

Life Application:

Do you believe you are dead to sin and alive to Christ Jesus?

What are the areas in your life that Christ wants victory over?

What does being an overcomer look like for you?

I AM AN OVERCOMER

Pastor Steve Martin

1 John 5:4-5 (NKJV) - For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Through our faith in Jesus, we have been declared over-comers by the Word of God.

1 John 5:1 (NIV) - Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves His child as well.

There are 3 characteristics of an overcomer:

1. **Belief (Faith)**

Biblical belief is not just a one-time belief, but an ongoing, permanent belief that continually expresses whole-hearted dedication and devotion to Jesus Christ.

Belief that is **active** is called faith.

Active faith is transformative. Jesus did not just save us to go to heaven - He saved us to think, act, and live as His representative on earth.

2. **Love**

The overcomer not only loves God, but loves all those who are His children.

1 John 5:2-3 - This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out His commands. In fact, this is love for God: to keep His commands. And His commands are not burdensome,

3. **Obedience**

Obedience is how we demonstrate our faith and our love. We prove our faith by continually loving God and other believers, and we prove our love by obeying God's commands.

An **overcomer** is one who continually demonstrates **faith, love and obedience**.

Overcomer in the Greek means **"to have victory."** As believers we have been given **"conquering power"** over sin and darkness.

This victory is also demonstrable. It means overthrowing an enemy so that the victory is seen by all. Christ's victory was seen by all - therefore, our baptism must be seen by all because it identifies us with His victory.

Romans 6:4-11 (NIV) - We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we will certainly also be united with Him in a resurrection like His. For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over Him. The death He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life He lives, he lives to God.

In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.