

REVELATION

Promises to the One
Who Conquers
(Revelation 21:6-8)

1 John 5:4-5: For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

What is the victory that overcomes the world?

Revelation 21:6-8: And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

1. The declarations of God

A. The Lord declares that “it is done.”

- ❖ Where else in Scripture are there similar declarations?
- ❖ What is finished here?
- ❖ Redemptive history is completed. There is no more sin and death, so there is also no more redemption.

1. The declarations of God

B. The Lord declares that He is the Alpha and the Omega.

- ❖ Revelation 1:8 also used this title.
- ❖ God created all things, and He will finish all things; He is sovereign over history and the universe.
- ❖ Revelation 21:5: These things are trustworthy and true because God is sovereign over them.

2. God makes promises to the faithful.

❖ Revelation 21:6-7: And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

2. God makes promises to the faithful.

A. God promised the water of life to the thirsty.

- ❖ Water was extremely valuable in the Middle East, and control of water often helped determine how powerful a person or nation became.
- ❖ Genesis 26: The Philistines quarreled for the wells that Isaac had dug.
- ❖ God promises water *without payment*.

Isaiah 55:1-3: Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

2. God makes promises to the faithful.

A. God promised the water of life to the thirsty.

❖ John 7:37-38: On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”

2. God makes promises to the faithful.

A. God promised the water of life to the thirsty.

❖ Revelation 7:17: For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

2. God makes promises to the faithful.

B. God promised an inheritance to the overcomer.

- ❖ Revelation 21:7: The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.
- ❖ Ephesians 1: The Holy Spirit is the down payment of this inheritance.
- ❖ 1 Peter 1: We have an inheritance that cannot be destroyed reserved in heaven.
- ❖ An inheritance is typically given to a family member, but it is entirely earned by someone else.

2. God makes promises to the faithful.

C. God promised a familial relationship.

- ❖ Revelation 21:7: The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.
- ❖ Romans 8: As believers, we have the great privilege of being adopted as God's children and being joint-heirs with Christ.
- ❖ Psalm 84:10: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

3. Unbelievers are contrasted with the overcomers.

- ❖ Revelation 21:8: But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.
- ❖ This is the final time the lake of fire is mentioned in Scripture.
- ❖ These eight sins can identify someone as an unbeliever, even if he claims to be a believer.

3. Unbelievers are contrasted with the overcomers.

A. God says the cowardly and faithless will not inherit eternal life.

❖ Revelation 2:10-11: Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.

3. Unbelievers are contrasted with the overcomers.

A. God says the cowardly and faithless will not inherit eternal life.

❖ Matthew 13:20-21: As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.

3. Unbelievers are contrasted with the overcomers.

B. God says liars will not inherit eternal life.

- ❖ This is true of the professed unbeliever who blatantly lies for his own advantage.
- ❖ This is also true of Judas, one who professed to follow Christ while not truly believing in Him.
- ❖ God gives a strong warning to the one who might look good on the outside but has a heart that is far from Christ.

Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- God promises great blessings to the overcomer, but warns of judgment on those who reject Christ.
- We should examine our own lives.
- We should be striving to be a faithful overcomer.
- Knowing God's promises, we must strive to live faithfully as an overcomer.

NEXT TIME:

Revelation 21:9-21

- Descriptions of the
New Jerusalem