

# **Perseverance**

**2 Peter 1:2-11**

# Are you an Overcomer...?

How do you know? What is the test?

*“To him who **overcomes** I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.” Revelation 2:7*

*“He who **overcomes** shall not be hurt by the second death.”  
Revelation 2:11*

*“To him who **overcomes** I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.” Rev. 2:17*

*“And he who **overcomes**, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations...” Revelation 2:26*

*“He who **overcomes** shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.” Revelation 3:5*

# Are you an Overcomer...?

How do you know? What is the test?

*“He who **overcomes**, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God*

## *Great and Precious Promises...*

*“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”*

*2 Peter 1:2-4*

*...ry that has overcome the world – our faith. Who is he who comes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” 2 John 5:1-5*

# What does God want...?

## The Calling of the Overcomer

*“For I desire mercy and not sacrifice. And the **knowledge of God** more than burnt offerings.” Hosea 6:6*

*Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; But let him who glories glory in this, **That he understands and knows Me**. That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgement, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight...” Jeremiah 9:23-24*

*“Behold the days are coming when I will make a new covenant... I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying ‘Know the LORD’, **for they all shall know Me**, ... For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.” Jeremiah 31:31-34*

*“And this is eternal life, **that they may know You**, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.” John 17:3*

# What does God want...?

## The Calling of the Overcomer

*“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and*

***Persevere in your Call to Know Him...***

*“Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things, you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*

*2 Peter 1:10-11*

*cleansed from his old sins.” 2 Peter 1:5-9*

# What do you mean by ‘Knowing God’?

Knowing Someone is different than knowing Something

*“For we did not follow cunningly devices fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, **but we were eyewitnesses** of His majesty... And, **so we have the prophetic word confirmed**, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place...” 2 Peter 1:16-21*

[ We were eyewitnesses... but you also have prophetic word confirmed. ]

[ Observe how people who have “seen” God react. ]

*“Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lip. For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.” Isaiah 6:5*

*“Behold, I am vile; What shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth. Once I have spoken, but I will not answer; Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.” Job 40:4-5*

# What do you mean by 'Knowing God'?

What would you accept as evidence? God's perspective is...?

*"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are **they which testify of Me.**" John 5:39*

*"You say that I am a king. For this reason, I was born, and **for this reason I came into the world – to testify to the truth.** Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." v. 37, John 18:24-38*

*"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. **And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**" John 8:31*

*"**Let this mind be in you** which was also in Christ Jesus..."  
Philippians 2:5-11*

*"For **who has known the mind of the LORD** that he may instruct Him? **But we have the mind of Christ.**" 1 Corinthians 2:16*

# What difference should that make...?

What does the King envision for you and for His church?

***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.”*** Matt. 22:37-39

***“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”***  
Matt. 28:18-20



# Focusing on the King's Perspective

A mission from our King... (Matt. 22:37-40; 28:19-20)

1. *Love the Lord with all your heart (Worship – Matt. 4:10).*
2. *Love your neighbor as yourself (Service - Eph. 4:12)*
3. *Go and make disciples (Evangelism – Acts 1:8).*
4. *Baptize them (Fellowship; Covenant Unity – Eph. 4:1-6)*
5. *Teach them to obey (Discipleship – Col. 1:28)*

*“We proclaim Him by instructing and teaching all people with all wisdom so that we may present every person mature in Christ.”*

*Colossians 1:28*

# How the Early Church Responded

A foundational pattern for every church. Acts 2:40-47

***“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine (DISCIPLESHIP) and fellowship (FELLOWSHIP), in the breaking of bread, and in prayers (WORSHIP).” v. 42***

***“Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need (SERVICE).” v. 44-45***

***“For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it.” 1 Corinthians 3:9-10***

***We trust the Lord that you are putting into practice the things we taught you. 2 Thessalonians 3:4***

# Persevere in Your Calling...

Individual Consecration. Colossians 3:12-17

***Fellowship : God wants me to be a member of His family.***

***“Therefore, I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice – alive, holy, and pleasing to God – which is your reasonable service.***

***Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God – what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.”***

***(Romans 12:1-2)***

# Jesus is the Way...! Follow...

## From Messianic Prophecy to Named Person

*“But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, **that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled.**” Acts 3:18*

*“And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the **name** of the Lord shall be saved.” Acts 2:21*

*“Therefore, let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made **this Jesus**, whom you crucified, both **Lord and Christ.**”  
Acts 2:36*

*“Jesus said to him, ‘**I am the way, the truth, and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through Me. ... **If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.**’ John 14:6-7 (Jeremiah 31:31-34)*

# Jesus is Alive...! Believe it...

Deity, Death, and Resurrection Foretold (Phil. 2:5-11)

*“You should have the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had, who though he existed in the form of God did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped but emptied Himself by taking on the form of a slave, by looking like other men, and by sharing in human nature. He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross! As a result, God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow – in heaven and on earth and under the earth – and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.”*

*Philippians 2:5-11 (New English Translation)*

*dom the one which shall not be destroyed. Daniel 7.13-14*