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OVERCOMING
in an
Overwhelming world



If you do not overcome - you will be overcome.

Derek Prince.

In an overwhelming world we have three adversaries,

The World, The Flesh and The Devil.

Mark 6:45-52

- Do you have someone who loves and cares for you?
- Do you have a source of Joy?
- Do you have a sense of peace?
- Have you been depressed in the last month?

John 10:10 *The thief comes to kill steal and destroy, but I have come that you might have life, abundantly.*

Here are 3 suggestions for presenting the prayer of helplessness to Him:

First, be honest with God. Tell Him that you are aware of the fact that you are helpless. Give God permission to let you feel helplessness at an emotion level, if that is what is needed. Recognize that this may be painful. There is good psychological reason, however, why it may be necessary. Unless the power of your emotion is touched, it is as if a fuse remains unlit.

Second, take your heart's desire to God. You have accepted your helplessness. Now grip with equal strength of will your belief that **God can do through you what you cannot.** It may seem for a time as though you are relying on emptiness, dangling over a chasm. Discard these feelings and thank God quietly that He is working things out.

Third, watch now for opening doors. When the right door opens, you will have a quiet, inner assurance that God's hand is on the doorknob. That is a time of action for you, an opportunity for your creativity to join hands with His.

One brighter day in the future, you will look back and your heart will overflow with praise to God that He cared about you enough to shut you up to Him alone. Without that stringently kind providence, you could never have learned first-hand the amazing power of the prayer of helplessness.

Prayer: Where are you, Lord?

Lord, I have been so defeated by circumstances. I have felt like an animal trapped in a corner with nowhere to flee. Where are you in all this, Lord? The night is dark. I cannot feel Your presence.....

Help me to know that the darkness is really the shade of Your hand, outstretched caressingly, that the hemming in is Your doing. Perhaps there is no way You could get my full attention, no other way I would allow You to demonstrate what you can do in my life.

Overcomers are overwhelmed with Jesus

The battle is over when our hearts find their true rest in God and the world the flesh and the devil no longer have a hold on us.

Psalm 16:11 In His presence there is fullness of Joy

Nehemiah 8:10 The Joy of the Lord is our strength

John 15:5 ...*He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*

Exodus 33:14 *My presence will go with you and I will give you rest.*

I have found the one my soul loves.

Song of Songs 3:4

The Prayer of Helplessness

- from *"The best of Catherine Marshall"*

Why is prayer so startlingly effective when we admit our helplessness? First, because God insists on us facing up to the facts of our human situation. In addition, this recognition and acknowledgement of our helplessness is the quickest way to that right attitude so essential to prayer. It deals a mortal blow to the most serious sin of all – man's independence that ignores God.

Another reason is that we cannot learn firsthand about God – what He is like, His love for us, His real power – so long as we are relying on ourselves and other people. And fellowship with Jesus is the true purpose of our life, the only foundation for eternity.

So, if your every human plan and calculation has miscarried, if, one by one, human props have been knocked out and doors shut in your face, take heart. God is trying to get a message through to you, and the message is "Stop depending on inadequate human resources. Let Me handle the matter."

Trials change our perspective and our focus

John 14:1-2 *Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

John 16:33 *These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world **you will have tribulation**; but **be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.***

Tribulation/Hardship (Greek) = to break, to crush, to compress, to squeeze.

Acts 14:22 *strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."*

2 Timothy 3:12 *All who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.*

When the winds of the world are against us, when hardship and persecution come, will we be squeezed and crushed to death by the worlds storms or will we look to the One who has power to overcome?

OVERCOME THE WORLD

By Faith

1 John 5:4 *For whatever is born of God, overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world - our faith!*

1 John 1:5:5 *Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?*

Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God **must believe that He is**, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

What do you believe? Who do you believe? Who do you follow?

