

How to Be More Than a Conqueror

Are you fighting a battle right now? I believe we all have battles to fight at various times in life. But I want to encourage you. Whatever you may be facing today, in Christ, you are more than a conqueror! Romans 8:37 (AMPC) says, "Yet amid all these things we are more than conquerors *and* gain a surpassing victory through Him Who loved us." Think about it. Meditate on it. Let this truth from God's Word settle in your heart.

Again, we each have battles to fight at different times. Sometimes it's a financial battle; it can be a family or relationship struggle; or we might be in an emotional conflict in our soul. No matter what, the truth is, this war is spiritual ... and we must learn to use spiritual weapons in the fight.

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What do I mean by that? Second Corinthians 10:4 tells us that "the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds."

That word "strongholds" refers to areas where the enemy entrenches himself and takes control. It's very important to realize that the greatest part of the battle is often in our minds. The enemy's tactic is to gain ground and build strongholds by influencing our thoughts. If we believe it, even a lie will become truth to us. And Satan is determined to try and make us believe his lies and gradually build these strongholds in our mind.

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Pay attention to the things you think about most of the time. Are they thoughts that encourage and motivate you? Or do you more often think of things that truly hinder your progress—things that don't agree with God's Word? If so, it may be that the enemy has gained a stronghold.

I've often talked about when Dave and I were first married. It wasn't very long before he wanted to know what was wrong with me—why I stayed so negative all the time. I was still very hurt and angry about things that had happened to me in my past. I told him that I'd come to *believe* if I didn't expect much good to happen, I wouldn't be disappointed when it didn't! That attitude was a stronghold in my mind.

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