It is faith that gives us the victory each day!

2. Romans 12:21, "*Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*" - μη νικω 'υπο του κακου αλλα νικα εν τω αγαθω το κακον. Here we have **overcome** used twice. The first time it's found in the present passive imperative and the second time it's found in the present active imperative.

In the imperative mood it tells us we have a command, so both are commands. In the present tense it refers to a continuing concept. But with the passive and active voices being used, we have in the first command, the passive one, a command to stop letting something happen, that is, being overcome by evil. And in the second one we have an active voice, which is a command for the believer to take charge of his life and start overcoming evil in his life and he does so by using good to overcome evil.

There has always been evil in the societies and communities that believers have found themselves in as they journeyed through this life. Some are prone to fight against the evil with human ideas and strengths, while the Bible teaches us that we are to overcome, to be triumphant over the evil in life by the interjection of and application of the divine good of Bible Doctrine.

It goes back to being winners and losers, of being the vanquished or the victor. And as Americans we hate being losers. But what constitutes being a winner or loser in the angelic conflict is not whether we are rich or poor, successful or not, having much of these world's goods or not, but our spiritual walk with God. Are we letting evil triumph over us? Are we allowing the world system get through to us and change our opinions or lifestyles? Are we allowing the flesh nature with its lusts and emotions win out over our spiritual life? If we are, we can turn that around and start triumphing over evil by applying the intrinsic good found in faith and Bible Doctrine!

3. 1 John 2:13, "*I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.*" - γραφω 'υμιν πατερες 'οτι εγνωκατε τον απ' αρχης γραφω 'υμιν νεανισκοι 'οτι νενικηκατε τον πονηρον γραφω 'υμιν παιδια 'οτι εγνωκατε τον πατερα.

To **overcome** is the perfect active indicative of *nikao*. The grammar tells us of the reality of this and it tells us that this was a completed action with results that carry on into the future. It is addressed to those believers who are no longer babes and are now on their way to spiritual maturity. Involved in this is getting to the place where they are able to gain the spiritual victory over Satan and his demons.

The Apostle John tells us that spiritual maturity is divided up into three phases, or levels: 1) **babes**, which refers to new Christians growing as they learn the basic of the Christian way of life; 2) **young men**, which gets into the adolescent phase of growth; 3) fathers, which refers to those who have reached spiritual maturity. What this tells us is that overcoming Satan in the angelic conflict is needed to move on in spiritual maturity to the place of completion.

4. 1 John 2:14, "*I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.*" - εγραψα 'υμιν πατερες 'οτι εγνωκατε τον απ' αρχης εγραψα 'υμιν νεανισκοι 'οτι ισχυροι εστε και 'ο λογος του θεου εν 'υμιν μενει και νενικηκατε τον πονηρον.

Written is the orist active indicative of *grapho*; **ye are** is the present active indicative of *eimi*; **abide** is the present active indicative of *meno*; and **overcome** is the perfect active indicative of *nikao*.

John says that these young men are strong, strong that is in the Lord, and the reason for that is because the Word of God, Bible Doctrine, remains in them. The word **strong** is *ischuo* and it meant to have the sufficient strength, of whatever category we are talking about, to prevail over a situation. Which is mentioned here as being the victor over Satan in their daily lives.

So in this phase of Christian growth it is Bible Doctrine that has been metabolized by faith, and living by faith, that gives the believer in Christ the necessary strength to survive the attacks of Satan and his demons against him or her, to withstand them and still be standing in the faith and moving forward in the will of God.

It is important to grasp this because, those believers who are in this interim period of growth in their lives, will not be able to go to the next level of Christian maturity, the level of father, without having overcome the devil as he seeks to destroy our lives. It takes faith and doctrine applied to the attacks that Satan throws at us that gives us the spiritual strength we need to gain the victory!

5. 1 John 5:4, "*For whatsoever is born of God **overcometh** the world: and this is the **victory** that **overcometh** the world, even our faith.*" - 'οτι παν το γεγεννημενον εκ του θεου νικα τον κοσμον και αυτη εστιν 'η νικη 'η νικησασα τον κοσμον 'η πιστις 'ημων.

Born of God is the perfect passive participle of *gennao*; **overcometh** the world is the present active indicative of *nikao*; this **is** is the present active indicative of *eimi*; and the second **overcometh** is the aoist active participle of *nikao*.

