



Empowering People to Change the World

Overcoming the Dragon and Demons

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Prayer: Lord, thank you that everyone who reads this book, the book of Revelation, is given a blessing. Thank you that we are receiving insight into the future and how we should prepare through the study of your “inside intelligence.”

- We have seen earthly scenes and heavenly scenes.
- We have seen great demonic activity.
- We are seeing the great panoramic view of the great war, the invisible war, between good and evil, God and Satan.
- Chapter 12 pulls back the veil and reveals to us what is happening in this epic struggle,
- All of this is a great cosmic war.

Revelation 12:7

And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, ⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

- We are introduced to Michael the Archangel, which we read about in Daniel 10 in which he shows up during Daniel’s fast.
 - o Michael wrestled with the Prince of Persia and fought with the kingdom of Greece too.
 - o I do believe that there are Territorial Demonic Spirits over nations.
 - o Michael seems to have an assignment from God to guard and protect Israel. There are demonic princes over nations it seems.
 - o Jude 9 even says Satan disputed over the body of Moses.

- This is a battle in which Michael fights Satan and drives him out of heaven.
- Is this the original rebellion? We don't know, but we certainly see the power of Michael.
- We are given insight into Satan's tactics over us ...

Satan's Two Greatest Tactics

Vs. 9

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

- 1) **The first great trick of Satan and demons is to deceive, lie and cheat us out of our rightful inheritance in Christ.**
 - Deception is what Satan does because Deception is who Satan is.
 - Sin makes you do stupid things! Sin destroys.
 - Sin leaves in it's wake tremendous devastation. Ultimately it will break your heart as you experience the consequences of sin.
 - Sin promises but it doesn't perform. It is empty; and it promises happiness but it leaves you with sorrow. It promises you love but gives you only lust. How many people are promised happiness but their lives are devastated and torn apart by sin.
 - Satan is a sore loser and he is angry and wants to unleash his deception on the earth.
 - Satan represents deception and God represents truth! God loves truth. Satan loves deception.
 - Deception is the art of getting someone to believe something that's not true. "You can be like God" has been his strategy since Adam and Eve. Independence, maverick, "don't tell me what to do."

- Satan always tempts us with deception.

Vs. 10

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

2) Satan’s next trick is through accusation.

- Satan’s second great tactic is to accuse you! He hates you! He wants to make you feel guilty constantly about your past.
- Satan knows your weaknesses and he accuses you over and over.
- Satan accuse us of our past mistakes, weaknesses and sin.
 - o He hangs your past over your head.
 - o He will tell you that you are not forgiven and that you will never be forgiven.
 - o He accuses us of being losers, because that is what he is. He knows what it means to be a loser.
 - o He will rip into you emotionally and mentally.
 - o He will give you dreams and thoughts that are self-destructive.
 - o His main objective is to cause you to commit suicide.
 - o Satan and his demons script our thinking at a very early age: We draw assumptions about life, reality, and love during those early years.
 - o We are scripted to not trust authority figures:
 - Because of past hurt and pain, we learn as children to not trust people in authority.

- We determine early on that we will not let anyone tell us what to do.
- It is a reflection of the “Father wound” that has never been healed.
- We run into the “Performance Trap” of Satan and bury ourselves in work, in activity and in competition.
 - And we begin to find our justification for existence in performing, acting and in finding success from this world.
 - All the while we still listen to the accusations and are never satisfied.
- Satan accuses is that we are unlovely and, thus, unlovable!
 - He creates an inferiority complex that robs us of the God confidence that brings peace and joy into our lives.

We must rescript our thinking if we are to walk in victory.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. NKJV

Ephesians 4:22-24

that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. NKJV

2 Corinthians 10:5

casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, NKJV

- You must identify the lies before you can believe the truth!
- Take captive the deceptions and philosophies of this world.
- So how do we overcome Satan and his tactics by the renewing of our mind?
- How do we renew our minds against the enemy?

