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The Ultimate Overcomer - Jesus Christ Revelation 1:1-6

The term “Overcomer” means, “to conquer, to triumph, to defeat.” It comes from the Greek word “nike” which means _____. As Christians, we are in a spiritual battle with the world, the flesh, and the devil. Satan opposes God working in us and through us. But the Holy Spirit of God lives inside of us. He empowers us to be victorious.

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

1 John 4:4

We fight these spiritual battles with the power of God because Jesus is The Ultimate Overcomer.

The theme of the book of Revelation is the “revealing” or “_____” of Jesus Christ as the King of kings and the Lord of lords. We see Christ in all of His heavenly glory. John knew Him when He came as the Son of Man – as a servant. Jesus was the Lamb of God, but now He returns to the earth as the conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah.

Everyone wants to know the future. Only God knows the future. It is hidden from men and angels. The only thing we know for certain about the future is right here in this book. Only the Bible reveals the future!

v. 1 – This is the Revelation of Jesus Christ. It is the unveiling or the revealing of Jesus in all His heavenly glory. The judgments conclude with the Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 19) and the earthly kingdom of Christ is set up.

7 is the Number of Completion

The book of Revelation is a book of 7's. Seven is the number of completion. In Revelation, we find...

- 7 Candlesticks, which are 7 Churches
- 7 Stars, which are the 7 Pastors
- 7 Spirits – a description of the Holy Spirit, Isaiah 11:2
- 7 Fold Description of Jesus
- 7 Messages
- 7 Seal Judgments
- 7 Trumpet Judgments
- 7 Bowl Judgments

“Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.”

Revelation 1:19

“things thou hast seen”	Chapter 1	Past
“things which are”	Chapter 2-3	Present
“things which shall be hereafter”	Chapter 4-22	Future

The apostle John has been exiled to the island of Patmos. By 95 AD, all of the apostles have been martyred, except him. He is living in a cave when he has this vision of Jesus and the “Things to Come.”

v. 4 – The apostle John is writing to the 7 churches of Asia Minor located in modern Turkey.

v. 10-13a – John sees a vision of Christ standing in the middle of 7 candlesticks or Menorahs.

v. 16-18 – John saw Jesus in all of His glory, and all of his strength left him, and he fell down. What does this vision mean?

v. 20 – The 7 candlesticks are the 7 churches of Asia. The 7 stars are the 7 pastors of those churches. Jesus has a unique message for each of the churches and those Christians.

The Seven Churches of Asia Minor

- 7 Local Churches of that Day
- 7 Ages of _____
- 7 Types of Churches today

What is the message?

Jesus is revealed as the *Ultimate Overcomer*.

v. 8 – Jesus is “the Alpha and Omega” – the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. From the alphabet of letters, we form words, know truth, and discover knowledge. Jesus is the Supreme and Ultimate Truth in the world. He is the “Almighty God.”

“I am He that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”

Revelation 1:18

What does this mean to us? v. 6

He makes us “kings and priests unto God and His Father.”

How do you become an “Overcomer?” An Overcomer is someone who puts their _____ in Christ for salvation. They are trusting in Christ alone for the forgiveness of their sins. An overcomer is “All In” for Jesus, loyal, faithful, and ready to conquer anything set before them.

What did Jesus Overcome?

1. He overcame Sin and _____.

Jesus was tempted by the devil in the wilderness, but defeated him. Jesus was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin.

Our greatest struggle in life and our greatest problem is sin. Not just our own personal sin, but the sins of others – the sins of family, friends, and coworkers can deeply affect us.

You and I can overcome sin. We will not become sinless in this life, but as we grow closer to the Lord, we can sin less and less and less.

“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

I Corinthians 10:12

2. He Overcame _____ with the Disciples.

They constantly failed and bickered among themselves.

He loved them, forgave them, taught them, and prayed for them. He did not give up on them.

3. He Overcame His _____.

The Pharisees attempted to shame Him because of His past, John 8:41. Jesus responded, “I came from God” v. 42.

Christian, you do not have to be defined by your past. Your identity is not tied to some abuse you have experienced or some sin you committed in your past. In Jesus Christ, you are an Overcomer.

Your identity – “You are a Child of God! You are an Overcomer!”

4. He Overcame His _____.

We all experience pain on many levels – physical pain from accidents and disease; emotional pain from past hurt, grief, rejection, and loneliness; spiritual pain from guilt and shame. Jesus Christ declares you can overcome the pain of your past.

"In all of these things we are more than conquerors [Overcomers] through Him that loved us."

Romans 8:37

We are NOT to let anything in our past or future defeat us, Romans 8:38.

Your greatest message will come from your greatest struggle.

Your greatest witness will come through your temptation and persecution.

Your greatest blessing will grow from the hour of your greatest weakness.

Don't allow bitterness or unforgiveness to stop God's blessing from flowing in your life. Find a place alone with God and ask for His "Overcoming Power."

5. He Overcame _____ – the last great enemy!

Jesus died and came back to life. As a man, He came to earth and died on a cross. They laid Him in the grave, but the grave could not hold Him. Three days later, as God, He arose from the grave. He has the keys to death and hell. I Corinthians 15 says, "He took the sting out of death."

You can be forgiven and experience peace even when facing _____.