Now the first thing we notice is that we have been born of God, *ek tou theou*, the preposition *ek* denotes the origin of something, which tells us that the origin of our being born again, and from above, is out of God himself! The second thing we notice is that it is in the perfect passive participle, which denotes a permanent condition. Once someone has been born again they stay that way for all eternity. The third thing we notice is in the passive voice, which tells us we received this action; it was something we did not do and could not do for ourselves. God did it all.

Overcometh the world in the present tense tells us that we are already overcoming the world. It is used with the present tense of *eimi*, the verb of status quo, which tells us that this is what our present status is; we already are the victors over the world system run by Satan. And this victory over Satan's world system took place at the very moment in time when we believed on Christ as our Savior.

The second **overcometh** is in the aoist active participle, which action takes place before the action of the main verb, stating **having overcome the world**, telling us that our faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior has given us the permanent and eternal victory over the world. The moment we believed on him we were victorious over the world!

6. 1 John 5:5, "*Who is he that **overcometh** the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?*" - τις εστιν 'ο νικων τον κοσμον ει μη 'ο πιστευων 'οτι ιησους εστιν 'ο υιος του θεου. The word **overcome** here is the present active participle of *nikao*; and **believeth** is the present active participle of *pisteuo*. The one who is overcoming the world is the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. Believing in Jesus Christ, believing he is the Son of God is connected to overcoming the world system.

There are two categories of victory for all believers in Christ. The **first** and most important one is our positional victory over the world run by Satan through our faith in Christ; the reason for this is due to our union with Christ. Christ overcame the world, and because we are in union with Christ, we all share that victory at the moment of our faith in Christ..

The **second** category of victory refers to the many tactical victories that the believer can have in their journey here on earth. These victories over the world system come about as the result of following the Father's plan for our lives, making the right decision, living in the new nature, being filled with the Holy Spirit and living the faith rest life. An analogy that will help us is that there can be one war, but many battles with that war. We have already won the war, due to Christ's work on our behalf, but the point is to win the many battles we will have to fight.

7. Revelation 2:7, "*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.*" - 'ο εχων ους ακουσατω τι το πνευμα λεγει ταις εκκλησιαις τω νικωντι δωσω αυτω φαγειν εκ του ξυλου της ζωης 'ο εστιν εν μεσω του παραδεισου του θεου.

Hath is the present active participle of *echo*; **hear** is the orist active imperative of *akouo*; **overcometh** is the present active participle of *nikao*; **give** is the future active indicative of *didomi*; **eat** is the orist active infinitive of *esthio*; and **is** is the present active indicative of *eimi*.

Let him hear is put as a command by the Holy Spirit, which tells us that this is a very important piece of information for all Christians, so we need to listen to what it has to say and apply it in our lives. The concept of overcoming has already been covered by the Apostle John where he tells us that it is our faith in Jesus Christ that is the basis for us overcoming the world. To those people Christ has promised that he will grant us the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Garden of God.

It was the tree of life in the original Garden of Eden that resulted in our deaths; the tree which God commanded Adam and Eve not to eat from, but here we see a change where God will grant us access to the tree of life in his Garden in heaven! So our overcoming the world, through our faith in Christ, grants us the right to live forever.

8. Revelation 2:11, "*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that **overcometh** shall not be hurt of the second death.*" - 'ο εχων ους ακουσατω τι το πνευμα λεγει ταις εκκλησιαις 'ο νικων ου μη αδικηθη εκ του θανατου του δευτερου. **Overcoming** is the present active participle of *nikao*; and being **hurt** is the orist passive subjunctive of *adikeo*.

Another benefit to overcoming the world, because we have believed on Christ, is that the second death will not touch us! It has been appointed, due to Adam's transgression, that all men die once, that is, experience physical death, but not all men are appointed to the **second death**. Hebrews 9:27, "*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*"

Death, physical death, came into the world because of Adam's sin. 1 Corinthians 15:21, "*For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.*" The first death is physical death, but the second death is death of the soul in the Lake of Fire. One has been set by God, the other death, the second death, man can avoid by believing on Christ as his Savior.

Revelation 20:6, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the **second death** hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." Revelation 20:14, "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the **second death**." Revelation 21:8, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the **second death**." So, by believing on Christ as our Savior, we have the victory over the second death. #04 10-04-18

9. Revelation 2:17, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it." - 'ο εχων ους ακουσατω τι το πνευμα λεγει ταις εκκλησιαις τω νικωντι δωσω αυτω φαγειν απο του μαννα του κεκρυμμενου και δωσω αυτω ψηφον λευκην και **επι** την ψηφον ονομα καινον γεγραμμενον 'ο ουδεις εγνω ει μη 'ο λαμβανων.

