

Checkin' Out My Walk -#40 -Overcomer Promises To Thyatira
Power Over The Nations - The Morning Star

Church	Commendation	Problems	Solution	Overcomer Promise
Ephesus	Works, Serving, Sacrificing, Steadfast, Separated, Suffering	<u>LEFT</u> Your First Works	Remember Repent DO 1 st Works	Grant Right To Eat Of Tree Of Life In Midst Paradise Of God
Smyrna	Works, Tribulation, Poverty, Blasphemy of Synagogue of Satan		Do Not Fear Future Be Faithful To Death	Crown Of Life Not Hurt By 2 nd Death
Pergamos	Works Live>Satan's Throne Hold Fast To My Name, Didn't Deny My Faith	Allow Doctrine Of Balaam & Nicolaitans COMPROMISE	Repent or Jesus Will Come With Sword Of His Mouth	Eat Of Hidden Manna Give White Stone New Name

Rev. 2:18-29 These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: ¹⁹ "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and *as* for your works, the last *are* more than the first. ²⁰ Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. ²¹ And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. ²² Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. ²³ I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works. "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. ²⁵ But hold fast what you have TILL I COME. ²⁶ AND he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations— ²⁷ 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels— as I also have received from My Father; ²⁸ and I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Recall: Thyatira represents the orthodox church where the evil spirit of Jezebel was allowed to reign. John says they hit the "depths of Satan." The goal of the spirit of Jezebel was to seduce God's faithful servants into disobedience and fornication. In the end times, this spirit is said to return.

Note: Jesus urges the godly remnant to hold fast and Await The Coming Of The Lord. This is the first reference in the 7 letters to the coming of Jesus Christ for His church. He presents His return as the HOPE of this remnant who are engulfed by an apostate system.

G.R. Beasley [Revelation, p. 93] This is the nearest we have in the seven letters to a definition of the overcomer. "He holds fast the traditions of faith and life delivered to the Church until the coming of Christ (v. 25). He keeps Christ's works till the end (v. 26) - whether that 'end' be the Lord's parousia or his own death."

Note: In the first three churches, the Lord calls the whole body to hear. However, in the last four churches, due to the change in circumstances, the Lord is no longer able to place the calling after His words to the whole church. Instead, He has placed the calling after the promises to the overcomers, as if He does not expect anyone to hear the calling except the overcomers. Sin has sprung up among the nominal and carnal Christians. Up until now the majority of the church heeded His words. Henceforth, only a remnant heeds His words. As a result, the Lord's promise and calling can no longer be as general as before. Now we will see a clearer and clearer distinction between God's remnant and the general majority.

Note: 1. The rewards to Ephesus, Smyrna and Pergamos do not offer positions of great responsibility in Christ's coming Kingdom.

2. Except for the crown of life to the martyrs of Smyrna, the rewards are more of intimacy and fellowship.

3. Thus far, Jesus has expected His followers to hear His voice, be faithful and overcome the world.

4. NOW His followers must overcome false teaching which involves a battle with the enemy.

I. Jesus Admonishes Those Who Do Not Have The Doctrine of Jezebel

A. Hold Fast What You Have Till I Come

Note: This is no minor warning. The tendency of believers is to lose ground rather than hold fast and move ahead. Things naturally go downhill unless there is great effort against those forces that, like gravity, tend to pull us downward. There is always the need to cling to the Lord and hold tightly through a close walk with Him in the Word.

B. And To He Who Overcomes and Keeps My Works Until The End

Note: (1) The promise is in a context of two admonitions for FAITHFULNESS.

While some versions leave out the "and" [kai] that begins verse 26, the Greek text contains this connecting particle and shows a relationship exists between the promise and the admonitions.

"And he who overcomes ..." This links the promise to the overcomer back to verse 25. "But hold fast (kratew, 'to hold firmly to something so that it is not lost') what you have until I come."

This connects overcoming to the preceding admonition and makes it dependent on holding fast.

(2) In Rev. 2:26 overcoming is also connected to keeping Christ's works until the end.

Keeping His works: overcoming through the walk of faith and daily fellowship or the abiding life. Allow the Holy Spirit to appropriate His strength and power through the knowledge of God's Word.

(3) He who keeps My deeds until the end = defines the overcomer. One does not normally speak of "keeping" or "obeying" *deeds* or *works*. *Tareo* can mean *to obey*, but it also can mean *to guard*, which is the better sense here. *He who guards My works* is the literal sense of the phrase. Contend For The Truth And Overcome False Teachings!

