

This Is How We Overcome

In the power of the living Christ upon the throne we can stand as victors in the face of all the hosts of darkness. But you must never allow yourself to look at the enemy so as to blot out your clear consciousness of the person of the victorious Christ (see Eph. 1:17-23).

God raised Jesus from the dead and lifted Him right through the plane of the power of the air to the place above “principality and power” (Eph. 1:21, NKJV). He made Him to sit at His right hand, and “He put all things under His feet” (v. 22).

Furthermore, “[God] gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all” (v. 23). Therefore, Christ is above all rule and authority and dominion and power. He is absolute and complete Conqueror.

His Victory Is Ours

In Ephesians 2, Paul the apostle describes the condition of the human race and the work done for believers in uniting them to the risen Lord: “And you, He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins” (v. 1). You cannot save yourself. But the Holy Spirit comes to you, and tells you that Christ died for you—took your place on the cross—so that, “through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil” (Heb. 2:14). Believe in this

atoning
sacrifice of the Son of God, even His death for you; and there
will
unfold another life, for He will put into you new life—the
gift of
eternal life.

By the working of the Spirit of God, you are quickened
with that life as you accept His death for you and your death
in Him.

And just as Christ was raised from the dead into newness of
life, you
too, joined to Him, will be able to sit with Him in His place
of victory
over sin and Satan.

You were raised with Christ in His resurrection life and
taken with Him to His ascension place. Your God-given place is
there
(see Eph. 2:4-6).

You are to live in the clear air above the powers of
darkness, and not in the mists and the darkness of the course
of this
world. Yet you say, "I do not feel that I experience it!"

This experience is first a faith position. If you will
apprehend it, and take it, the Holy Spirit will teach you how
to abide
in your position until it becomes a fact in consciousness.

Looking to Jesus

God the Holy Ghost is preparing His people for glory and,
like a great master workman, He is working behind the curtain,
behind
the scaffolding. You do not know what He is doing, but the
building is
going up throughout the whole world.

What we must do now is to get our eyes off the darkness around us—a darkness that is deepening on the world—and live in personal victory up to the very utmost of the light God has given us. If we could look from the throne of God down upon the world, we should see the Holy Spirit moving here and there, breaking out wherever He can get an outlet.

Be not afraid of the persecution and the scoffing, the opposition and the rejection. It is the prince of the air, the spirit that works in every disobedient child. By the stones of Earth God is allowing the enemy to drive His children out from the earthly realm, to live in heaven. You know that if you can get a prop on Earth you will lean on it; so God allows the enemy to sweep them away, and gladly does the enemy use His permission (see Job 1-42).

Now that we have looked at the glory side, let us examine the foundation again, and see if we are grounded on the rock of Calvary.

You must fully understand that you cannot share in Christ's resurrection unless you also have a share in the fellowship of His death. Your foundation is in His death—the place where you must be rooted and planted, so that no storm will draw you out.

They say that the oak tree lengthens its roots in storms. If you are like an oak, then God will permit many storms to root you.

The stronger the power of the divine life in you, the more

will God put
it to the proof; and as He puts it to the test, it strengthens
at the
roots.

More Than Conquerors

Here is the secret of victory over sin. It is not you
cutting off sin. It is you apprehending your place in Christ's
death,
accounting yourself dead to sin and allowing the Holy Spirit
to then
bring into fact the internal work of deliverance.

The Holy Spirit never fails to bear witness to Calvary.
The instant you desire, with full purpose of heart, to be
delivered from
the power of sin, there is no sin of deepest hue that does not
fall
away from you there, and you are set free.

Paul wrote: "For the death that He died, He died to sin
once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.
Likewise you
also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to
God in
Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 6:10-11).

Your part is to reckon it, even though you do not
understand. To reckon not only that you died with Him, but
that you are
now, at this very moment, "dead indeed to sin" as far as your
choice and
your will go. Then—"Do not let sin reign" (Rom. 6:12).

This is the only way of victory over Satan, for it is
through sin—known or unknown—that he holds us, and it is only
as we take
our stand on the truth of God's Word—when the devil attacks

with his
temptation to sin, or when you want deliverance from sin—that
you can
triumphantly say, “On the ground of my death with Christ, I am
now dead
to that sin, and it shall not reign.” Then the Holy Spirit
applies the
power of Christ’s death, breaks the connection with sin, and
you lose
even the desire for it.

And, if you want victory over the enemy holding another
soul in bondage, before you deal with that person make sure
you are on
solid footing. The only place where the enemy is powerless in
on Calvary
ground.

Hide yourself in the death of the Lord Jesus. In the name
of Jesus rise today, and “Do not let sin reign.” Take your
place. Reckon
you are dead to sin and cast it off.

We are to be overcomers, going right ahead and burning the
bridges behind us. We cannot look back. It must be on toward
the prize!

*Jessie Penn-Lewis (1861-1927) was physically frail, but
she made up for it in spiritual strength. She had a remarkable
ministry
that stressed the centrality of the cross of Christ in the
life and
experience of the Christian.*

*Penn-Lewis first took her place as a sinner before that
cross at the age of 21, and proclaimed its message tirelessly
from that
time on, not only in her native England, but also in*

Scandinavia,
Russia and North America. Her writings, for which she is
probably best
known, include more than 20 books. She was a witness to the
Welsh
Revival of 1904–1905 and author of *Awakening in Wales*
(*Christian*
Literature Crusade), which was a clear and unvarnished record
of the
facts concerning this outpouring of God's Spirit.

During the visitation in Wales, she saw the rise of
many extreme practices, which brought about the decline of the
revival.

This led her, along with Welsh Revival leader Evan Roberts, to
write the
spiritual warfare classic *War on the Saints*, which reveals
Satan's many methods of spiritual deception used to entrap the
of her most influential works, *The Cross of Calvary*,
is described as a classic on the atonement.

In 1927, three weeks after speaking at a series of
meetings in Wales, Penn-Lewis died on August 15. She was 66.

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