Hath is the present active participle of *echo*; **hear** is the orist active imperative of *akouo*; **saith** is the present active indicative of *lego*; **give** is the future active indicative of *didomi*; **hidden** is the perfect passive participle of *krupto*; **written** is the perfect passive participle of *grapho*; **know** is the perfect active indicative of *oida*; and **receive** is the present active participle of *lambano*.

Something else that awaits those who believe on Jesus Christ, the overcomers over the world, is that they will get to eat of the hidden manna. The perfect passive participle of *krupto* tells us that this manna has been hidden for a very long time. How long? We don't know. It could predate all things. As we know manna was the daily provision of God that satisfied all of our physical body's needs. It contained every vital nutrient to keep them alive and in good health for their journey into the land.

Some have surmised that this refers to the wedding banquet of the Lord, but it appears to be indicating something else. Perhaps it is referring to something else, such as, as manna was the food for the body, maybe this refers to spiritual food for the soul. Whatever it is it has been hidden for a very long time. It really is a mystery as to what it speaks of just as it really isn't fully known as to why there is the Tree of Life in the New Jerusalem with its leaves for healing and its fruit for eating, which comes out once each month. So the hidden manna and tree of life play an important role in heaven.

Revelation 2:7, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the **tree of life**, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."; Revelation 22:2, "In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river; was there the **tree of life**, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:14, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the **tree of life**, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

The **white stone**, *leukos psēphos*, borrows from the Olympic Games that were conducted in the area. The victors of the games, in their own individual arenas, were awarded white stones as the result. These stones afforded them special treatment wherever they went and gave them access to the special award banquets. The word for **white** had the idea that they were so white that they were dazzling, speaking to us today of the Christian's purity because he was washed in the blood of Christ. The word for **stone** denoted a small rock or pebble that could be held in the hand or worn on the neck.

And in the stone a new name written, *kai epi ten psephon onoma kainon gegrammenon*, and the first thing we want to notice is that the new name isn't written **in** the stone but **upon** the stone. We know this by the use of the Greek preposition epi not *en*. Which also followed the custom of those days where the names of the victors in the games were given stones with their names inscribed on them.

The next thing we want to note is that these are **new names** and with the use of the word *kainos* to denote the idea of new, it's telling us that these new names will be of a different quality than our earthly names given to us by our parents, which newness will be there because of the newness of our new natures, as the result of being born again, or created anew by God. This new name written on the white stone will be a **new identity** for believers in Christ.

In ancient Israel the parents named their children because of certain concepts connected to them. Today we name our children after our family names, then the personal name for that child. But for eternity Christ will give us entirely new and different names, which will be for our identity. The grammar of **written** shows that this is a permanent concept. These new names given to us and inscribed on these white stones will sum up the nature of our existence, identity and substance.

Which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. - *ho oudeis egno*. Only the recipient of the white stone will know that name which is written on the stone. What we don't know is if this stone will be placed in the believer's hand by Christ? Or if it will be upon a necklace that is worn around the neck? We do know that it will "open doors" for the believer and provide him with tremendous status. These white stones will be our new identity for all eternity.

There is somewhat of an allusion here to the stones on the OT High Priest's breastplate where 12 stones were there to represent the 12 tribes of Israel. Could it be that in the new priesthood, over which Christ is the High Priest, each stone will represent one of his priests?

Some have thought that the name written on the stone will be the name of Jesus Christ under a different name, but the text doesn't bear that out. Something along those lines is that in ancient times the worshippers of a deity did not know his personal name, if they did, they could have power over him in the sense that they could go to him with a request and if they knew his name, he would have to grant it. Could it be that the personal name of Jesus Christ, God the Father and every believer in Christ will be secret only known within the brotherhood, or by the Lord himself?

10. Revelation 2:26, "*And he that **overcometh**, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:*" - και 'ο νικων και 'ο τηρων αχρι τελους τα εργα μου δωσω αυτω εξουσιαν επι των εθνων. **Overcometh** is the present active participle of *nikao*; and **keepeth** is the present active participle of *tereo*.

