

**A Christian
and
a Victorious life**

Fredrick G. Omondi

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from King James Version of the Holy Bible.

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ISBN: 978-9966-8234-6-5

Design and Layout © Beautex Image Designs

First Published 2018 By:
Inspirational Publications
P.O Box 14500 – 00400 Nairobi
Kenya. East Africa

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INTRODUCTION

When God created the first man and put him in the Garden of Eden life was okay and he was in a good (a right) standing with God his Creator until the time when the serpent came into the scene. (Genesis 1:26-29; 2:7-25; 3: 1-24). From that time onwards all things changed to man's disadvantage. And from that time man lost authority and instead of being a victor he become a victim being under the power of the deceiver (the Devil) who now was the prince of the world (John 14:30, Ephesians 2:1-3). Man was no longer in a right standing with God as he had fallen into sin (Romans 5:12, 3:23). But thanks be to God the Creator of heaven and earth and things therein (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 24:1) who had the fore knowledge of what would become of man and he had another plan for him (a solution to what would befall him) by sending to him a redeemer (John 3:16, Romans 5:6; 3:24-26). Now when the redeemer had come and atoned for man's sin he opened a way for him to get back the authority he lost in the garden of Eden and to begin

to live a victorious life by faith in the Redeemer (Jesus Christ) (Matthew 10:1, John 1:11-12).

This book is touching essentially on living a victorious life as a child of God and has quite a valuable insight. A person is born again by God in order to live a victorious life here on earth where Satan reigns.

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Chapter 1

The new birth

After the fall of the first man Adam in the garden of Eden he lost his authority that God gave him to Satan and therefore man needed a total transformation to be able to get back the authority he lost so that he can begin to live a victorious life here on earth and become an overcomer.

The transformation is the work of God in any individual who decides voluntarily to surrender his/her faith in Christ Jesus so as to receive a new birth which is God's salvation.

Let us go to the scriptures on this new birth.

THERE was a man of the Pharisees, named Nic-o-de'-mus, a ruler of the Jews:

The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nic-o-de'-mus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

John 3:1-6

To be born again is to be born of the Spirit which is essentially salvation (a total transformation of life by God).

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16

Everlasting life is only possible in the Son of God Jesus Christ as only in him one can have victory over the life on earth.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:11-13

Jesus Christ came to the world to save mankind (you and me and everybody else) but many did not receive him by believing in him although he created them. But those that received him believing in his name they were given power to become the sons (children) of God as were now born of God's Spirit. And we know that only God's Spirit (the Holy Spirit) can overcome the spirit of Satan (an evil spirit)

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that over cometh the world, even our faith.

1 John 5:4

Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto the unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1 Peter 1:22-23

Our souls are purified by obeying the truth (the word of God) and are born again by God's incorruptible seed which lives and abides forever.

What does that do in our lives? Read on.

For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

But after that the kindness and love of God our
Savior toward man appeared,
Not by works of righteousness which we have
done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by
the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the
Holy Ghost;
Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus
Christ our Saviour;
That being justified by his grace, we should be
made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that
thou affirm constantly that they which have
believed in God might be careful to maintain good
works.
These things are good and profitable unto men.

Titus 3:3-8

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath
appeared to all men,
Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly
lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and
godly, in this present world;

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;

Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Titus 2:11-14

The word of God that we have obeyed and continue to obey make us a peculiar people zealous of good works and have the ability to live a sober, righteous and godly life and denying all ungodliness in this life on earth.

Chapter 2

Divine power

With the new birth comes divine power which is important for godly living as we are going to see in this chapter.

BELOVED, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of an-ti-christ, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Ye are of God, little children and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1 John 4:1-4

The Holy Spirit, that is, God's Spirit is greater than the spirit of Satan and overcomes the world we live in which is being controlled by Satan.

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7

God has given us the spirit of power, love and a sound mind so as to overcome the enemy living soberly as have a sound mind now.

SIMON Peter a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ:

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

According as his divine power hath given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:1-4

We have been given divine power by God so as to be partakers of God's divine nature by living in godliness.

AND when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: the first Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zeb-e-dee, and John his brother;

Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Al-phe'-us, and Leb-be'us, whose surname was Thad-de'-us;

Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Sa-mar'-i-tans enter ye not:

But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Matthew 10:1-8

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Luke 10:19

Jesus Christ gave his disciples power to destroy the works of the enemy and to cast out unclean spirits (devils) who cause people to live ungodly lives. We know godly living requires God's power and not manpower (which is dictated by unclean spirits). You and I who have believed in Jesus Christ and have a new birth are the followers of Jesus Christ and we too have received the same power Jesus Christ gave to his disciples when he was here on earth in a physical form (with a physical body).

Chapter 3

Spiritual armor

When one has received a new birth one is given a spiritual armor to protect him or her in life from the attacks of the enemy.

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Put on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Ephesians 6:10-18

The above scripture has listed the things required to make up the whole armor of God which a Christian need to put on in his/her life. Let me now give an explanation on each one of them.

1. Truth

To begin with, Jesus Christ is the truth (John 14:6) and so is his word found in the Holy Bible, that is, sixty six books therein (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Therefore a Christian has a duty to walk (live) and to speak in the truth (psalm 26:1-3, 85:10-11, 2 John 1-4, 3 John 1-4: Proverbs 12:17-19, Zechariah

8:16, Ephesians 4:25) literally the life be revolving around the truth.

2. Righteousness

To begin with, Jesus Christ is a righteous king (Isaiah 32:1, 11:1-5, Psalm 45:7) and that is why wherever he went he did what was good/righteous (Acts 10:37-38) and therefore a Christian has been commanded to emulate him (Titus 2:11-14, 3:8, Ephesians 2:8-10) for protection sustenance (Isaiah 59:15-19). A Christian is a royal priest (1 Peter 2:9) and should be clothed with righteousness (Psalm 132:8-9). Look at the life of Job, who was clothed in righteousness (Job 1:1, 29:14). You and I need boldness (Proverbs 28:1) to face the enemy.

3. Gospel of peace

The Lord Jesus Christ our Savior began his public ministry by preaching the good news of the salvation he had brought to mankind and knew he would be on the earth for a short time and appointed/called some people to continue with the work when he has departed (Matthew 4:12-23,

Hebrews 2:3) and for the same reason he has called you and me to propagate his agenda just as apostle Paul advised Timothy to do (2 Timothy 2:1-2, 4:1-2).

A Christian need to guard his/her walk and be prepared to use his/her feet to take him/her to places to share the word of God and not to gossip and by that bring hope and peace.

4. Faith

A Christian's faith serves as a shield to protect him/her by quenching all the attacks of the enemy just as a physical shield shields or protects parts of the body (more so around the chest) by those who hold it against an opponent. Therefore that calls for standing firm against opposition and not shaking or yielding to pressure. David was not intimidated by the threats of Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40-47) and the same was true with the Hebrew boys, Hananiel, Mishael and Azariah against Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon (Daniel 3:1-19) and the outcome of the whole thing shocked him such that he promoted the trio (verses 20-30).

5. Salvation

Now salvation serves as a helmet to a Christian and is a protection. We all know that a helmet is for protecting the head. Therefore a Christian need to guide his or her mind (one's thought life) by casting down evil imaginations that come in (2 Corinthians 10:3-5). One may ask why? Because the mind is a spiritual battle ground where victory or defeat is determined depending on how one reacts. That is why one need to sieve each thought that comes in the mind and discard all the wrong ones and accept only the right ones (Philippians 4:8-9). One need to continue having a renewed mind (Romans 12:2). It is wise not to act on every thought as some are from the enemy and the flesh to lead one astray from the faith. Meditating on the word of God is a sure way of maintaining the right thoughts in one's mind and not leaving room for the enemy to inject his (Psalm 1:1-2, 119:97-99) and God commanded Joshua to meditate in the word and do to get success as he goes about to conquer the land of Canaan (Joshua 1:6-8).