Overcomers Know God

Daniel 11:32 *...The People who know their God will do great exploits.*

Jeremiah 9:23-24

John 17:3

Overcomers know and believe God's Word

Romans 10:17 Faith comes by hearing

Psalms 119:50, 67, 71, 75, 82, 92, 107, 143, 147, 153

Joshua 1:8 Meditate in the word day and night

Proverbs 15:28 Study to have a wise answer

Proverbs 16:23 Train your lips

John 8:31-32 The truth will set you free

Overcomers know the God of Peace, and the peace of God.

Romans 15:33 *Now the **God of peace** be with you all. Amen.*

Romans 16:20 *And the **God of peace** will crush Satan under your feet shortly.*

2 Corinthians 13:11 *...be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the **God of love and peace** will be with you. (NASB)*

2 Thessalonians 3:16 *Now may the **Lord of peace** Himself give you peace always...*

Hebrews 13:20-21 *Now may the **God of peace** who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, the Great Shepherd ...make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ...*

Daniel 7:25 *He shall speak pompous words against the Most-High, he shall persecute (oppress, wear out) the saints of the Most-High,*

Overcome by faith in what Jesus has already done to defeat him

Colossians 2:13-15

Overcome by humility, submitting to God.

James 4:7 *Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

Luke 22:31-32, 61

1 Peter 5:5-7 ... *“God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble”.*

1 Peter 5:8-10, 1 Peter 1:5-8

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Overcome by persevering prayer

Daniel 10:12-13

Overcome by worshipping God in times of hardship

Acts 16:25 – 30

Overcome with courage - live with hope in the eternal

If you are ready to go home – you are ready for anything.

Facing overwhelming circumstances physical eyes see only the physical problem. Overcomers see what God sees, they look to their eternal home

2 Corinthians 4:7

Joshua 1:9

Daniel 3:17-18

Esther 4:16

Numbers 13

Exodus 14:13-22, Exodus 1:12-2:10, 4:24-26

Overcomers know their identity and purpose in Jesus

1 Peter 3:18 *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust (righteous for the unrighteous) that He might bring us to God. Being put to death in the flesh (body) but being made alive in the Spirit.*

John 3:5-7 You must be Born again

Colossians 1:13-14 Delivered from darkness

2 Corinthians 5:17 A new Creation

Philippians 3:13 Forgetting the past

1 Peter 2:9-10 *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*

Overcomers are ordinary people filled with God’s Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:5 our sufficiency is from God.

Ephesians 1:19 His power toward us who believe,

Ephesians 3:20 His power in us.

Ephesians 5:18 Be filled (continually) with His power

Ephesians 6:10 Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might.

Overcomers know the power of God is His love

Romans 8:35 *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?...*

Romans 8:37 *Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*

Romans 8:38-39 *For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Colossians 1:21-23 *...continue in the faith grounded and steadfast and not moved away from the hope of the gospel...*

Isaiah 61:1-4/ Luke 4:18-21.

Good news - eternal life

Healing - for broken hearts

Freedom - from bondage

Open doors - for those in prison

Beauty - from Ashes

Joy - for mourning

Praise - for Depression

Trees of righteousness - planted for God's glory.

Isaiah 61:4 *And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolation, and they shall repair the desolations of many generations.*

Know God - Love God - Trust God = Freedom

Free to be His light in the world

OVERCOME THE DEVIL

By Submitting to God and Resisting the enemy

James 4:7 *Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

Revelation 12:11 *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.***

If you are ready to go home – you are ready for anything.

David Wilkerson

The enemy is THE Enemy

1 John 5:18-19 *We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but **he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway (control) of the wicked one.***

Ephesians 6:10-18 ¹⁰*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **stand against the wiles of the devil.** ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but **against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.** ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

Overcomers know the enemy's character, his purpose and his strategy

He is a deceiver - 2 Corinthians 11:3

He is the father of lies and a murderer - John 8:44-47

He is a devourer - 1 Peter 5:8

He is an Angel of light - 2 Corinthians

He is the accuser of the brethren - Revelation 12:10

He is pride and wants to be worshipped - Isaiah 14:12-14

He is thief who comes to kill, steal and destroy - John 10:10

Psalm 43:3-4 *Oh, send out Your light and truth, let them lead me to Your Holy hill, and to Your tabernacle...*

Overcomers confidently wear their armor, the identity of Jesus Christ. They cast off the works of darkness and the flesh. They walk in the light and live with joy and peace, obedient to the Holy Spirit, resting in His love and His leading.