Another benefit that comes with overcoming the world by believing on Christ as our Savior and by keeping his works unto the end of it all is that we will be granted authority to rule over the nations. The word for **power** here is *exousia* and it denoted that idea of exercising authority, which has to be handed down to someone who is over you. Luke 19:17, "*And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou **authority** (exousia - authority), over ten cities.*" Luke 19:14, "*But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.*"

11. Revelation 3:5, "*He that **overcometh**, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."* - 'ο νικων 'ουτος περιβαλειται εν 'ιματιοις λευκοις και ου μη εξαλειψω το ονομα αυτου εκ της βιβλου της ζωης και εξομολογησομαι το ονομα αυτου ενωπιον του πατρος μου και ενωπιον των αγγελων αυτου.

Overcometh is the present active participle of *nikao*; **clothed** is the future middle indicative of *periballo*; not **blot out** is the future active indicative of *exaleiphō*; and **confess** is the future active indicative of *exomologeō*.

Again these benefits are addressed to the Overcomers, or Winners, which as we have seen is, what all those who believe on Jesus Christ as their Savior. Christ's victory over the world is the basis for our victory over the world because the merit of faith comes from the object of our faith - Christ. John now mentions three benefits that will come to them. 1) they will be clothed in white raiment; 2) their names will not be blotted out of the book of life; 3) Christ will confess them to his Father in heaven.

Here the word for **raiment** here is *himation* and it referred to a garment or robe that they wore in those days, while in Revelation 7:13, "*And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?*" the word used is *stole*, which denoted the long robe that went down to the feet, or had a train behind, which signified, wealth, status, or being a priest.

Here the future indicative is used in our passage to denote the absolute certainty that believers in Christ will be **given a white robe**, and in Revelation 7:13 the perfect passive participle of being arrayed in white robes is used to denote the permanency of this act. Jesus Christ will give white robes to all those who have believed on him as their Savior and this is a one time permanent act. It appears now that we will be given two sets of white apparel: 1) the *himation*, which will be worn around on everyday occasions; 2) and the *stole*, which will be worn in our priesthood duties and on special occasions.

Not blot out his name out of the book of life borrows from the practice of ancient cities, (from which these believers came), in that their names were recorded in a register until their death, but upon their death their names were erased, or blotted out. This was of extreme importance for these believers because they knew now that death would never separate them from Christ, nor remove any future blessings that he had in store for them. The emphatic negative of *ou* tells us that he will never blot theirs and our names out of his book of life!

The next benefit we have coming, which is also a promise, is that **Christ will confess the believer's name before his Father, and before his angels**. The word here for **confess** is the future active indicative of *exomologeō*, which meant to confess outwardly in the sense of a public confession. Christ is going to confess our names publicly before the Father and his angels.

12. Revelation 3:12, "*Him that **overcometh** will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name*."

- 'ο νικων ποιησω αυτον στυλον εν τω ναω του θεου μου και εξω ου μη εξελθη ετι και γραψω επ' αυτον το ονομα του θεου μου και το ονομα της πολεως του θεου μου της καινης ιερουσαλημ 'η καταβαινει εκ του ουρανου απο του θεου μου και το ονομα μου το καινον. #04 10-04-18 #05

Overcometh is the present active participle of *nikao*; **make** is the future active indicative of *poieo*; **go out** is the aoist active subjunctive of *exerchomai*; **write upon** is the future active indicative of *grapho*; and **coming down** is the present active participle of *katabaino*.

Once again the Christian's position of being an overcomer, or winner, is due directly to Jesus Christ. John 16:33, "*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have **overcome** the world.*" You say, 'it was my faith that overcame the world!' True, but we need to review what is involved in faith.

Faith takes on the merit, or quality, of the object of one's faith. There is no merit in faith, nor is there any merit in the one exercising faith. The merit lies solely in the object of faith, which in our case is Jesus Christ. We are considered righteous by the Father, but it is the righteousness of Christ that is ascribed to us through our faith in him. The same thing goes for us being victorious over the world. Christ is the victorious one over the world, **so this quality of being victorious is ascribed to us.**

A pillar in the temple of my God, the word for **pillar** is *stulos*, which was a common term for the many pillars or supports found in temples all throughout the Middle East, many of which we can still see today and these pillars supported the temples. In those days a faithful municipal servant, or a distinguished priest, would have a pillar added to the temple with their name on it.