6. The word

The word of God serves as a sword for a Christian for his/her protection/security and is to be applied whenever the enemy comes and thereby cutting him into pieces. For that reason a Christian need to be wordy, that is full of the word of God in his/her heart in order to help the Spirit in his/her to take and use it in battle. A Christian need be filled with the Holy Spirit as well and be full with God's word inside him/her (Colossians 3:16) Jesus Christ defeated Satan by the word of his Father (Matthew 4:1-11). A Christian must be seriously committed to the reading, studying and meditating on the scriptures in addition to obeying/doing it (2 Timothy 2:15-16, James 1:21-25). Stephen is an example of one who was filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom (the word of God) and even his opposers could not resist it (Acts 6:1-10). The word of God made Joseph not to sin defeating the efforts of Satan in Potiphar's wife's life (Genesis 39:1-12, Psalm 119:9-11) as was walking in wisdom (Ephesians 5:15-17, Colossians 4:5-6)

7. Prayer

The life of a Christian is a life of prayer, just as the life of Christ was, a life full of prayers (Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 6:12-16, 11:1-4, 22:39-44) and he advised his disciples to be prayerful too (Matthew 6:5-15, 26:36-41, Luke 18:1-7). Apostle Paul also kept on reminding Christians to be prayerful (he himself of course was very prayerful) (Ephesians 6:18-20, 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18, Ephesians 5:20-21, Philippians 4:6-7, Colossians 4:2-4, 2 Thessalonians 3:1-3, 1 Timothy 2:1-4) (Romans 1:8-10, 1 Corinthians 1:1-6, Genesis 1:15-17, 3:12-19, Philippians 6, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, Philemon 1-7 Colossians 1:1-6, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, 2 Timothy 1:1-5). It should be well understood that being prayer less is being powerless and conversely being prayerful is being powerful in the Christian context as prayer is power. Jesus used to pray then go out to minister to people. Without prayer you can hardly defeat the enemy as prayer is spiritual. David too was exemplary in a prayer life and he ended winning all

his battles (1 Samuel 30:1-20, 2 Samuel 5:17-25, 8:1-14).

By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

2 Corinthians 6:7

You can see in the scripture emphasis is placed on righteousness which is an armor which should be on both sides- on the right and on the left.

The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the work of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

Romans 13:12-14

You can see in the scripture emphasis is placed on honesty which is essentially being truthful which is an amour of light and which need be part of a Christian's life.

For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that are drunken are drunken in the night.

But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

1 Thessalonians 5:7-8

You can see in the scripture emphasis is placed on faith which is an armor as well as love (charity), which is equally important (1 Corinthians 13:13, Colossians 3:12-14, 1 Corinthians 16:14).

Chapter 4

Spiritual weapons

As those who are born again we also are given spiritual weapons as our warfare is a spiritual one (Ephesians 6:12).

And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the Mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.

And when he was at the place he said unto them, pray that ye enter not into temptation.

Luke 22:39-40

In order for one to overcome temptations one must be a prayerful person just as Jesus was prayerful as prayer is a weapon in itself.

THEN was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered.

And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus Christ was able to defeat Satan as he had prayed and fasted and used the word of God against him (Satan). Let us see what he told his disciples.

And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatic, and sore vexed: for oft times he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Matthew 17:14-21

There you are. Prayer and fasting can move mountains-can overcome difficult situations. Read Mark 2:18-20, why the disciples failed in the above case.

NOW the Phil-is'-tines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Sho'-chah, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Sho'-chah and A-ze'-kah, in E-phes-dam'-mim.

And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together and pitched by the valley of E'-lah, and set the battle in array against the Phil-is'-tines.

And the Phil-is'-tines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and there was a valley between them.

And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Phil-is'-tines, named Go-li'-ath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

And he had a helmet of brass upon his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand sh-ek'-els of brass.

And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders.

And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spears head weighed six thousand sh-ek'-els of iron: and one bearing a shield went before him.

And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Phil-is'-tine, and ye servants to Saul? Choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.

If he be able to fight with me, and kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him,

and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.

And the Phil-is'-tine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

When Saul and all Israel, heard those words of the Phil-is'-tine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Now David was the son of that Eph'-ra-thite of Beth-lehem Judah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of Saul.

And the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were E-li'ab the firstborn, and next unto him A-bin'-a-dab, and the third Sham'-mah.

And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem.

And the Phil-is'-tine drew near morning and evening and presented himself forty days.

And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an e'-phah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren;

And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look now thy brethren fare, and take their pledge.

Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of E'-lah, fighting with the Phil-is'-tine

And spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine,

And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

For Israel and the Phil-is'-tines had put the battle in array, army against army.

And David left his carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

And as he talked with them, behold, there, came up the champion, the Philistine, of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

And E-li'-ab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and E-li'-ab's anger was kindled against David and he said, Why camest down hither? and with whom hast left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him against after the former manner.

And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Phil'is'-tine.

And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Phil'is'-tine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

And I went out after him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.

Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Phil'is'-tine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.

David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Phil'is'-tine. And Saul said unto David, Go and the LORD be with thee.

And Saul armed David with his armor, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail.

And David girded his sword upon his armor, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Phil'is'-tine.

And the Phil'is'-tine came on and drew near unto David: and the man that bare the shield went before him.

And when the Phil'is'-tine looked about and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

And the Phil'is'-tine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Phil'is'-tine cursed David by his gods. And the Phil'is'-tine said to David; Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

Then said David to the Phil'is'-tine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee; and give the carcasses of the host of the Phil'is'-tines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

And it came to pass, when the Phil'is'-tine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Phil'is'-tine.

And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it and smote the Phil'is'-tine in his forehead; that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

So David prevailed over the Phil'is'-tine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Phil'is'-tine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Phil'is'-tine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the

sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

1 Samuel 17:1-51

David prevailed on the giant Goliath of Gath by faith and in the name of the Lord.

Now if you look at the life of David you will find that he was a very prayerful man that is why he won all his battles against his enemies (1 Samuel 30:1-20, 2 Samuel 5:17-21, 5:22-25; 8:1-14).

Jehoshaphat also when he was faced by his enemies, he resorted to God in prayer and fasting and things worked in his favor (2 Chronicles 20:1-24). It follows therefore that Christians too need to inculcate the same in their lives in order to continue living victoriously.

It is only through prayer can one seek counsel from the Lord on what to do before going to the battle field so as to be assured of a victory. As Christians we always need some revelation of the word of God on how best to fight our battles, and that is being smart over our enemies.

IS not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

Jeremiah 23:29

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two - edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

The word of God is a very powerful weapon against the devil.

I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are

strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

1 John 2:13-14

The wicked one (Satan) is overcome by the word of God just as we saw earlier (Matthew 4:3-11). That underscores that need to be full of the word of God as a child of God and that is why Satan is busy trying to see that you are too busy to have time to read and study the word of God. He does the same to see to it you are too busy to have time to pray and also discourage you from going to prayer and fasting. He knows that all the above make a child of God to be strong in the spirit.

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Ephesians 6:17

Very powerful!! The word of God is a sword of the Spirit.

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and the loved not their lives unto the death.

Revelation 12:10-11

The children of Israel were spared destruction by the destroyer in Egypt when they applied blood of the lambs they had slaughtered on their door posts and door frames (Exodus 12:1-13) same to the children of God now only that the blood applied is applied in the heart and it is not the blood of an animal but the very blood of the Lamb of God (the blood of Jesus Christ) which he shed at Calvary. The blood of Jesus is quite powerful against the enemy (Colossians 2:13-15) and our testimony of Jesus Christ as the Messiah is equally powerful.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

The spiritual weapons we have been given are mighty through God. They have the capability to pull down strongholds! Therefore as born again Christians we should not underestimate our capability in the Lord Jesus, but use it for our sweet victory.

Chapter 5

Divine protection

On our divine protection as Christians the scriptures do state as follows:

The angel of the LORD encompasseth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Psalm 34:7

THEN sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him a habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.

The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone.

Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O LORD, hath dashed in pieces the enemy.

And in the greatness of thine Excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble.

And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as a heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea.

The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.

Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

Exodus 15:1-11

Now that was the song that Moses and the children of Israel sang (I have just taken the beginning part of the chapter only and not all of it), which they sang after seeing the deliverance of the Lord who protected them from the Egyptians who were pursuing them. But do remember that the children of Israel were but only a shadow of the church of Christ which was to come. If God could protect them that much, how about the real Church of Christ which was purchased at a high price by the blood of his Son?

