

### Overcomer In Christ

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.

[Jesus] John 16:33

### 1. The Conflict

The term "overcomer" comes from a Greek word that means

- to conquer
- to prevail
- to triumph
- to overcome

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Eph. 6:12

### 2. The Adversaries

- <u>Satan</u> 1 Pet 5:8-9; Eph 6:12; John 16:11
- The World *John 16:33; 1 John 5:4; Eph 2:2*
- Sin-Flesh Rom 7:15; 8:4-8, 13; Gal 5:16-26

### 3. The Provision of Victory

- The Person and Work of Jesus Christ Rev 3:21; Rev 5:5; Rom 8:37; 2 Cor 2:14-15 Rev 17:14
- The Operation of Faith 1 John 5:4-5; 2 Cor 5:7; Gal 2:20; 5:5; Eph 3:17
- The Filling of the Spirit John 14:16; 1 John 4:2-4; Eph 3:16; Eph 5:18; Rom 8:1; Acts 1:8

### 3. The Walk Of The Overcomer

- **We've Won the War:** Through faith in Christ, the believer overcomes the world and is rescued from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's beloved Son. *Col. 1:12-13*
- We Must Still Win the Battles: The message to the Revelation churches teaches us that overcoming is <u>ALSO</u> related to the daily conflicts and battles of the Christian life.

# The Power Driven Church The Seven Churches of Revelation

## The Church at Smyrna Afflicted but Affluent

Revelation 2:8-11

### 1. The Character of Jesus 2:8

To each church the Lord conveys a title: This is how I want you to think of me!

- <u>First and last</u>: I was there at the beginning and will be there at the end.
- <u>Dead and came to life</u>: You may die but in me you will live.

### 2. The Approval 2:9

I know what you are going through...

- I know about your suffering...
   The poorest in the eyes of the city: In My eyes the wealthiest.
- I know the lies they say about you...

If you only see yourself as poor and lied about: You'll end up with self-pity and bitterness!

How does Jesus see you?

### 3. The Criticism

There is no criticism for the persecuted churches, Smyrna and Philadelphia!

### **4. The Advice** 2:10

Do not fear...

More suffering is in store
 Prison—Testing—Tribulation—Death

### 5. The Assurance

- Be faithful: I will give you the crown of life Fearful or faithful—what are you?
- No second death

There is something worse than death: The second death! *Rev 20:6; Rev 20:14; Rev 21:8* 

Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. [Jesus] John 17:11

> We are all members of one another, and one of us is Jesus Christ...
>
> Austin Farrer