Paul wrote that James, Peter and John were pillars in the sense that, as Apostles, they were a part of the support system of the Church of Christ. Galatians 2:9, "*And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be **pillars**, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.*"

He also wrote that the Church is the pillar and foundation of the truth, that is, the Church is there to support the idea of teaching the truth. 1 Timothy 3:15, "*But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the **pillar** and ground of the truth.*"

So we get to that passage that says, **a pillar in the temple of my God**, this is where Christ says that he will make these victors over the world, which refers to believers in Christ, to be pillars in the temple of God the Father in heaven. Now, as we have seen, a pillar was something that supported something else, and in the ancient world the temples of the various pagan gods were supported by pillars. The temple housed the deity and it was the pillars that supported the house of the deity where the worship of the deity took place.

So what we have here is that it is these believers in Christ will be the ones that support the worship of the one true God and this will be done through their priesthood. Keep in mind there is no place written that God must ever be revealed or seen; he could have remained hidden for all eternity, if that was what he wished. But he has chosen to allow himself to be visibly worshipped, but in doing so he has ordained that this is done through a priesthood, which will conduct the worship. So it is these believer priests that will be the pillars, the support of this whole system.

The next thing awaiting the Overcomers is that Christ will write upon them the name of his God, and the name of the city of his God, which is new Jerusalem, and Christ's new name.

The inscribing of names in the ancient temples were a big deal back then. Having your name written on the temple walls, or on the temple columns signified: 1) identity and ownership by the deity of the one whose name was inscribed; 2) it denoted one's personality and character; 3) it said that this person belonged to the deity and the city that worshiped this deity; 4) that he belonged to a particular society; 5) and it put him in continual communion with this deity.

For the Christian having the name of God, and the name of the city of God, which is new Jerusalem, and Christ's new name written on us is a big deal also for it signifies that God has chosen to identify himself with us and to insure our citizenship in heaven. Nothing will ever force us to go out of his holy temple, "*and he shall go no more out:*".

It also signifies that we belong to God, to the heavenly city, and to the community of God's people; it also signifies that he belongs to us. Knowing the personal name of the deity in those days was also a big deal because it meant that you had access to his power. If you knew his name, you could go up to him with a request, and because you knew his name, he would have to grant that request!

In that day all believers in Christ will know the real name of God because Christ will declare it to us. Hebrews 2:12, "*Saying, I will **declare thy name** unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.*" God is not his personal name, neither are the El words, such as, El, Elohim, Eloah, etc., and neither is the word *Yahweh*, which is as personal as we will ever get to knowing God's real name. *Yahweh* signifies - the Eternal One. These are the names we know God by **on earth**, but Christ will declare his Father's real name once we get to heaven and that name will be written on every believer in Christ showing that we belong to him and he to us!

In ancient times certain deities were worshiped in their temples, which were identified with certain cities. So to name a deity and a city showed that you were a citizen of that city and worshiped that deity. Christ will write on every believer the true, hidden name of God and the New Jerusalem showing that we belong to that city and to God himself.

Another thing that the Lord will do is he will write upon us his new name. What this indicates is that Christ is known by a different name in heaven and it is this name that he will write upon us. This is not unusual because Jesus was called by many names while he was here on earth. He was called Iesous in the Greek, Jesus in our language, Jesu in the German, *Yeshuah* in the Hebrew, the messenger of the covenant, the angel of the Lord, or the messenger - *Yahweh*, so it would be understandable that he has his real name back in heaven where he came from, which is what we will call him. **#05 10-11-18 #06**

13. Revelation 5:5, "*And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath **prevailed** to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.*" - και 'εις εκ των πρεσβυτερων λεγει μοι μη κλαιε ιδου ενικησεν 'ο λεων 'ο 'ων εκ της φυλης ιουδα 'η ριζα δαβιδ ανοιζει το βιβλιον και λυσαι τας 'επτα σφραγιδας αυτου. **Weep not** is the present active imperative of *klaio*; to **prevail** is the aorist active indicative of *nikao*; **saith** is the present active indicative of *lego*; **behold** is the aorist middle imperative of *eidon*.

John saw someone sitting on the throne having the scroll with seven seals when a strong angel proclaimed who was worthy to open the scroll and loosen the seven seals? John saw that there was no one in the heavens, nor upon the earth, nor under the earth that was worthy, so he started crying.

