

THE END – Part 6

INTRODUCTION

[Revelation 14:1](#)

Who are these standing on Mount Zion with the “Father’s *name* written in their foreheads”? They are *overcomers*.

[Revelation 3:12a](#)

Notice, those who overcome will have the Father’s name written upon them. (Incidentally, having the Father’s name written on them doesn’t just mean they ‘belong’ to God. It means they bear the nature and character of God.)

[Revelation 22:4](#)

The Bible also mentions something *else* that is written on these overcomers...

[Revelation 3:12](#)

God will ALSO write the name of His city, the New Jerusalem, on the overcomers! What does this mean? Again, it doesn’t just mean they are citizens of this city.

[Revelation 21:2, 9-10](#)

Notice, the “New Jerusalem” IS the *Lamb’s wife*. Therefore, those who have the city of God (New Jerusalem) written upon them are members of the *bride of Christ*!

“Aren’t *all* believers a part of the Bride of Christ?” No. All believers are *invited* to be a part of the bride, but all do not attain to this honor. To attain to this honor you must overcome! We see the same thing in the *Story of Esther*. Many maidens were invited to be the queen, but only Esther attained unto this honor!

[Esther 2:17, 18](#)

Notice how the King ‘made a feast’ AFTER selecting Esther to be his wife. This was a *marriage feast* given in honor to Esther. Moreover, marriage feasts generally lasted *seven days*. In this way Esther’s *marriage feast* is a type of the seven-year *Tribulation*! Also, as in the case of Esther, the Tribulation will begin AFTER the bride is selected. Therefore, you must overcome and be a member of the Bride *before* the Tribulation starts!

Now, if we look closer at the life of Esther, we can learn a few more things about the *Bride*...

[Esther 2:5, 7](#)

The name *Mordecai* means ‘little man’ in Hebrew. Therefore, Mordecai is a type of the coming *man child*. Like Mordecai, the man child will be responsible for *raising up* the Bride! (To ‘raise up’ means *nourish* or supply everything needed to be healthy and stable.)

Also, it’s important to note that Mordecai was Esther’s *uncle*. Therefore, he was raising her because she was ‘without father or mother.’ This tells us that we must be without a ‘mother’ and ‘father’ to be a part of the bride!

[Psalm 45:9-11](#)

Therefore, a woman has to ‘forget’ and leave her mother and father so she can come under the FULL authority of her husband (i.e. “calling him LORD”)! Now, what does it mean to leave one’s ‘mother’ and ‘father’?

[Galatians 1:14, 15](#)

Notice, Paul is talking about separating from his former *religion* (mother) and the *traditions* of his father. Therefore, to leaving ‘religious traditions’ is similar to leaving one’s *mother* and *father*. Again, the Bride is doing this so she can FULLY follow her husband!

[Revelation 14:4](#)

Notice how these overcomers (bride) are ‘not defiled with women’ (religious sects). Moreover, this is necessary so she can “follow the Lamb wherever he goes,” AND bear “[fruit] unto God and to the Lamb.”

There are things (and people) we must separate if we intend to bear fruit!

[Mark 4:18, 19](#)

Notice that unless we separate from certain things (or people) we will not be able to bear fruit.

[Mark 4:20](#)

Notice that Jesus points out three stages of fruitfulness or spiritual development—**30, 60 & 100**. Paul mentions something similar in [1Corinthians 15:40-42a](#).

Paul mentions three levels of glory we can attain to in the resurrection—sun glory, moon glory and star glory. Now, although Paul is speaking here about the levels of glory in the resurrection, we can apply these same categories to our spiritual growth because the bodies we receive in the resurrection will be equivalent to the ‘glory’ we attain to in *this* life.

[1Corinthians 15:38](#)

The body we receive in the resurrection will be according to the ‘seed’ (life, righteousness) we have in our soul. Moreover, there is a righteousness (glory) that is being manifested in every believer that corresponds to one of these levels of glory (sun, moon, stars).

LEVEL 1: STAR GLORY

The initial stage of our spiritual development can be compared to what we call “star glory.” The initial stage of our spiritual development is equivalent to ‘star glory’ because the life (or righteousness) of God is only *manifested* only in our *spirit*.

[Romans 8:10](#)

[Romans 8:10 \(NIV84\)](#)

¹⁰ **But if Christ is in you, YOUR BODY is dead because of sin, yet YOUR SPIRIT is alive because of RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

This initial stage is compared to ‘star glory’ because, like the stars in the sky, the individuals in this stage tend to have a ‘glory’ or *righteousness* all of their own (i.e. self-righteousness). Moreover, it’s our *self-righteousness* that keeps us divided and makes it difficult for us to get along with others!

Also, ‘star glory’ is the stage where a person is the most at risk of “falling away!”

[Revelation 12:4](#)

These are not *literal* stars. Instead, they are Christians who will be ‘cast down’ (or *lose their place* in heaven). According to this verse, $\frac{1}{3}$ of all ‘stars’ (Christians in this initial stage) will *fall away* at the BEGINNING of the Tribulation! Another $\frac{1}{3}$ of ‘stars’ will *fall away* at the END of the Tribulation. Why? Because have born no fruit (righteousness) in their *souls*. [Revelation 6:12, 13](#)