

## AFTER THE CROSS: THE OVERCOMING LIFE

Romans 8:31-39

WESTLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

Roy Meadows, Lead Pastor

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### • OVERCOMING SELF

Because Jesus overcame temptation, we can also. How did He do it? By The Word of God.

Matthew 4:1-11

*Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup>“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup>“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

### • THE THREE AREAS OF TEMPTATION

Overcoming the temptation of the LUST OF THE FLESH

Overcoming the temptation of the LUST OF THE EYE

Overcoming the temptation of the “PRIDE OF LIFE”

1 John 2:15-17

*<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup>For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup>The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*

### • TO NOT DO WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO, DO WHAT YOU SHOULD DO!

#### CONQUERING CHALLENGES

Romans 8:31-39

*<sup>31</sup>What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

- **MOVE TOWARD CHALLENGES**

Oskar Schindler-the subject of 'Schindler's List', a German industrialist during WW2 who saved 1200 jews during the Holocaust at great expense and danger to himself.

Lee Strobel story of inviting his boss to church. His atheist boss declined Lee's invitation but the janitor overheard the invitation. The janitor and his family came to church, heard the Gospel and received Christ.

Every story of the Apostle Paul being beaten, falsely accused or imprisoned, God used to provide a witness in a profound way. At great expense to Paul, God won in the long run-the gates could not prevail against the witness of the Gospel.

- **THE COMMAND OF CHRIST TO HIS CHURCH, THEN AND NOW!**

Matthew 28:16-20

*<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

- **OUR POWER TO 'OVERCOME' IS CHRIST HIMSELF!**

Philippians 4:13

*I can do all this through him (Christ) who gives me strength.*

Matthew 16:15-19

*<sup>15</sup>"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup>Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*