It was then that one of the elders commanded him to stop crying for the Lamb was worthy to open the scroll. Then he commands him to behold, which is the word *eidon* and it deals with sight, or as we would say, "**Look!**". So when John saw that there was no one in heaven, or on earth, or under the earth, he started crying. It was then that this Elder told him to **look**, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah was worthy because he had prevailed or won! (Daniel 7:21,22 Defeat is turned to victory.) (Romans 4:20)

And this goes back to Christ being triumphant over the world while he was here on earth. John 16:33, "*These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have **overcome** the world.*" Especially when **he rejected Satan's offer** to rule the world under him, if he would worship him. Matthew 4:8-10, "*Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.*"

Satan offered him all the power, money and glory that the world has to offer, if he would but kneel before him and rule the world under him. But Christ promptly rejected his offer and in so doing was triumphant over the world; the world ruled by Satan!

14. Revelation 12:11, "*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*" - και αυτοι ενικησαν αυτον δια το 'αιμα του αρνιου και δια τον λογον της μαρτυριας αυτων και ουκ ηγαπησαν την ψυχην αυτων αχρι θανατου. To **overcome** is the aorist active indicative of *nikao*; and **loved** is the aorist active indicative of *agapao*.

The word **him** here refers back to the devil, who will be kicked out of heaven by this point. There will be believers in Christ living here on earth at the time when Satan is kicked out of heaven and has to go down to earth. The 1st expulsion that Satan was exposed to was when he was kicked out of the third heaven, the proper abode of God, and had to go down to the second heaven, which is the abode of all the angels. The 2nd expulsion of Satan is when he is kicked out of the 2nd heaven and has to go down to earth. This follows the war made against by Michael and the other angels. The 3rd expulsion, or "casting down" of Satan is when he will be confined to the sides of the bottomless pit.

This passage deals with the 2nd expulsion of Satan when he is kicked out of heaven and has to come down to earth and upon arriving here on earth he will be filled with great rage, which will be directed toward those who believe on Christ! Revelation 12:12,13, "*Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having **great wrath**, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.*"

The dragon will have great rage, which he will direct toward those who believe on Christ, and yet it says that we will be triumphant over him. So the question is how? The first part of this verse deals with our positional victory we have because we have believed on Christ as our Savior; they overcame him *by the blood of the Lamb*. The second part of the verse deals with our tactical victory we will have over him *by the word of our testimony* and by *not loving our lives unto death*. The aorist tense is a culminative aorist, which looks at the action over a period of time with the emphasis on the result of that action. **Satan will be waging a war against all believers in Christ, but at the end of it all we will have the victory!** But God also wants us to have personal victories in our lives.

What gives us the victory is: 1) our faith in Jesus Christ, 2) our holding to our testimony of faith in Christ and holding to Bible teaching, 3) and by not loving our souls unto death. People will do anything to hold on to their lives and Christians are no different in that respect either for they want to live too! But it is our faith in Christ and his Word that will overshadow that to the place where it may end up in us dying, but even in our dying, if that's the case, we will gain the victory over the devil!

15. Revelation 15:2, "*And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the **victory** over the **beast**, and over his **image**, and over his **mark**, and over the **number of his name**, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.*" - και ειδον 'ως θαλασσαν 'υαλινην μεμιγμενην πυρι και τους νικωντας εκ του θηριου και εκ της εικονος αυτου και εκ του χαραγματος αυτου εκ του αριθμου του ονοματος αυτου 'εστωτας επι την θαλασσαν την 'υαλινην εχοντας κιθαρας του θεου. The word **mingled** is the perfect passive participle of *mignumi*; **victory** is the present active participle of *nikao*; and **standing** is the perfect active participle of *histēmi*. (Standing in victory)

We notice where our victory over Satan and his world system, and even the planet earth, takes us! We end up in heaven before the throne of God standing there on the sea of glass mingled with fire. And we also notice that we are standing **on** the sea of glass mingled with fire! The word used for **on** is the preposition *epi*, which denotes the idea of actually being upon something. This tells us that our victory over the world will result in us standing on the sea of glass mixed with fire. **#06 10-18-18 #07**

The word *mignumi* meant to mix something with something else, where two or more items that are different are mixed with each other. Here the two items are fire and transparent glass, or perhaps the idea of diamond crystals. It is akin to the wall of the city. Revelation 21:18, "*And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear **glass**.*" We want to notice that it isn't that we will just be standing on the glass crystals, crystals, or perhaps diamond crystals, but that we will also be **standing on fire!**

Another aspect of us being conquerors is that we will have victory over the **antichrist!** The antichrist will be ruling the world, under Satan, and he will exercise despotic control over all those who inhabit the world, all the people of the world, that is, except for believers in Christ. The antichrist will demand that everyone has to be in subservience to him, (**worship** - *proskuneō* - to be subservient) and the people of the world will do that, except believers in Christ won't! Revelation 13:4, "*And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?*"

Another aspect of our victory is that believers in Christ will have victory over the image of the **beast**. Revelation 13:15, "*And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.*" Now this image of the beast could it be AI, artificial intelligence?