We do know that the enemy keeps on pursuing us on a daily basis to take us back into sin and destruction but we also know that Satan and his demons shall be cast down into the bottomless pit, Satan and later all of the rest into the lake of fire and brimstone (Revelation 20:1-10, Matthew 25:41) but we who will have resolved to remain in Christ Jesus and ready to persevere against all odds in life will surely be in heaven with our Father (Matthew 24:1-13, 1 Peter 5:8-11, 1 Thessalonians 5:22-24).

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice:
Let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest
them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in
thee.

For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with
favor wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

Psalms 5:11-12

O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he is their help
and their shield.

O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he is their
help and their shield.

Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he is
their help and their shield.

Psalms 115:9-11

For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my
sword save me.

But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast
put them to shame that hated us.

Psalms 44:6-7

THERE was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

And his sons went and feasted in their houses, every one his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them.

And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and eschewed evil?

Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

Hast not thou made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Job 1:1-10

A spiritual hedge covers the perfect and upright.

THEY that trust in the LORD shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed but abideth for ever.

As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about his people from henceforth even forever.

Psalms 125:1-2

So wonderful for the saints of God!

HE that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shall thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night, nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh unto thee.

Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation;

There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.

With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.

Psalm 91

Although that scripture touches on the Lord Jesus Christ (verse 6) it also touches on the saints who are the children of God and He is their Father in heaven and protector.

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

I pray not thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

John 17:12-15

Only God can keep us from the evil one. Now let's go further to see practical examples as recorded in the scriptures.

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repented me that I have made them.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham and Ja'-pheth.

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come, before me; for the earth is filled with

violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

Make thee an ark of go'-pher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

And this is the fashion which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breadth of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy son's wives with thee.

And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather it to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

AND the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female.

Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.

And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

Of clean beasts, and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth,

There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

And it came to pass after seven days that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

In the selfsame day entered Noah and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them into the ark;

They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.

And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters;

And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and of the fowls of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

Genesis 6:5-7:23

God protected Noah and can do likewise to us – our part is to live righteously in obedience to him.

AND the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
Speak unto the children of Israel that they turn and encamp before Pi-ha-hi'-roth, between Mig'-dol

and the sea, over against Ba'-al-ze'-phon: before it shall ye encamp by the sea.

For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.

And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honored upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD. And they did so.

And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have left Israel go from serving us?

And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:

And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.

And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with a high hand.

But the Egyptians pursued after them all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pi'-ha-hi'-roth, before Ba'-al-ze'-phon.

And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? Wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

Is that not the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, Saying,

Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will show to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:

But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

And, behold, I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honor upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honor upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

And it became between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

And took off their chariot wheels, that they drove them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

And the waters returned, and covered the chariots and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the seashore.

And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.

Exodus 14

The children of Israel were God's people and we too are God's children in Christ Jesus and he will protect us and fight for us (2 Chronicles 20:1-17).

We need to know that just as the children of Israel were pursued by their enemies the Egyptians who were not happy to have left them scot free out of their bondage, it is equally true to us Christians who are born of God and have obtained liberty through Jesus Christ, that the enemy Satan is not happy with us and for sure he will continue to make all efforts to try to bring us back into the bondage of sin and death, but thank God that as he gave the children of Israel a great deliverance, he is going to do the same to us the Church of Jesus Christ, who Christ died for on the cross to have their redemption and liberty be a reality to them as they have believed in him.

AND there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

And Pharaoh's daughter said to her Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

Exodus 2:1-10

God miraculously protected and preserved the child Moses in the river Nile in Egypt as he was to be God's servant in life. Christians are God's servants too.

AND Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither tonight of the children of Israel to search out the country.

And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country.

And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were:

And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.

But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof.

And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.

And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof;

And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed,

And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.

Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token:

And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.

And the men answered her, our life is for your's, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall.

And she said unto them, Get you to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you; and hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers be returned: and afterward may ye go your way.

Joshua 2:1-16

Rahab's faith worked for her and you and I our faith in God can work for us. God did protect these spies through Rahab.

There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Then Neb'-u-chad-nez'-zar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go. Then they brought these men before the king.

Neb'-u-chad-nez'-zar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, answered and said to the king, O Neb'-u-chad-nez'-zar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Then was Neb'-u-chad-nez'-zar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go.

And these three men, Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, fell down bound in the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

Then Neb'-u-chad-nez'-zar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counselors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

He answered and said, lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no

hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

Then Neb'-u-chad-nez'-zar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Sha'-drach, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, came forth of the midst of the fire.

And the princes, governors, and captains and the king's counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was a hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire hand passed on them.

Daniel 3:12-27

God has the power to save to the uttermost (Hebrews 7:22-25). Let us pay our total loyalty to our God and be saved.

Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the

king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of music brought before him:

Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel,

O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouth, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

And the king commanded, and they brought those men which has accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the majesty of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

Daniel 6:16-24

Innocence before God and before people counts a lot. God delivered Daniel out of the lion's den as he was his protector.

And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

Saul also sent messengers unto David's house to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and

Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life tonight, tomorrow thou shalt be slain.

So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped.

And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.

And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

And when it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they prophesied also.

Then went he also to Ramah, and came to a great well that is in Sechu: and he asked and said, Where are Samuel and David? And one said, Behold, they be at Naioth in Ramah.

And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the spirit of God was upon his also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naioth in Ramah.

And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?

1 Samuel 19:10-12, 20-24

God can work in mysterious ways to save you and me as he did to David.

Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strongholds in the wood, in the hill of Hachillah, which is on the south of Jeshimon?

Now therefore, O king, come down according to all the desire of thy soul to come down; and our part shall be to deliver him into the king's hand.

And Saul said, Blessed be ye of the LORD; for ye have compassion of me.

Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his place where his haunt is, and who hath seen him there: for it is told me that he dealeth very subtilly. See therefore, and take knowledge of all the lurking places where he hideth himself, and come ye again

to me with the certainty, and I will go with you: and it shall come to pass, if he be in the land, that I will search him out throughout all the thousands of Judah.

And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul: but David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the plain on the south of Jeshimon.

Saul also and his men went to seek him. And they told David: wherefore he came down into a rock, and abode in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon.

And Saul went on this side of the mountain, and David and his men on that side of the mountain: and David made haste to get away for fear of Saul: for Saul and his men compassed David and his men round about to take them.

But there came a messenger unto Saul, saying, Haste thee, and come; for the Philistines have invaded the land.

Wherefore Saul returned from pursuing after David, and went against the Philistines: therefore they called that place Sela-ham-mahlekoth.

And David went up from thence, and dwelt in strongholds at En-ge-di.

1 Samuel 23:19-29

God continued to protect David his servant.

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, a host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

And E-li'-sha prayed, and said LORD I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

And when they came down to him, E-li'-sha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite these people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of E-li'-sha.

And E-li'-sha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring

you to the man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria.

2 Kings 6:15-19

God is God and will protect his servants as he did to Elisha.

AND E-li'-jah the Tish'-bite, who was of the inhabitants of Gil'-e-ad, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Che'-rith, that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Che'-rith, that is before Jordan.

And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land. And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to Zar'-e-phath, which belongeth to Zi'-don, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

So he arose and went to Zar'-e-phath. And, when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but a handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat, and die.

And E-li'-jah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

And she went and did according to the saying of E-li'-jah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by E-li'-jah.

1 Kings 17:1-16

God protected the Prophet Elijah because he obeyed God's voice. You can also read the book of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 37:11—38:13 and 39:11-18)

And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and

flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Then Herod, when he saw he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

In Ramah was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

Saying, Arise, take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sort the young child's life.

And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Ar-che-la'-us did reign in Judea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

Matthew 2:13-23

The life of baby Jesus was protected and preserved by God. Joseph obeyed God's instructions on the child's life. You can also read my other book entitled 'A Christian and Divine plan; which touches on what God had planned for those he will call.

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother

Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou comest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him:

Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

And he was with them coming and going out at Jerusalem.

