

# Overcoming by His testimony

We can find grace to overcome as we participate in the sufferings of Christ. All the promises in the book of Revelation are to 'him who overcomes'. If we carry the testimony of Jesus, we know that we can overcome. The apostle Paul had great confidence in the testimony of his own conscience. He knew how he had conducted himself in the world, and particularly in all the churches. We must imitate Paul as he imitated Christ, 'in holiness and godly sincerity, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God'.

The blood of Christ on the cross was the fullness of all testimony, as the precious blood 'as of a lamb'. In this one offering, He poured out His soul to death giving us an example to follow. By this means He overcame, breaking the power of sin, death and Satan. In this glorious fulfilment of all offering, He preached peace to all who were far away, and peace to those who were near. It is the blood of Christ that has drawn all men everywhere into the faith of offering. He has brought forth the life of new creation. His blood speaks better than the blood of Abel. With every drop of His precious blood being poured out at Calvary, Jesus came back from the death of sin. And He brought us back from the land of forgetfulness with Him. Jesus overcame the power of sin and death as the author and perfecter of our faith. By the blood of the Eternal Covenant, the God of all peace brought back from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep.

## References:

Eph 2:17      Heb 13:20  
Rev 2:7      1 John 4:4  
2 Cor 1:12    Luke 21:13

## Further Study

Rev 12

## Daily Proverb

Proverbs 9

# The blood of testimony

It is helpful to remember that the same Greek word (*martus*) can be translated 'testimony', 'witness', or 'martyr'. When the Lamb breaks the fifth seal, the souls of those who have been slain because of the word of God and the testimony which they've maintained, will be seen underneath the altar. Remember, in the tabernacle of old, all the remaining blood of the sacrifices, surplus to the need of the priests, was poured out underneath the altar. This symbolically represented the life of the witnesses who, like Abel, became martyrs, not loving their lives to death. Their lifeblood was poured out and although they are dead, they are alive. The blood of all these martyrs from all the ages still speaks. And they are crying out for judgement. They will be given white priestly robes, which are promised to all overcoming saints. These martyrs are told to rest a little longer until the number of their fellow brethren who will be killed, is complete. They are at rest underneath the altar.

This number will be complete when the harvest of the earth is reaped in the great ingathering. Firstly, the 'true vine' will be harvested in the end of the age. When this true vine is reaped, the grapes of the wine of rejoicing will be offered as they fill up what is lacking in the sufferings of Christ. This is the Feast of Tabernacles. In this harvest, the blood of the martyrs who have obtained testimony in all ages will be retained as a testimony against all who have opposed Christ and His offering. These are the witnesses who have overcome in their generation and entered into rest.

## References:

Rev 6:9      Rev 14:19  
Matt 23:35    Heb 11:4  
Heb 12:24

## Further Study

Rev 14

## Daily Proverb

Proverbs 10

# The vine of the earth

When the vine of the earth is harvested, the grapes will be thrown into the great winepress of the fierce wrath of God and crushed. These 'grapes' are the lives of those who have resisted and withstood the testimony of God. This is the blood of those who have lived away from Christ and they will be away from Him forever. They will be crushed in the winepress of wrath as the nations rage. Their blood will be shed as they are thrown into this winepress because they are from the vine of the earth. It will be wrath poured out upon them and they will be made to drink it to the dregs. Wrath will come upon them to the uttermost. Their lifeblood will be given to the nations to drink because they have shed the blood of those who held to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

In this great and final outpouring of judgement, 'Babylon the great' will be remembered before God, to be given the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. The Lord will avenge the blood of bondslaves who have poured themselves out in the same way that God the Son emptied Himself before all ages. These faithful witnesses will sing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb. As a bondservant of Christ, Paul testified of 'holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. But even if I am being *poured out as a drink offering* upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all.'

## References:

Phil 2:16-17    John 15:1  
Rev 14:18      Rev 16:6, 19  
Rev 18:5

## Further Study

Psa 2

## Daily Proverb

Proverbs 11

# A testimony against them

We can most surely overcome all things by the testimony of our Lord. Satan, the opposer and adversary, will be cast from heaven by the saints who overcome him. Because they do not love their own lives even when faced with death, they have a testimony before God. We will overcome because of the word of our testimony and by the blood of the Lamb. However, if we reject the testimony of our Lord and the word of our eternal inheritance, then it will become a testimony against us. When Jesus sent out the twelve and the seventy to look for worthy houses, He told them to abide in the house where they were received. If they were rejected, then they shook the dust off their feet as a testimony against those who did not receive them. To the degree that the Lord swears an oath concerning His own will, He also swears in His wrath. We read concerning the generation of Israelites who refused to enter the Promised Land, 'I swore in My wrath, they shall not enter My rest'.

Wrath is poured out upon all of those whose names have been blotted out of the Lamb's book of life. They have no testimony, remembrance, or memorial. We will be eternally forgotten or eternally remembered depending on whether we receive His testimony when it is proclaimed. We will receive either the fullness of wrath or the fullness of blessing. If the Lord speaks to us as sons, then we must take heed. As He said to the church in Ephesus, 'I have something against you'. We must take heed lest He is provoked to swear in His wrath. We must be continually receiving His testimony and overcoming, to inherit His great and precious promises.

## References:

Rev 12:11      Heb 3:11  
Mark 6:11      Heb 9:15  
Neh 2:20      Deut 1:34  
Deut 2:14

## Further Study

Deut 1

## Daily Proverb

Proverbs 12

# We have an altar

The book of Hebrews says, 'We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat'. We must present ourselves at this altar, which is the same altar to which all the martyrs and witnesses brought their offerings. Our altar is Christ Himself. He poured out His soul to establish a place where all our offerings can be received. We must present our bodies as a living sacrifice upon the altar of His offering. He has given the authority of this altar to His brethren. And this is called the 'apostles' feet'. Christ Himself is the altar and Priest of this altar. He is clothed in fine linen and His feet are like polished bronze. Barnabas was the first New Testament disciple to offer this way and we, likewise, are to offer up spiritual sacrifices. These offerings are the representative portions which we bring and present to the elders for proper stewardship among the saints.

Did you know that all judgement proceeds from this altar? When we enter into the fellowship of offering, the life blood of Christ flows as an everlasting stream. If we join the fellowship of offering, then His blood is truly cleansing and judging our sin. By offering, the saints shall judge the world. What will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel? We must not trample underfoot the Son of God and insult the Spirit of Grace. When we present our bodies as instruments for righteousness, the blood of Christ is the life of our offerings. Offering is the supply of the saints so that no one is lacking. When we empty and pour out our lives, we embrace lack so that others may be filled. This is the secret of the Lord.

## References:

Heb 13:10    Rev 8:5  
Gen 8:20    Gen 12:7  
Gen 26:25    Ex 17:15  
Ex 20:24

## Further Study

Heb 13

## Daily Proverb

Proverbs 13