The word for **image** is *eikon* and in the Greek mind it did include the physical representation of the person's visible characteristics, like a bust of the individual's head, or a stamping of their likeness on a coin, or their likeness being displayed in works of tiles, but the important distinctive of *eikon* was that the essence of the individual was present and operating in the thing that bore his likeness! So, if it was a statue of Zeus in their temple his essence was present and operating in that statue. Or, if his likeness was a painting, or a tile relief, then his essence was present and fully operational in that painting.

Now many Christians over the years have stated that this image will be a statue that bears the resemblance of the antichrist because throughout history the inhabitants of the world always had some form of a statue that they had erected. So because of this past history with the word **image** (*eikon*) they assume that this will be the same, except they had never thought that AI was possible.

The false prophet will be the one who tells the world that they have to make an image of the antichrist. Revelation 13:14, "*And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.*" This tells us that this image is something that everyone has to worship and obey and this will be done all over the earth.

But remember the important distinctive of *eikon* was that the essence of the individual was present and operating in the thing that bore his likeness. Essence being the mental, emotional and volitional aspect of the inner soul making us what we are. So how can you do that with a stone statue? And how can you do that having millions of stone statues all over the world? If stone is the medium? And remember this image will **speak**, which would point to the idea of an AI and a massive super computer.

And this is where artificial intelligence comes in using the computer. They now have computers to the place where they can think, talk, even have their own personality's, and some say have self awareness. And that's the ones that the public knows about. Nothing is mentioned about what they're doing in secret! These programs now can communicate with other humans as if they are humans themselves.

What if the entire brain of the antichrist is downloaded into a massive supercomputer? Scientists and engineers are already doing this with themselves.

What if, also, if all the knowledge that the world has attained to over the thousands of years is downloaded into this massive super computer? What if all mathematics, physics, geometry, aeronautical info, all laws, psychology, medicine, new age initiation techniques, every bit of data on the earth is fed into this AI machine, which bears the personality of the antichrist? You would then have the full essence of the antichrist in the image! And there are 100,000's of thousands of brilliant minds all over the world today doing this very thing.

The world will readily obey this image and worship it because it will have the sum of all knowledge on earth and it will have the capacity to rapidly add to that knowledge every second that goes by. So the image of the Beast will be an AI computer driven machine that will contain the downloading of the antichrist's brain, who will be an hybrid of Satan and some woman somehow utilizing his DNA, plus all the data accumulated in the world. But believers in Christ will not only have victory over the antichrist, but also this image that will be created.

Another thing that Christians will have victory over is the **his mark**, *tou charagmatos autou*. We note that it is **his mark**, that is, it is referenced to him. the role of the false prophet in this is that he will force or coerce all to take this mark, lest they will not be able to buy or sell. Revelation 13:16, "*And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.*" We have thoroughly documented that this will be an engraved thing that will be applied to the skin of the right hand or forehead. This will be a traceable computer chip that contains not only the individual's personal number, but also all their own personal data.

16. Revelation 17:14, "*These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall **overcome** them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.*" - 'ουτοι μετα του αρνιου πολεμησουσιν και το αρνιον νικησει αυτους 'οτι κυριος κυριων εστιν και βασιλευς βασιλεων και 'οι μετ' αυτου κλητοι και εκλεκτοι και πιστοι. To **make war** is the future active indicative of *polemeo*; and **overcome** is the future active indicative of *nikao*.

Now bear in mind that this refers to the time when Christ returns to the earth to take possession of his inheritance. But when he does he will be met with fierce opposition by the antichrist and the ten kings who rule over the ten regions of the world, which regions are already established and have been for some time now.

A **region** is a district of geography that has been set aside for administrative purposes. It is derived from the Latin Rex, which is the word for a king. As we know that there will be a king who rules over the world at this time, the antichrist, and he will have ten kings ruling over the ten regions that the world has been divided into.