And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Cae-sa-re'-a, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

Acts 9:17-30

God protected his servant Paul and made sure they knew what was in the offing for them to act accordingly.

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation.

And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.

And he came out the same hour.

And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the market place unto the rulers,

And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. And the multitude's rose up together against them: and the

magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

And when they had laid many stripes upon them they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely:

Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sung praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bonds were loosed.

And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

Acts 16:16-34

Paul and Silas were under God's protection in the prison and he delivered them by sending an earthquake to release them from their bonds.

And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.

And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.

And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.

Now therefore ye with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you tomorrow, as though ye would inquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we, or ever he come near, are ready to kill him.

And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him.

So he took him, and brought him to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto him, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee.

Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?

And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul tomorrow into the council, as though they would inquire somewhat of him more perfectly.

But do not yield thou unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

So the chief captain then let the young man depart, and charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast showed these things to me.

And he called unto him two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Cae-sa-re'-a, and housemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night;

And provide them beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring him safe unto Felix the governor.

And he wrote a letter after this manner:

Claudius Lys'-i-as unto the most excellent governor Felix sendeth greetings.

This man was taken of the Jews, and should have been killed of them: then came I with an army, and rescued him, having understood that he was a Roman.

And when I would have known the cause wherefore they accused him, I brought him forth into their council:

Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds.

And when it was told me of how that the Jews laid wait for the man, I sent straight way to thee, and gave commandment to his accusers also to say before thee what they had against him. Farewell.

Then the soldiers, as it was commanded them, took Paul, and brought him by night to An'-tip'-a-tris.

On the morrow they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the castle:

Who, when they came to Cae-sa-re'-a, and delivered the epistle to the governor, presented Paul also before him.

And when the governor had read the letter, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that he was of Ci-li'-ci-a;

I will hear thee, said he, when thine accusers are also come.

And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

Acts 23:12-35

Here too God made sure that his servant Paul was not killed as he had work still to do for the Lord.

Chapter 6

Divine promises

God has promised his people as follows in the scripture series below:

In righteousness shall thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee, Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.

Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy.

No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 54:14-17

As Christians we need to live righteously and then no weapon that is formed against us shall prevail as it is doomed to fail.

And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.

But there shall not a hair of your head perish.

In your patience possess ye your souls.

Luke 21:17-19

We need to have patience as we face hatred from the world as God will sustain us in the faith.

The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Proverbs 18:10

At least we have somewhere to run to as Christians as long as we live a righteous life.

For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would

have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. A'-men.

Romans 16:19-20

Obedience is key in our Christian life as it will give God a good opportunity to bruise Satan under our feet swiftly. We have to be faithful and obedient Christians to our Lord in order to be partakers of his victory on the cross just as he Christ was obedient to God the Father and was highly exalted by him as he overcame (Philippians 2:5-11, Revelation 1:17-18)

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Abstain from all appearance of evil.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

If there is something we need to stay away from on the earth as Christians, it is sin. If we do so God will sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless as he is faithful.

But you, beloved, building up yourselves in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus unto eternal life.

And some have compassion, making a difference:

And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Jude 20 – 25

As Christians we need to build our faith in the love of God and on his part he will keep us from falling and present us before him without any fault. Because God is love; love is great to him (Romans 13:8-10).

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

We are glad to God as he has made it easy for us in that in any temptation that will come our way it will be common and not unique and God will also provide an escape route in each occasion, how beautiful it is!

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.
Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your
hearts, ye double minded.

James 4:7-8

Submitting to God is to humble and to obey Him
and by that one draws closer to him and remain
pure and the devil has but one option – to run away.
FOR, behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an
oven, and all the proud, yea, and all that do
wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh
shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it
shall leave them neither root nor branch.

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of
righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and
ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.
And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall
be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that
I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.

Malachi 4:1-3

God was talking to the children of Israel promising
redemption to those who fear his name. But we

know that the true Israel is the spiritual Israel- the Church of Jesus Christ. If God promised them how about us the true Israel? Definitely he will do more to us as his children. The only this we have to do is to be obedient children fearing his name (1 Thessalonians 5:4-9)

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:4-5

As Christians we overcome the world but only if we remain steadfast in the faith just as apostle Paul told the church at Colossae (Colossians 1:12-23) and also advised the church at Corinth to be checking their lives daily if they still are in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5)

By so much was Jesus made a surety of better testament.

And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death:

But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:22-25

Jesus Christ is ever interceding for us Christians and he is capable of saving our souls completely if we remain in him.

AND I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

And 1 John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he

will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

And he said unto me, it is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is a thirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 21:1-7

God has promised those who are His that they will be with him in heaven where he will give them full comfort away completely from the troubles of the world and therefore let us cheer up as there is hope in the end.

THEN sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him a habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.

Exodus 15:1-3

God had instructed Moses on what to do and as they did so, he and the children of Israel God fought for them as he is a man of war. As Christians God promises us victory over the enemy as long as we obey him in whatever he tells us to do. If we do so, we too will have a song to sing to the Lord just as they too had and exalted the Lord.

Behold, I send an angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared.

Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.

But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries.

For mine angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Am'-o-rites, and the Hit'-tites, and the Per'-iz-zites, and the Ca'-na-an-nites, the Hi'-vites, and the Jeb'—u-sites: and I will cut them off.

Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images.

And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil.

I will send my fear before thee, and I will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs into thee.

Exodus 23:20-27

Just as God sent an angel before the children of Israel to keep them in the way and to bring them to the promised land he had prepared for them, likewise we Christians have been given the Holy Spirit to guide us and lead us to the place where God has prepared for us in heaven - only we have to obey him to take us there and not being stubborn (John 14:1-3, 15-17, 25-26; 16:5-7, 12-15).

And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, Thine eyes have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto these two kings: so shall the LORD do unto all the kingdoms whither thou passest. Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God he shall fight for you.

Deuteronomy 3:21-22

As sons and daughters of the Lord God we have been commanded just as Joshua was commanded that we need not to fear in life when faced with challenges but to believe on God for our victories - we have just to recollect how he has previously

fought for us to be encouraged and to remain brave
and not fearful.

Chapter 7

Jesus Christ: Our Redeemer

In this chapter we are going to see what some of the scriptures say on victorious life and being an overcomer and touches on Jesus Christ our Redeemer who is both our Lord and Master.

When Satan (formerly Lucifer) was cast down to the earth from heaven, he brought chaos and disorder to all mankind and it was necessary for one from heaven to come to bring back harmony and order. Such a one was to be stronger than Satan to be able to overcome him and once again to restore the required order.

The scriptures have given prophecy of the one who was to come to bring that to come to pass and for sure he did come as prophesied and restored back what was lacking. He came as an overcomer, strong, powerful, mighty he was. Let us read the prophecies.

Now the serpent was more subtile than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he

said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the

presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman,
and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise
thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:1-15

Jesus Christ was the seed of the woman and the children of Satan are the seed of Satan. There was going to be hostility between Jesus Christ and Satan and in their battle both sides was going to be affected/ bruised. But on Satan it was going to be fatal and on Jesus Christ it was going to be of minimal effect. The winner/victor in that battle obviously was going to be Jesus Christ the Son of the living and most High God.

And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these were confederate with Abram. And when Abram herd that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus.

And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which is the king's dale.

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Genesis 14:13-20

Abraham who is our father in the faith in Christ Jesus came from victory over his enemies and met the King of kings and the Lord of lords who gave

him bread and wine which was a foreshadow of the victory that Jesus Christ was going to get on the cross over Satan, sin and death at Calvary on his crucifixion for the redemption of mankind and which came to pass at God's appointed time. It follows therefore that there is victory for them who are in Christ Jesus and who are the children of Abraham followed by entry into heaven at God's appointed time via the rapture of the holy Church.

If we go to the Old Testament we see that God's servants fought physical battles just as was the case of Abraham. But now in the new dispensation God's servants (the children of God – Christians) they are fighting spiritual battles (Ephesians 6:10-14) and as Abraham got victory over his enemies so also his children who are born of God through faith in his Son Jesus Christ are to have victory as the Lord is with them to fight their battles (Zechariah 4:1-6, Psalm 60:12; 124:1-6, 2 Chronicles 20:13-15).

