

Called to Overcome Part 2

Revelation 3

21 To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.

All 7 Churches of Revelation 2&3 faced certain Challenges.
They were all called to Overcome something

- Temptation...
- Persecution...
- False Teaching and Idolatry...
- A Jezebel Spirit, that manipulates and controls...
- Dead Religious Practices...
- & Lukewarmness...

There was something to Overcome...

And with these Obstacle there was a Calling from the Lord to Overcome them...

The Lord also promised each one, if they Overcame they would receive a Reward...

James 1

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, **3** because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. **4** Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

The Apostle James says, **Vs. 3** “the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”

- The ability to continue under the weight of it...
- I'm thankful for people who have continued under the weight of it...

- That makes them faithful...
- Charles Stanley just passed away this past Tuesday, April 18th.
- Charles Stanley for many years persevered under the weight of it...
- All of the great ministries and leaders I've known have had the ability to continue under the weight of it...

Vs. 4 “Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

The things that Challenge us are the things that Change us...

- Muscles Grow as a result of Resistance...
- When your sore, your not strong... Your weaker than before you worked out...
- But after the muscle heals, that's when you're stronger...

Vs. 4 “Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

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James 1

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. **6** But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. **7** That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. **8** Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

Vs. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously...

The Apostle James puts it out there...

If any of you lacks wisdom...

- I wonder who qualifies?

Then he says this, ask God...

- I am so thankful for this verse, because it reminds me to ask God...
- How many of us are hardwired to figure it out on our own...
- So we muscle our way through so much, when the Bible says, ask God...
- We think we have not because we have not...
- But the truth is, often times, we have not because we ask not...

Then James says this...

He gives generously...

- I'm so thankful because I need all the help I can get...
- What does this tell us about God...
- He gives wisdom generously to all who ask...
- Without finding fault... without pretense... without prejudice...
Generously all we have to do is ask...

What is this Wisdom?

Wisdom: broad and full of intelligence; used of the knowledge of very diverse matters.

- The varied knowledge of things human and divine.
- The science and learning.
- The act of interpreting dreams and always giving the sagest advice.
Skill in the management of affairs.
- Skill and discretion in imparting Christian truth.
- The knowledge and practice of godly and upright living.

There are two kinds of wisdom spoken of in God's Word.

Worldly Wisdom and Godly Wisdom...

James 3

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

14 But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. **15** Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. **16** For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Worldly Wisdom - Jealousy, Selfishness

Godly Wisdom - pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Ephesians 1

17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. **18** I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

The Wisdom that comes from God is connected to the Revelation of who He is...

He is pure, peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Often times the difference between right thinking and wrong thinking is a result of who we spend the most time with...

Adam and Eve had no sin nature... How does Satan get someone who has no sin nature to sin? The Serpent altered Eve's perspective...

- Did God really say... (False Truth)
- You will not surely die... (False Assurance)
- For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God... (False Hope)

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, Satan had a perspective, Jesus maintained the right perspective because he spent more time with the Father than with the tempter...

Vs. 6-8 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. **7** That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. **8** Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

Christianity is called the Faith; not the Reasoning.

Doubt: Uncertain or lack of Conviction

Matt McPherson - Matthews Bows

“I BUILT MY FIRST COMPOUND BOW IN 1970, WHEN I WAS IN JUNIOR HIGH, BECAUSE I COULDN'T AFFORD TO BUY ONE.”

Matt before Matthews bows existed asked God to help him make a bow. One night the Lord in the middle of the night gave him the design for solocam design which was the beginning of Matthews Bows. Today they are regarded as one of the best bow manufacturers in the industry. Matt believed God answered the request he made. Matt pursued and didn't look back.

The one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blow and tossed by the wind...

Have you ever met that person?
Have you ever been that person?

Charles Spurgeon “Not only must one come in **faith**, but one must also **ask in faith.**”

The person who doubts is like a wave, now *rising by hope*, then *sinking by despair*.

What we know about waves:

- **A wave of the sea...**
- *is without rest*, and so is the doubter
- *is unstable*, and so is the doubter
- *is driven by the winds*, and so is the doubter
- *is capable of great destruction*, and so is the doubter

double-minded is literally *two-souled*. “The man of two souls, who has one for the earth, and another for heaven.

Vs. 7,8

That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

But when you ask, **believe...**

Joshua 24:15

But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Closing Song:

You are Called to Overcome!