The end time city that **rules** over the world Revelation 17:18. "*And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which **reigneth** (basileia) over the kings of the earth.*" will be the city of Jerusalem. To have **reign**, *basileia*, one must have a king, so this tells us that the antichrist will be ruling the world from the city of Jerusalem.

So when Christ returns to earth he will be met with the opposition of the people of the world. At the top of all this will be the antichrist with his ten kings under him. It says that they will make war with the Lamb, or Jesus Christ, but he will overcome them. The future indicative is used in both situations to tell us that for a certainty the antichrist and his ten kings will make war against Christ, and of a certainty he will be victorious over all of them!

The conclusion of this will be when the beast and the false prophet, the pope, will be thrown alive into the lake of fire. Revelation 19:20, "*And the **beast** was taken, and with him the **false prophet** that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.*"

But the devil will be cast into the bottomless pit for 1,000 years. Revelation 20:1-3, "*And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And **cast him into the bottomless pit**, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*" **#07 10-25-18** #08

17. Revelation 21:7, "*He that **overcometh** shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*" - 'ο νικων κληρονομησει παντα και εσομαι αυτω θεος και αυτος εσται μοι 'ο υιος . **Overcometh** is the present active participle of *nikao*; **shall inherit** is the future active indicative of *kleronomeo*; and **will be** and **shall be** are both the future middle indicatives of *eimi*.

Another benefit that accrues to those who believe on Christ as their Savior is that they will inherit all things in eternity future!

Romans 8:17, "Now if we are children, then we are **heirs**—**heirs** of God and **co-heirs** with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory."

Galatians 3:29, "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and **heirs** according to the promise."

Titus 3:7, "So that, having been justified by his grace, we might become **heirs** having the hope of eternal life."

Hebrews 6:17, "Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the **heirs** of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath."

1 Peter 3:7, "Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as **heirs** with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers."

An **heir** is someone who receives an inheritance from their father, which would include all things that pertain to the father: the land he owns, his position in the community; back then his servants or slaves, political power and wealth. It just so happens to be that our Father is none other than the God and Creator of the universe! So one can only imagine what our inheritance entails. His land is the universe; his position is El the highest God; his servants are the angels; his political power is the Ruler of all things; and his wealth is incalculable!

18. Romans 8:37, "Nay, in all these things we are **more than conquerors** (*hupernikaō*) through him that loved us." - ἀλλ' ἐν ταῦτοις πᾶσιν ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς. **More than conquerors** is the present active indicative of *hupernikaō*; and **loved us** is the arist active participle of *agapao*.

As we have seen, **super-conquerors** referred to a warrior, or athlete, who had faced every earthly affliction, and overcome all of them. For someone at this level the term conqueror was too weak a term, so they used super-conqueror.

So why are we called super-conquerors? Because Christians have had to face everything the devil and his angels have thrown at us while we were here on earth. Every trial known to man, every heartache, every crushing disappointment, every form of loss, every attack of Satan; we have faced the world, the flesh and the devil and have overcome them all through the blood of Christ.

What preceded this verse are verses 35 and 36, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Then Paul takes us into the status of being Super-Conquerors because we have overcome them all.

Conclusion

The benefits of being the Victors in the Angelic Conflict:

We have overcome the world and all that is in it.

We have overcome the devil.

We get to eat of the tree of life.

We will not be touched by the second death.

We get to eat of the hidden manna.

We will be given a white stone with our new name written on it.

We will be given authority over the nations.

We will be clothed in white raiment.

Our names will not be blotted out of the Book of Life.

Christ will publicly confess our names to the Eternal Father.

Christ will make us a pillar in the temple of God.

Christ will write on us the name of God.

Christ will write on us the name of the city of God.

Christ will write on us his new name.

We will end up standing on the sea of glass mingled with fire with harps.

We will inherit all things.

Yahweh will be our God forever.

We will be *Yahweh's* children forever.

We have **tactical victory** whenever we: stay in fellowship, pray, stay F/HS, exercise faith, endure the trial, stay with BD, choose for Christ over the World, apply BD to the situation, remain non-reactive, go to Bible class, stay with BD, choose God's will for our lives, trust in the Father's plan, provisions, power, protection, promises and his process, and many more things. **#08 11-01-18**

Pastor Mike