

I AM AN OVERCOMER

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Rev. 12:1-6

Life is rough. The days of our lives are filled with joy, and pain, sunshine, and rain. But, we are overcomers in Christ. Sometimes this is difficult to see because Satan, the accuser, works overtime to keep us on edge. He tries to kill our dreams. He tries to distract us by making us think that we lack what we need, and that it is impossible for us to maximize our potential.

Whenever something crazy happens in your relationship or life, just know that Satan is behind it. He can't stand it when brothers and sisters get along. He knows that when we are in one accord, nothing can stop us. He has so many people convinced that they will never be able to make it again. Satan is a liar and God is a restorer. Satan has some of you believing that you are under his feet, but you need to believe that he is under ours.

Do not believe him, Satan is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:44. We are not his primary targets, he is really after God. It's no secret that Satan is a defeated foe. He is trying to wreak as much havoc as he can before his reign is over. Satan is not equal to God. He cannot do all of the things that he is doing except by permission. You don't have to listen to the enemy. You don't even have to let him into your space.

As our text makes clear, Satan has been on the defensive. John shares with us visions of things to come and things that have already taken place. Two wondrous signs are depicted in the text. The woman was clearly Israel. The male child is Christ. The dragon is the devil. The red is symbolic of death. Satan was trying to snatch or devour the child before it was born. There were always dragons after Jesus; seeking to destroy him. Satan will use anything and anybody to destroy God's people. You just need to be aware so you don't get caught up. Too often, we go after folk, thinking they are the culprits. But we wrestle not against flesh and blood....

You just need to be discerning, don't be confused. Satan will cause sickness in your body; he will cause confusion in your relationships. Dragons! We are unmasking the masquerader today. We will not give the enemy any more power and authority than he has. What Satan and others meant for evil, God meant for good. The cross on which Jesus was crucified, was Satan's defeat. He had once been in the court with God, but he was kicked out of heaven.

Satan became the prince of the earth when Adam and Eve lost their dominion. The ultimate victory that Jesus had won over Satan could only be won in the flesh. Victory over Satan could not take place until the righteous requirements of the law were fulfilled. The wages of sin are death, but the gift of God is eternal life.

Jesus came to earth, born of a woman and born under the law. He obeyed the law wholeheartedly. When he shed his blood, he was uniquely qualified to die in our place. He fulfilled the requirements of the law. When he got up, he had done to death what death does to everybody else.

While he was there, he took the keys that held the people captive, and set them free. And from then on, we have all been free. Col 2:13-15 At the cross, Jesus not only saved us from our sins, he also took away Satan's authority. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. They overcame him by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony...Rev. 12:10-12. the destruction of the devil, was because of the blood of the lamb. Satan can still come and go as he wants, but with no power. Once it became clear that he had no power, he had to come up with another scheme to hold us captive.

He loves to accuse us. He did that to Job; remember? Now that we have been redeemed by the blood, our salvation is secure. And we have an advocate when the accuser stands before God. Jesus gives us victory over Satan in every area of our lives. Temptation can no longer snare us. If we are going to walk in overcoming power we must understand...

There is no victory without conflict. We live in enemy territory. You are different; you are not like everybody else. You have to see the enemy coming. If Satan makes you an offer, you can't refuse; resist him. We have to learn how to fight. You have to go into the world, like you go into battle. Go in the power of the Holy Ghost.

You have to beat the enemy at his own game. If he tells you that you are sick, you say I am healed by the blood of Jesus. You have to learn how to be militant. We are the church of the living God. Greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world.

Peace

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