I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a

Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

And Edom shall be a possession, Se'-ir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly.

Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city.

Numbers 24:17-19

Jesus Christ was to come as the King and the Morning star and have dominion both on earth and in heaven. He was to come from the tribe of Judah as a lion to destroy all the enemies of God beginning with the enemy number one who is Satan.

I thank God that all the above prophecies are now history as the Lord surely did come taking the form of a man and did a wondrous work by bringing redemption to all mankind. He did the work at the cross at a place known as Golgotha (a Hebrew word meaning "a place that is skull-shaped"). Jesus

Christ completed the work of man's redemption there on the cross where he was crucified and confidently uttered the words 'It is finished'. (John 19:16-30) and by that work on the cross Jesus Christ opened to those in Him (believers/ children of God) quite a big opportunity to be victorious over their enemies, as victory belongs to Him.

Let us now look further at the prophecies of the coming of Jesus the Messiah who would defeat all his enemies and have dominion over the nations of the world as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Judah, that art he whom thy brethren shall praise:
thy hand shall be in the neck of thy enemies; thy
father's children shall bow down before thee.

Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou
art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion,
and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?

The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a
lawgiver, from between his feet, until Shi'-loh
come; and unto him shall the gathering of the
people be.

Genesis 49:8-10

In the book of Revelation (Revelation 5:1-5) we find Jesus Christ being referred to as the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David. In the above scripture we do see a question posed that who can dare to rouse the lion where it lying? In the animal world the lion is the king of the jungle and there is hardly any other that can face him. So our Redeemer is too powerful and cannot be defeated in any way whatsoever.

God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

Gil'-e-ad is mine; Ma-nas-seh is mine; E'-phra-im also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver;

Moab is my washpot; over E'-dom will I cast out my shoe; over Philis'-ti-a will I triumph.

Who will bring me into the strong city? Who will lead me into E'-dom?

Wilt not thou, O God, who hast cast us off? And wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?

Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man.

Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.

Psalm 108:7-13

Now we see in verse 8 above that Judah is a law giver it means that Jesus the one to come from the tribe of Judah is the one that prescribes laws and gives them out as a King. In verse 13 we see that God is the one who shall help us over our enemies as victory belongs to Him and only in him and through him can we be valiant (John 15:5, Romans 8:37, 1 Corinthians 15:55-57).

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up,
ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall
come in.

Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he
is the King of glory. Selah.

Psalm 24:7-10

Jesus Christ is the King of glory who had
triumphed over Satan (Colossians 2:13-15,
Hebrews 2:14, Revelation 1:18) as he is strong and
mighty in battle as the Lord of hosts and the gates
of heaven had to be opened for him to enter in and
be there once again in glory with God the Father
(John 17:1-5)

For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and
the reproaches of them that reproached thee are
fallen upon me.

Psalm 69:9

And the Jews' pass over was at hand, and Jesus
went up to Jerusalem.

And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting:

And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money and overthrew the tables;

And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house a house of merchandise.

And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

John 2:13-17

Jesus Christ was so zealous for the house of his Father which was physical thing (the temple) and he had to clean it up as people had insulted him by converting it into an ordinary house selling merchandise there. Jesus truly was zealous for the temple and he remained there in Jerusalem after the feast of the pass over (Luke 2:41-49). But get to know that we Christians have become the temple of the Lord in Christ Jesus and definitely the Lord will

be equally zealous for the state of our souls and do something about it because of the love he has for us.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Ephesians 5:25-27

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

1 Peter 5:6-7

Surely if we humble ourselves under the Lord's mighty hand and cast all our care to him, he will do something for us and we can expect an exaltation (a

lifting up - a promotion and not abasement - demotion) at the right time. We are a spiritual house of God (1 Peter 5) and God is keen on our souls.

Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go to the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.

Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

John 14:28-30

Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have

tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

John 16:32-33

Those are good news indeed that Satan has no power over our Lord and that our Lord had overcome him. No wonder he was telling his disciples/followers to be of good cheer. We too need to be of good cheer as well as our Lord had overcome and he is with us though not physically but spiritually, haleluia.

Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord. Selah.

To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, which were of old; lo, he doth send out his voice, and that a mighty voice.

Ascribe ye strength unto God: his Excellency is over Israel, and his strength is in the clouds.

O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.

Psalms 68:32-35

Our God, the God of Israel is so powerful and strong and is the one that gives us strength and power from where he is in the heavens of heavens. He is a fearfully terrible God and we need to sing praises to him as he makes us to overcome with what he gives to us for battle against our adversaries.

IN Judah is God known: his name is great in Israel. In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.

There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle.

Selah

Thou art more glorious and excellent than the mountains of prey.

The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands.

At thy rebuke, O GOD of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast in to a dead sleep.

Thou, even thou, art to be feared: and who may
stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?
Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from
heaven; the earth feared, and was still,
When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek
of the earth. Selah
Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the
remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.
Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: Let all
that be round about him bring presents unto him
that ought to be feared.
He shall cut off the spirit of princes: he is terrible to
the kings of the earth.

Psalm 76

Well, our God, because of his greatness, he is
known to Judah and to all the nations of the earth of
course, as he is a terrible God that judges all the
people of the earth and he must be feared. One
cannot stand before him when he is angry as he is
not only terrible but victorious as well. So we need
not to fear anything or anybody as he is our Father.

We too can become victorious just as our Father, following after his character.

WHO is this that cometh from E'-dom, with dyed garments from Boz'-rah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.

Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the wine fat?

I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment.

For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.

And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

Isaiah 63:1-6

Jesus Christ, the lion of the tribe of Judah (Revelation 5) has so much power and strength such that he does not need any help from anybody to do whatever he intends to do. He is the righteous one of God and Savior of the world. He has power to redeem the world Israel included and he is doing just that as he has overcome the enemy Satan and victory belongs to Him and him alone as he has brought all other powers to the earth (down). As Christians we need to be glad and not be down casted because of our enemies. As descendants of Abraham by faith we are automatically translated into the tribe of Judah as we have Christ in us and are become a victorious lot sharing/partaking in his victory (Galatians 3:6-9, Matthew 1:1-16, Romans 8:9-10).

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

For it became him, for who are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

and again, I will put my trust in him. and again, behold I and the children which god hath given me.

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

And deliver them who through fear of death were all their life time subject to bondage.

For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful

and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God,
to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.
For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted,
he is able to succor them that are tempted.

Hebrews 2:9-18

In the above scripture too we see Jesus overcame Satan, destroying him who had the power of death. He suffered when he was tempted and became perfect as our captain and he is able to help us too (we his brethren) when we are being tempted.

Jesus Christ after defeating Satan he took the keys of hell and of death (Revelation 1:17-18). Satan must be tongue tied now and has nothing to do about it. Read on.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all your trespasses;

Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that were against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Colossians 2:13-15

We are not condemned we who are in Christ Jesus as our sins have been forgiven and the ordinances that were against us taken away and nailed on the cross and principalities and powers were spoiled Jesus triumphing over them. You can read on our sins which have been forgiven in the epistle of

Apostle Paul to the church at Rome (Romans 8:1-4).

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by one man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26

I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last; and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Eph'-e-sus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Per'-ga-mos, and unto Thy-a-ti'-ra, and unto Sar'-dis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto La-od-i-ce'-a.

And I turned to see the voice that spake with me.

And being turned, I saw seven golden candle sticks;

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to his foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:
I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, A'men; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Revelation 1:9-18

Jesus Christ our Savior is both the resurrection and the life (John 11:23-26) and he being our brother (Hebrews 2:14-18) had overcome death and took the keys of hell and of death and is finally going to destroy death completely so that it will be no more.

And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21:2-4

Death was no more as it had been dealt with earlier (Revelation 20:1-14).

NOW we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by Spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.

And with all deceivableness of unrightness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-10

The rapture of the holy Church of Christ will not take place before apostasy crops in the Church and now the Holy Spirit is still holding away the Wicked (the anti-Christ) though his spirit is already at work. When the rapture takes place the anti-Christ will be revealed to the whole world and he

will deceive people with fake signs and wonders and the Holy Spirit will already have left with the holy Church. But Christ Jesus will destroy him.