Four Freedom Steps to Overcoming the Demonic

Vs. 10

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come

Freedom Step 1: Give Yourself Completely to Jesus Christ

- Salvation...strength...the kingdom of God...and the power of Christ are all rolled up in the salvation/discipleship process.
- If you are not surrendered to Christ, then the accuser of the brethren is going to continually have access to your mind, body, soul, and spirit.
- Ex. Until you surrender everything to Christ, then demons can still have access to your mind, body and spirit.
- That’s why Jesus says the greatest commandment is “love God with all of your heart (emotions), soul (identity), mind (vision), and strength (time, energy, and money).
- When you open up your heart to Christ and invite Christ to forgive you, heal you and begin to set you free, you get ALL of Christ—His strength, His kingdom, His power!

Vs. 11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb

Freedom Step 2: We Overcome Satan and his Demons by the Blood the Lamb.

- The battle lines are for blood...your blood! Demons are the original vampires.
- Demonic powers want your blood—through sex, drugs, self-mutilation, alcoholism—they want your blood.
- Satan wants to destroy your life emotionally, spiritually and physically.
- He wants you commit suicide...demons want a blood sacrifice!
- But blood has already been spilt for you! The sacrifice for all your sins and failures has been shed.
- The only sacrifice that brings freedom and peace was paid at Calvary 2000 years ago.
- Our greatest weapon against the enemy is the Cross of Christ.
- **Only the blood of a righteous, completely righteous man can fulfill the prophecy and the propitiation for sin.**
 - o Jesus has done it all.
 - o He said it best, “It is finished.” (John 19:30)
 - o This means that the entire work of redemption is completed.
 - o Ex. The single Greek word here translated “it is finished” has been found in Papyri being placed on receipts for Roman taxes meaning “Paid in full.”
 - o Your salvation is secure! Your forgiveness is complete!

- o Not by what you have done, but by what He has done.
- o Romans 6:6-14
knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.
- o Through the renewing of our minds, we must consider ourselves dead to sin but alive to God.
- o This means we present ourselves to God as righteous because of the cross.
- o Because of the cross your life is hidden in Christ and your life is resurrected with Him.

Vs. 11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.

Step 3: We overcome Satan and his Demons by the Word of our Testimony!

- Your tongue has power!
- Proverbs 10:20
The tongue of the righteous is choice silver;

- Proverbs 12:18
But the tongue of the wise promotes health.
- Proverbs 15:4
*A wholesome tongue is a tree of life,
But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.*
- Proverbs 18:21
*Death and life are in the power of the tongue.
And those who love it will eat its fruit.*
- Proverbs 21:23
*Whoever guards his mouth and tongue
Keeps his soul from troubles.*
- Your words promote health; they bring forth life and death.
- Our words are powerful.
- Our testimony of God's power and faithfulness in our lives drives back the enemy.
- God wants you to speak forth the testimony God has given you.
 - Do you have a testimony today? Do you have a story of God's mighty power in your life?
 - A testimony is a "test" you have passed.
 - It's never easy or fun.

Vs. 11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Freedom Step 4: Be Wholehearted! Be all in. Don't love your life, love His life.

- Jesus said, "If you love your life you will lose it. If you lose your life for My sake, you will find it."

- Chuck Colson writes, “From creation onward, God’s rule extends to everything. From our bank accounts to our business dealings to our educational curriculum to social justice issues to environmental concerns to our political choices—everything must reflect the fact that God’s righteous rule extends to all of life.”
- Does Jesus have it all in your life?
- Does he have your home? Your cars? Your truck?
- Does he have your children?
- Does he have your job? Your future?
- Does he have your recreation?
- Does he have your money?
- Matthew 6:21
Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
- When it is all given to Him, we have nothing to lose.

Vs. 12

Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

- Remember that our passage says that Satan has been cast down!
- Satan and his demons are scared of you! They know you have power and anointing from God.
- He knows his time is up! He knows his end!