(4) Overcoming by holding fast and keeping His works is the basis for special rewards.

II. God's Promise To Him Who Overcomes: [*He Holds Fast & Keeps My Works To The End*]

A. The Gift Of The Morning Star: Since there is only one *morning star*, but all overcomers are promised it, we know this is a figure of speech. The Lord's point: He will grant great honor.

This gift is referred to in three passages:

(1) In Revelation 22:16 it is a reference to the Lord Himself.

(2) II Pet. 1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. This seems to be a reference to the fuller understanding we will receive at His return when the Lord is personally present to enlighten us.

(3) In Rev. 2:28 The context suggests that in some way it relates to the overcomers and their reward in ruling with the Lord Jesus Christ. Perhaps it is the assurance of His presence and provision to be able to handle the authority given over the nations assigned.

Note: As a promise to the overcomer, [hold fast and keep His works to the end], it can hardly be a symbol of Christ's return since all believers will share in His return regardless of their spiritual condition.

Consider: Possibly, the key to the meaning of the morning star is found in:

Rev. 22:16 "I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star."

Literally, as in 2:28, "the star, the morning one." = the brilliant, bright one, the brightest of all

Note: This links Jesus with the throne of David. Jesus is descended from the royal line of David and is the star, the King himself.

This was prophesied in Numbers 24:14-19 A Star shall come out of Jacob;

A Scepter shall rise out of Israel. Out of Jacob One shall have dominion,

2:27b: "as I have received authority from My Father"

1.) The overcomer would be given a dominion like His own.

2:28: The overcomer will be given a rule and splendor like that of the Lord's.

2.) The Lord is promising the overcomer: He will share His royalty and splendor as the morning star. Remember that Christ is the greatest treasure in the universe and every overcomer will be rewarded with Him. No reward could be greater.

B. To Him I Will Give Authority Over The Nations

v. 27 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'— as I also have received from My Father;

Belief: I believe in the literal Millennial reign of Jesus Christ on this earth.

Jesus Christ will return [2nd coming] at the end of the 7 year tribulation, defeat all rulers,

cast the false prophet and beast into the Lake of Fire, have Satan chained in the bottomless pit for 1000 years and inaugurate His Kingdom.

Those Who Overcome As Stated In V. 25-26 Will Be Privileged To Reign:

Jesus Christ will grant positions of authority and responsibility in the Millennial Kingdom.

Remember: These are granted because of His grace.

We overcome ONLY in His strength and grace.

Belief: All believers will be in the reign of Christ and in the kingdom, but not all will share in His reign.

1. I will give authority [power] over the nations = 1st reward given to those who guard the works of the Lord (the overcomer).

This phrase and the subsequent ideas are modeled after: Inheritance Of Jesus

Psalm 2:6-9 "Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion." "I will declare the decree:

The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

Ask of Me, and I will give You

The nations *for* Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth *for* Your possession.

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel."

Jesus Christ will bring His rod with Him when He returns to the earth.

Rev. 19:15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.

Jesus Christ will come as a lion- powerful, willing and able to bend the will of His adversaries into submission. Any nation that will not bow the knee to Him will suffer the same fate as a discarded potter's vessel. It will be dashed in pieces or "totally conquered" until it does.

Why did a potter break his pots? A potter in the first century A.D. would take a lump of clay, moisten it, put it on a spinning horizontal disk called a potter's wheel. He would then take his hands and mold a pot from the clay. Then he would heat it in an oven to bake it hard. Before he glazed and/or painted it, he checked it for problems. If he found a rock, a thin place, too thick of a place in the wall, a crack somewhere in it, he would take the pot and throw it down and break it into pieces. That is a good illustration of what Christ is going to do with any rebellious nations that refuse His peace ambassadors who He sends to them.

Question: Have you ever thought you might be like that old clay pot?

After all, we are made of clay (the dust of the ground - Gen. 2:7) Sometimes we may want our own way and refuse to do things His way. We can be stubborn and self-willed and refuse to bow the knee to the Lord. Our Potter has to break our will (break our pot). He allows a trial to enter our life for our effectual growth. When He gets finished He will have a spiritual vessel that He can use for His purposes and one that He can be proud of. The ONLY way for us to become all God desires us to be is to remain pliable in the Potter's hands.

II Cor. 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, *continually* seeing as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are progressively being transformed into His image from [one degree of] glory to [even more] glory, which comes from the Lord, [who is] the Spirit.

Isa. 9:7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Note: King David is promised a resurrection from the dead to rule over Israel and Judah.