And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings; and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

Revelation 17:12-14

Jesus is an overcomer when he was on earth and even after his ascension back into heaven after his death and resurrection. The Lamb of God is all powerful as the Lord of lords and King of kings for he has triumphed.

And I saw heaven opened and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful

and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew but he himself.

And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords.

Revelation 19:11-16

Jesus Christ and the saints shall come out of heaven riding on white horses to make war against the beast and the false prophet and the rest of the

people on the earth and utterly defeat them as they (Jesus and the saints are overcomers).

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

Psalm 24:7-8

Jesus Christ is the King of glory and he is a victorious King who can fight the battles facing us.

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by one man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Jesus Christ is so powerful such that he puts all his enemies under his feet including death. Therefore we do serve a truly powerful Master. We share his victory as we are co-workers with him (1 Corinthians 3:9)

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

We have as Christians Jesus Christ who is a great high priest who have passed into the havens after coming out victorious here on earth on the matters of sin. We just need to be bold and go to him to obtain mercy and find grace to help us when we are in trouble for him to bail us out (1 John 2:1-2) and to establish our faith in him (Hebrews 7:24-25)

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

Therefore did my heart rejoyce, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:

Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Acts 2:22-27

From the above scripture we can see clearly that Jesus Christ is so powerful that even death cannot hold him and had to resurrect from the grave as he is not of this world but of heaven and could not remain in the dust of the world and its corruption (1 Corinthians 15:45-49).

The same Christ who is so powerful is the one we have believed in and put our trust. He will deliver us just as David spoke having hope in him. We too will be resurrected and changed with new bodies and the second death will be powerless on our heavenly bodies (Revelation 20:6) that simply means we are going to come out victorious. Let us now briefly look at his Father who is in heaven and who called us to the salvation in his Son Jesus Christ.

AND the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Speak unto the children of Israel, that they turn and encamp before Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, over against Baalzephon: before it shall ye encamp by the sea.

For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, They are entangled in the land, the wilderness hath shut them in.

And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honored upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD. And they did so.

And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have left Israel go from serving us?

And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:

And he took six hundred chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.

And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of

Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.

But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and the chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pi-hahiroth, before Baal-zephon.

And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

And they said unto Moses, because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

Is this not the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we might serve the of the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

And Moses said unto the people, Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold thy peace.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:

But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch forth out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.

And I, behold, I will harden the heart of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them: and I will get me honor upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten me honour upon Pharaoh, upon his chariots, and upon his horsemen.

And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them.

And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of the Israel, and it was a cloud and

darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all night.

And Moses stretched forth his hand out over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of Egyptians,

And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again

upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and his servant Moses.

THEN sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing

unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously:
the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

**The LORD is my strength and song, and he is
become my salvation: he is my God, and I will
prepare him an habitation; my father's God,
and I will exalt him.**

**The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his
name.**

Exodus 14:1-15:3

If the Lord did that to his children the children of Israel, I do not see how he can not fight for his children – the Church, that he purchased by the blood of his dear Son. For sure the Lord is going to fight for the Church and will not leave them to be bitten and battered while he just looks, save if they are living in disobedience. God the Father triumphed over the enemies of his children and will do the same to his glorious Church. The Church's duty is to continue in obedience to him. Jesus Christ also triumphed over Satan and he has the keys of hell and death (Colossians 2:13-15, Revelation 1:18).

For sure God has the power to deliver the holy Church from all her enemies as he is a man of war and a strategist at that both in the physical and the spiritual warfare as he gave King David a strategy when he was faced with his enemies (2 Samuel 5:17-23) and also King Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:1-30). The God who called us to his salvation is an Almighty God and fights our battles he being our Father who is in heaven and has the capacity to do that and see us raptured into heaven to be with him forever.

Chapter 8

Overcomers

Initially at creation man was given the task of ruling the earth as god (Genesis 1:26-28, Psalm 82:6). But after Satan (the serpent) deceived man in the garden of Eden (Genesis 3:1-6) Satan literally overthrew man as the ruler of the earth and Satan became the prince of the world and of the power of the air (John 12:31, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 , Ephesians 2:1-2), but thanks be to God the Creator of heaven and earth as he had another plan for mankind because of his love and arranged for man's redemption where a believer in his Son is quickened together with Christ and raised up and made to sit in heavenly places together with Christ (Ephesians 2:1-6). But we know that God the Father and God the Son live in paradise/the third heavens which is above the earth and the atmosphere we see by our physical eyes (Luke 23:33-43, 2 Corinthians 12:1-4). But Satan as the prince of the power of the air, he is below all that in the first heaven (the atmosphere we do see by our physical eyes). It follows therefore that believers in

Christ Jesus, the Son of the Most high God are spiritually elevated above Satan in the spiritual realm and that could be the reason why they are instructed to wage war against Satan and the forces of darkness (Ephesians 6:10 -18) as they have the capacity / power to overcome them.

After man's fall in the garden of Eden God said something to Satan about the enmity that would ensue and the outcome thereof (Genesis 3:15). God had a strategy at hand how mankind would be restored back to him and how by faith the Church of Christ would fight and overcome Satan (Ephesians 2:1-6).

Therefore, we Christians need not underrate ourselves going by our current state in the spiritual realm as we are above principalities and the powers of darkness (Ephesians 1:3-23). Therefore, we only need to be careful to live a holy and righteous life and praying always (Hebrews 12:14, Titus 2:11-14, Romans 16:19-20, Ephesians 6:18-20, 1 Thessalonians 4:17-24) and Romans 8:35-39 shall come to pass in our lives. Satan mostly only uses cunning ways and methods (deceptions) in trying to

overcome believers to have them fall into sin but they must stand firm in their faith and get their victory as they are no longer influenced and controlled by the spirit of Satan but by the Spirit of God and are not only rulers of the earth but have a say in the spiritual realm as well (Romans 8:10, 1 Peter 5:8-11, 2 Corinthians 10:3-4, Luke 10:17-19) as through Christ God the Father restore authority and power back to all that repent of their sins believing in his Son (Acts 2:36-44).

Thou art my king, O God: command deliverances for Jacob.

Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us.

Psalm 44:4-5

God for sure whom we have believed in will command deliverances for us. In the name of the Lord we will tread on our enemies just as David overcame Goliath of Gath (1 Samuel 17:41-51)

And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same is Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim; With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ella-sar; four kings with five.

And the vale of Siddim was full of slimepits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mam'-re, the Am'-o-rite, brother of Esh'-col, and brother of Aner: and these were confederate with Abram.

And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his

own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Ho'-bah which is on the left hand of Damascus.

And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

Genesis 14:8-16

From the outset it seemed the mission of Abram was an impossible one seeing he was going to confront five kings who had before overcome the four kings of Sodom and Gomorrah who fled away and he (Abram) with only his trained servants. But look!! Abram prevailed against them overcoming them as he was with God the Lord of hosts.

THE words of Jeremiah the son of Hil-ki'-ah, of the priests that were in An'-a-thoth in the land of Benjamin:

To whom the word of the LORD came in the days of Jo-si'-ah the son of Amon king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

It came also in the days of Je-hoi'-a-kim the son of Jo-si'-ah king of Judah, unto the end of the eleventh year of Zed-e-ki'-ah the son of Jo-si'-ah king of Judah, unto the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month.

Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou comest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.

But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree.

Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, What seest thou? And I said, I see a seething pot; and the face therefore is toward the north.

Then the LORD said unto me, Out of the north an evil shall break forth upon all the inhabitants of the land.

For, lo, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north, saith the LORD; and they shall come, and they shall set everyone his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about, and against all the cities of Judah.

And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshiped the works of their own hands.

Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them.

For, behold, I have made thee this day a defended city, and an iron pillar, and brazen walls against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land.

And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.

