



OVERCOMERS

OVERCOMERS - PART 17

Revelation 6:1-17

This is the final resource in the 'Overcomers' series, and my hope is that you have been and are being made aware of the seriousness of what you are looking at, in relation to two things. Firstly, all the promises (inheritance) God has for all those who live lives as 'overcomers' while being on earth. The inheritance which we can receive and live from now by the currency of the kingdom, called 'faith.'

The words "by faith" are mentioned 24 times in Hebrews chapter 11 alone, when talking about God's people of faith, because it is only by faith that we overcome.

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.

Those who are born of God through resurrection power, living now from a brand new spirit, no longer living for and from self, live lives of faith in Jesus Christ, and so in turn overcome the world, the flesh and the adversary. This is the divine promise of God to His people.

The second thing I hope we have all had our eyes opened to, is the seriousness and the consequences of not being ready and living a life of faith on the earth now, and what this means for us as His people, the church. There are 5 out of 7 churches who need to repent of what Jesus addresses in their lives, otherwise they face the consequences of losing what He has promised to them. How do we compare to these churches today?

Once again He rewards the overcomer, not those who are overcome by their own flesh, the world and the adversary, because of their own personal choices.

Jesus is taking the time to rebuke 5 out of 7 of His churches for the purpose of repentance, so they can come into the life He promises. Have you ever asked why God has created and is the author of the 7 seals and the trumpets? Some would say it is to punish the earth for its sin, while I want to suggest, it is primarily for the purpose of the church's repentance. Ponder this for a moment. If Jesus returns before the seals and the trumpets, which can I remind us He opened and sanctioned, what state is the church actually in?

A loving Father wants to give his children every opportunity to receive all he has for them, but a loving Father can not reward a disobedient and unfaithful child or children, who do not do what the Father is asking. It goes against his nature, character and the life that he holds to and lives. God is no different. If Jesus returns before the seals and trumpets the majority of His church will be found out for the true



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spiritual condition of their hearts, and their immaturity will be exposed for what it is.

The Laodicean church is known as the end time church, the church today. The Laodicean church along with the church in Sardis received the worst report out of all the churches. As His children we all need to take a good long look in the mirror and truly ask ourselves how much of our lives actually reflect the church that Jesus builds.

Truth is self-evident, which means our very lives are the evidence of whether we are the church of Laodicea or not, not what we say and believe about ourselves.

How can Jesus who is returning with His reward give His reward to this kind of church. He can't, so as a loving Father He authors and opens the seals and trumpets, to create a pressure upon the earth to awaken us from our spiritual sleep, slumber and apathy, empowering His church to find this place and posture of repentance in the Spirit, so she can turn and receive all He has to give her, getting herself ready before He returns.

Everything and I mean everything God does or allows is for our good. God gives us what we need, not what we want and I am forever grateful for this in Him.

Are you in need of repentance today, so you can receive all that He has for you? Are you being made ready as His bride or are you still living for you and from you, having you at the centre of you and your world?

Big questions to ponder and truly take to the Spirit.

QUESTIONS

1. How does faith enable us to overcome? Share an example of your faith enabling you to overcome.
2. What are the consequences to us, His church, if we are found not ready when He returns?
3. What was your understanding of what or who an overcomer was? After going through this resource has your understanding changed? How and why?
4. How does a lifestyle of repentance determine and define the overcomer's we are called to be and why?
5. How do the 7 seals & trumpets give the church the opportunity to become overcomers?