Jeremiah 30:9 But they shall serve the LORD their God,
And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them.

Several Jewish ceremonial feasts will be celebrated. The Nations Will Worship King Jesus

Zech. 14:9, 16-21 And the LORD shall be King over all the earth... And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.¹⁷ And it shall be *that* whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain.¹⁸ If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they *shall have no rain*; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

¹⁹ This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.²⁰ In that day "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" shall be *engraved* on the bells of the horses. The pots in the LORD's house shall be like the bowls before the altar.²¹ Yes, every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holiness to the LORD of hosts. Everyone who sacrifices shall come and take them and cook in them. In that day there shall no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts.

Note: Worship of the King will be mandatory. Those who fail to come to Jerusalem will pay the consequences. No one will escape who disobeys the law.

Psalm 149 projects ahead to the time of His Millennial Kingdom.

The saints are executing justice.

Ps. 149:5-9 Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds.

⁶ Let the high praises of God *be* in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand,

⁷ To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples;

⁸ To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron;

⁹ To execute on them the written judgment— This honor have all His saints.

The saints seem to have positions over the heathen nations and authority to execute punishments. Their weapon is the Word of God, the sharp two-edged sword.

Its breaking power is the strength of iron.

Note:

1. The overcomers are to execute the judgment already written, handed down to them from the king.

2. The rod of iron is an inflexible rule of righteousness that sinful people will begin to chafe under as the kingdom goes on.

The Millennial Reign will be a glorious victory of Christ over all the nations that have warred against Him. Each of those conquered nations will need a new government set up to serve King Jesus and to do His will. Every nation needs to be brought under the rule of Jesus Christ so it will be Godly spiritual, profitable and productive.

1. Christ desires each of His overcomers to share with Him in His mighty victory.
2. Christ will allow each overcomer to take some part in the rulership of the nations of the world under His command.
3. Overcomers will have power (due to the delegated authority of Christ) in their rulership role.
4. Christ may appoint his overcomers to be presidents, prime ministers, governors, etc.
5. Each overcomer will receive glory, honor, and rewards and will receive the praise from God.
6. Each overcomer will rule in righteousness because each one will be a righteous individual.

The prophet, Daniel, wrote about this glorious victory of Christ and His overcomers.
Daniel 7: 26-27 "...but the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his (the Antichrist's) dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him (Christ)."

Several New Testament Scriptures reveal Christ's blessings to His overcomers at that time. Christ gives to His bond-servants who are overcomers: His authority [power] over the nations. The nations (tov ethnon) should be translated "the Gentiles."

Jesus promised the apostles rulership over the twelve tribes of Israel.

Matt. 19:28 Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that In The Regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

I Cor. 6:2 Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you,

Rom. 8:17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

II Tim. 2:11-12 *This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him.*

¹² If we endure, We shall also reign with *Him*. If we deny *Him*, He also will deny us.

Fast Forward To The End Of The 1000 Years: Satan will be released for a short time. He deceives the people again and ignites a great rebellion.

Rev. 20:7-9 God Crushes The Satanic Rebellion: God will destroy only the rebels with fire falling from heaven.

DO YOU LOVE ANYTHING MORE THAN JESUS?

When you put other things or people ahead of Jesus Christ whether it be a person that you just think is the most wonderful person in the world and no one can ever replace that person, be careful. It might be success. It might be power that you need to be in charge. It may be materialism, financial security. It could even be ministry.

Whenever we put something in His place, He becomes jealous because we are being unfaithful to Him. He should be our first and only love. He loves us. He died for us and one day He is coming back for us. He will not tolerate other lovers.

DO YOU HAVE WEEDS IN YOUR LIFE?

I just do not have the energy to deal with "the weeds" right now. Tomorrow I'll deal with it. Be careful because just like a garden that is not tended to, it becomes overwhelming. The longer you wait the more it hurts. These weeds may be something just like a negative, critical spirit that just creeps in. Maybe they are jealousy or rebellion. Maybe they are gossip or just a lie that Satan has planted in your mind that is just starting to sprout and take root in your life. Pull the weeds up and do it today!

The Invitation And Promise

Rev. 2:29 Christ closes His message to the church at Thyatira with a challenge to those who are overcomers.

Hold fast what you have until I come. Guard My works unto the end.

I Cor. 2:9 What eye has not seen and ear has not heard and has not entered into the heart of man, [all that] God has prepared (made and keeps ready) for those who love Him [who hold Him in affectionate reverence, promptly obeying Him and gratefully recognizing the benefits He has bestowed].