Philippians 2:15 *that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of, a crooked and perverse generation, among whom **you shine as lights in the world,***

Isaiah 50:10 *Who among you fears the Lord? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness and has no light? Let Him trust in the name of the Lord and rely upon His God.*

Micah 7:8 *Do not rejoice over me my enemy, when I fall, I will rise, when I sit in darkness the Lord will be a light to me.*

Matthew 10:27-28 *Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both the soul and body in hell.*

OVERCOME THE FLESH

By Crucifying the flesh and living in the SPIRIT

Romans 8:13 *For if you live by the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

Romans 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.*

Galatians 5:16 *I say then; Walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh.*

We may pray, “God use me”, but when God takes us through a trial to make us usable we cry “Why have You forsaken me?”

Overwhelming trials build divine Character

Romans 5:1-5

Darkness cannot overcome the Light!

John 1:4-5 *In Him was the life and the life was the light of men. And the **light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome** it. (NIV). (can never extinguish it NLT).*

John 3:16-19

John 8:12

1 John 1:5-8

1 John 2:9-11

Matthew 5:14 ***You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.*

We become overwhelmed with what we look at

Matthew 6:22-23 *The eye is the light of the body*

Romans 16:19 *...Be wise about what is good and innocent about what is evil.*

1 John 5:21 *Little children keep yourselves from idols. Amen.*

Psalm 135:5 *For I know the Lord is great. And our Lord is above all gods.*

Psalm 135:15-18 *The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.*

They have mouths but they do not speak

They have eyes but they do not see

They have ears but they do not hear

Nor is there any breath in their mouth.

Those who make them are like them; so is everyone who trusts in them.

Overcome the flesh by walking in the light

Ephesians 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God...*

Ephesians 5:8-12

Overcome by guarding your eyes, ears, mouth, heart, feet.

Proverbs 4:18-27

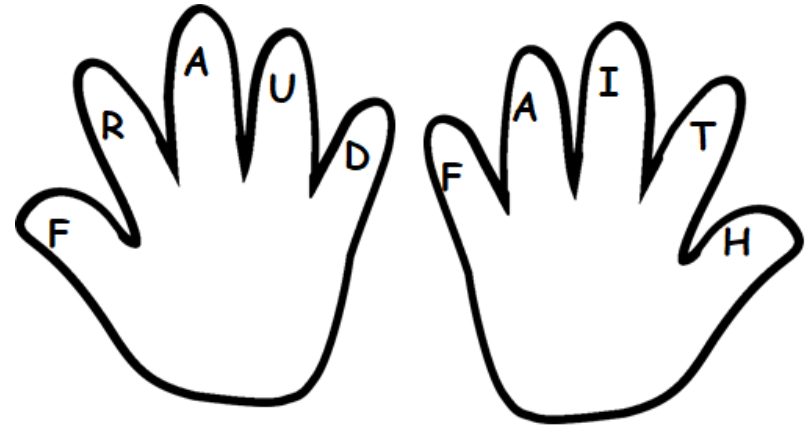
Overcome evil with good

Romans 12:17-21

Overcome with love, put off darkness, put on the Light, Jesus Christ

Romans 13:8-14

What are you looking at that is causing you to be overwhelmed by darkness?



FRAUD

FAITH

Overwhelmed by Flesh

Overcoming in the Spirit

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Are you *Overwhelmed* living as a FRAUD or are you *Overcoming* as a spirit filled woman living by FAITH?

Psalm 42:5 *Why are you cast down oh my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God. For I will yet praise Him for the help of His countenance.*