Jeremiah 1

The above scripture talks of the call of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah into the prophetic ministry by God and God commissioning him. All those who are called by God and accept the calling, they are set apart by God for divine purposes and are

adequately equipped for the task/call and God protects them just as Jesus told his disciples in the book of Matthew (Matthew 28:16-20). God is with those he has called to help them to accomplish the work he has given them and to protect them. Ministry work is not easy as one will be opposed and even persecuted but what one need to do is to rise above all that in the name and power of the Lord and one will overcome and accomplish the task at hand (2 Timothy 4:1-5). You are weak in the flesh (the body) but is strong in the spirit just as Jesus told his disciples at his most trying time (Matthew 26:36-41). In the spirit a Christian is a force to reckon with and do exploits in the name of the Lord and in his power (the power of the Holy Spirit) (Acts 1:8, 2:1-4).

A Christian because God equips and protects, he or she should overcome all the obstacles in life and he or she has no reason whatsoever to blame God if he or she does not come out victorious/an overcomer at the end of it all.

For more information on God's purposes on each individual you can read my book entitled 'A Christian and Divine plan'.

And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way.

So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters were taken captives.

Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahin'-o-am the Jez'-reel-i-tess, and Ab'-i-gail the wife of Na-bal the Carmelite.

And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the

people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

And David said to A-bi'-a-thar the priest, A-him'-e-lech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the e'-phod. And A-bi'-a-thar brought thither the e'-phod to David.

And David inquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? Shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all.

So David went he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed.

But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for two hundred abode behind, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.

And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water;

And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his

spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk any water, three days and three nights.

And David said unto him, To whom belongest thou? And whence art thou? And he said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me, because three days ago I fell sick.

We made an invasion upon the south of the Cherethites, and upon the coast of which belongeth to Judah, and upon the South of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.

And David said to him, Canst thou bring me down to this company? And he said, Swear unto me by God, that thou wilt neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring thee down to this company.

And when he had brought him down, behold, they were spread abroad upon all the earth, eating and drinking, and dancing because of all the great spoil that they had taken out of the land of the Philistines, and out of the land of Judah.

And David smote them from the twilight even unto the evening of the next day: and there escaped a

man of them, save four hundred young men, which rode upon camels and fled.

And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives.

And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any thing that they had taken to them: David recovered all.

And David took all the flocks and the herds, which they drave before those other cattle, and said, This is David's spoil.

1 Samuel 30:1-20

From the above scripture we can see that the company that took wives, sons, daughters, and goods from Judah was not a small company as we are told they were spread abroad upon all the earth. But David pursued that company with only four hundred men as some two hundred men who were with him were so faint and could not go over to where that company was. We can see that it was quite an uphill task but David rescued everybody and everything that was taken from Judah. He

overcame them and the people said all that was recovered were David's spoil. David for sure had a big victory. Abram and David who were men of faith became overcomers after the victory and which was brought about by God who was with them. They became victorious on physical battles, but we have more serious battles as Christians and which must be won before having the opportunity to enter the kingdom of God in heaven, and those are spiritual battles. God gave those faith giants victory over physical battles and surely cannot sit back and do nothing on spiritual battles facing Christians who need victory to catapult them into eternity in heaven at God's appointed time.

We are told in the Scriptures that Abraham was a friend of God and most likely because of his faith and obedience. Also we are told David was a man after God's heart and most likely because of his humility and repentant life.

Now you and I too have become God's friends in Christ Jesus because of our faith and we too are overcomers in the Lord. Abraham and David lived by faith (Habakkuk 2:4, 2 Corinthians 5:6-7) and

overcame by faith (Hebrews 11:8-10, 17-19, 30-32) and we too if we continue to live by faith we shall overcome by faith as well (Colossians 1:21-23, Hebrews 10:21-23, 35-39, 1 John 5:5).

AND after this is came to pass, that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them: and David took Metheg-ammah out of the land of the Philistines.

And he smote Moab, and measured them with a line, casting them down to the ground; even with two lines measured he to put to death, and with one full line to keep alive. And so the Moabites became David's servants, and brought gifts.

David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates.

And David took from him a thousand chariots, and even seven hundred horsemen, and twenty thousand footmen: and David houghed all the chariot horses, but reserved of them for an hundred chariots.

And when the Syrians of Damascus came to succor Hadadezer king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty thousand men.

Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus: and the Syrians became servants to David, and brought gifts. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

And David took the shields of gold that were on the servants of Hadadezer, and brought them to Jerusalem.

And from Betah, and from Berothai, cities of Hazadezer, king David took exceeding much brass. When Toi king of Hamath heard that David had smitten all the host of Hazadezer,

Then Toi sent Joram his son unto king David, to salute him, and to bless him, because he had fought against Hadadezer, and smitten him: for Hadadezer had wars with Toi. And Joram brought with him vessels of silver, and vessels of gold, and vessels of brass.

Which also king David did dedicate unto the LORD, with the silver and gold that he had dedicated of all nations which he subdued;

Of Syria, and of Moab, and of the children of Ammon, and of the Philistines, and of Amelek, and of the spoil of Hadadezer, son of Rehob, king of Zobah.

And David gat him a name when he returned from smiting of the Syrians in the valley of salt, being eighteen thousand men.

And he put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom put he garrisons, and all they of Edom became David's servants. And the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.

2 Samuel 8:1-14

The Lord preserved king David from all his enemies giving him victory over them and he praised the Lord for that in the following manner:

I WILL love thee, O LORD, my strength.

The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid.

The sorrows of hell compassed me about: the snares of death prevented me.

In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.

There went up a smoke out of his nostrils, and fire out of his mouth devoured: coals were kindled by it.

He bowed the heavens also and came down: and darkness was under his feet.

And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: yea, he did fly upon the wings of the wind.

He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies.

At the brightness that was before him his thick clouds passed, hail stones and coals of fire.

The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Highest gave his voice; hail stones and coals of fire.

Yea, he sent out his arrows, and scattered them: and he shot out lightnings, and discomfited them.

Then the channels of waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were discovered at thy rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of thy nostrils.

He sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many waters.

He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them which hated me: for they were too strong for me.

They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the LORD was my stay.

He brought me forth also into a large place; he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.

For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.

For all his judgments were before me, and I did not put away his statutes from me.

I was also upright before him, and I kept myself from mine iniquity.

Therefore hath the LORD recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his eye sight.

Psalm 18:1-24

If you like you can read further the remaining verses up to verse 50. What comes clear from the above scripture is that God truly protects those he delights in (who love to do his will). Are we living righteously and have clean hands? (Psalm 116:6-8).

And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God
And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and

over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.

Revelation 15:1-4

We can see that there were those who had gotten victory over the beast, his image, his mark and the number of his mark and they are born again Christians of course being overcomers and are in heaven. At long last we now come to the overcomers and I do believe you already know who they are.

And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold.

So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.

He had also seven sons and three daughters.

And he called the name of the first, Je-mi'-ma; and the name of the second, Ke-zi'-a; and the name of the third, Ker'-en-hap'-puch.

And in all the land were no woman found so fair as the daughters of Job: and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren.

After this lived Job a hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations.

So Job died, being old and full of days

Job 42:10-17

You can read what Job went through in chapter 1 and 2 respectively. The book of Ecclesiastes chapter 7 and verse 8 came to pass in Job's life. He became an overcomer after all the trials in life and remaining in the Lord.

And it came to pass on the day when the LORD spake unto Moses in the land of Egypt.

That the LORD spake unto Moses, saying I am the LORD: speak thou unto Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say unto thee.

And Moses said before the LORD, behold, I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh hearken unto me?

AND the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.

Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land.

And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt.

But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments.

And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

And Moses and Aaron did as the LORD commanded them, so they did.

And Moses was fourscore years old, and Aaron fourscore and three years old, when they spake unto Pharaoh.

And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Show a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent.

And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rod.

Exodus 6:28- 7:12

In the above scripture we can see that Moses and Aaron prevailed by Aaron's rod swallowing all the rods of the wise men and sorcerers of Egypt. Although Pharaoh king of Egypt had hardened his heart but he surrendered when God through Moses had brought judgments in the land of Egypt and the king allowed the children of Israel to leave the land and were finally not in bondage and were free men, women and children (Exodus 12:21-42).

Then Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Sha-drack, Me'-shach and A-bed'-ne-go, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they

might not serve nor worship any god, except their God.

Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Sha-drack, Me'-shach and Abed'-ne-go, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.

Daniel 3:28-30

Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah prevailed over king Nebuchadnezzar by refusing to bow down to worship the golden image that he had set in the province of Babylon for all the people to bow down and worship. God delivered the trio and they came out in victory as overcomers being even promoted (those who at first were to be burned to death in a burning fiery furnace that was heated seven times and they were cast into it).

Then the king rose up very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocence was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and

brake all their bones in pieces even before they came at the bottom of the den.

Then king Da-ri'-us wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and steadfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

So Daniel prospered in the reign of Da-ri'-us, and in the reign of cyrus the Persian.

Daniel 6:19-28

Just as Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah prevailed over their enemies so did Daniel as well because they had faith in the living God and lived righteously before God and all the people.

And when De-li'-lah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called for the lords of the Phil-is'-tines, saying Come up this once, for he hath showed me all his heart.

Then the lords of the Phil-is'-tines came up unto her, and brought money in their hand.

And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.

And she said, The Phil-is'-tines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before and shake myself.

And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

But the Phil-is'-tines took him, and put out his eyes, and brought him down to Ga'-za, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison house.

Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven.

Then the lords of the Phil-is'-tines gathered them together for to offer a great sacrifice, unto Da'-gon their god, and to rejoice: for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand.

And when the people saw him, they praised their god: for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hands our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, which slew many of us.

And it came to pass, when their hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us sport. And they called for Samson out of the prison house; and he made them sport: and they set him between the pillars.

And Samson said unto the lad that held him by the hand, Suffer me that I may feel the pillars whereupon the house standeth, that I may lean upon them.

Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Phil-is'-tines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.

And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and

strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Phil-is'-tines for my two eyes.

And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house stood, and on which it was borne up, of the one with his right hand, and of the other with his left.

And Samson said, Let me die with the Phil-is'-tines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead which he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life.

Then his brethren and all the house of his father came down, and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zor'-ah and Esh'-ta-ol in the burying place of Ma-no'-ah his father. And he judged Israel twenty years.

1 Samuel 16:18-31

Surely our God is merciful and gracious and remembers us. The Philistines thought they had succeeded when they got hold of Samson but how

mistaken they were! Samson slew them even the more though he was blind after the Philistines had removed his two eyes. Samson was therefore the victor in this case. Despite Samson's weaknesses God saw to it that Samson did what he had called him to do - to begin to deliver Israel out of the hands of philistines. You can read my other book entitled 'A Christian and Divine plan'.

And he said unto them, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words?

And they answered him, He was a hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather about his loins. And he said, It is Eli'-jah the Tish'-bite.

Then the king sent unto him a captain of fifty-with his fifty. And he went up to him: and, behold, he sat on top of a hill. And he spake unto him, Thou man of God, the king hath said, Come down.

And Eli'-jah answered and said to the captain of the fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and the fifty.

And there came down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

Again also he sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said. Come down quickly.

And Eli'-jah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

And he sent again a captain of the third fifty with his fifty. And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees before Eli'-jah, and besought him, and said unto him, O man of God, I pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be precious in thy sight.

Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and burnt up the two captains of the former fifties with their fifties: therefore let my life now be precious in thy sight.

And the angel of the LORD said unto E-li'-jah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And he arose, and went down with him unto the king.

2 Kings 1:7-15

We can see that the two captains and their fifties could do nothing to Elijah the Tishbite the prophet of fire. The prophet overcame them all and the third captain and his fifty only survived because he used a different approach in humility and moreover the angel of the Lord intervened bidding him to go with the captain and not be afraid of him.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the

right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:31-39

We are conquerors and more than conquerors in Christ Jesus as through him we can overcome virtually everything.

And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan.

And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Ho'-bah which is on the left hand of Damascus.

And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Ched-or-la-o'mer, and of the kings that were with him, at the valley of Sha'-veh, which is the king's dale.

And Mel-chiz'-ed-ek king of Sa'-lem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

And blessed be the most High God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Genesis 14:14-20

Melchizedek the king of Salem was working behind the scenes when Abram had confronted his enemies but suddenly showed up openly after Abram getting victory and it was Melchizedek who fought the battle for Abram (as the Lord of hosts). No wonder Abram acknowledged it by giving him tithes of all, as it was not his own efforts that made him to become victorious in that battle, but God was on his side.

The bringing of bread and wine to Abram by the king of Salem was a fore shadow of the victory that Jesus Christ was going to have on the cross over his enemies (Colossians 2:13-15). Now look at this scripture as well.

AND it came to pass, when all the kings of the Am'-o-rites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Ca'-na-an-ites,

which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them anymore, because of the children of Israel.

And the children of Israel encamped in Gil'gal, and kept the pass over on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho.

And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the pass over, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day.

And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna anymore; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD, am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face

to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him,
What saith my lord unto his servant?

And the captain of the LORD's host said unto
Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the
place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua
did so.

Joshua 5:1, 10-15

Even in the above scripture we do find that God
was at work for Joshua. He prepared the way for
easy victory for Joshua and the children of Israel
for them to take over the city of Jericho.

God is Jehovah - Sabaoth (the Lord of hosts) and
if we read the next chapter (chapter 6) we find that
for sure Joshua and the children of Israel took that
city.

I know both how to be abased, and I know how to
abound: everywhere and in all things I am
instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to
abound and to suffer need.

I can do all things through Christ which
strengthened me

Philippians 4:12-13

We have the ability to withstand all conditions be they favorable or unfavorable to us by the power of the Lord.

For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again but the wicked shall fall into mischief.

Proverbs 24:16

A person who does not rise up after a fall has been defeated. A born again Christian may fail here and there but will move on and not be discouraged and succeed/overcome life situations; as he still has strength/power to rise up in each occasion.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead

shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:50-57

Yes, we have victory over death as Jesus Christ our Lord overcame death rising from the dead and he is both the resurrection and the life (John 11:25). Although we have a physical body composed of flesh and blood we are at the same time spiritual as a result of our new birth and all this will be

changed for us to be fully spiritual and inherit the kingdom of heaven where spiritual beings are the citizens (Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18).

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the Excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

2 Corinthians 4:7-10

We are hard cores in Christ Jesus that is why we are not finished despite all adverse conditions/ experiences we go through. Our outward man is affected but our inner man continues to be renewed (2 Corinthians 4:16-18).

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Revelation 12:10-11

We overcome by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony.

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:4-5

From the above scripture we do get a very important factor which is key in overcoming the

world, that is, faith. We know too well that Jesus Christ is an overcomer and as we have put our faith in Him, we too can overcome the world as we are connected to him. Therefore faith in Christ Jesus is quite a precious thing. There is a need for every believer to value so much the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross for one's redemption (1 Peter 1:13-19) and which should be a driving force to catapult one to endure to the end of one's walk with the Lord and to come out victorious in all the situations in life and therefore becoming an overcomer.

PETER, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cap-pa-do-ci-a, Asia, and Bi-thyn'-ia,

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath

begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:
That the trial of **your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it might be tried with fire**, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

1 Peter 1:1-7

SIMON Peter a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **to them that have obtained like precious faith with us** through the righteousness of God and our Savior Jesus Christ:
Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

According as his divine power hath given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:1-4

We Christians do take God's divine nature including being victorious in life as we are living stones and Jesus Christ our Savior is the Son of the Living God and our rock.

Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:5

When Jesus came to the coasts of Cae-sa-re'-a Phil'-ppi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Eli'-jah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jo'-na: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shalt be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 16:13-19

We Christians are pieces of a rock as the body of Christ and have been given the gospel of the kingdom of heaven. Christ Jesus himself is our rock. Read also on the keys of heaven as Apostle

Peter explained it to Cornelius and the rest (Acts 10:34-42) and it opened the door for their conversion.

TRULY my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation.

He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.

Psalm 62:1-2

Jesus Christ is our rock and the rock of our strength (Psalm 62:7), who then can move us? It is really a daunting task to try to remove a rock. We are the body of Christ mind you. If any of us remain steadfast in the faith by obedience to the Lord to remove us is next to impossible and that can only make us but overcomers.

But call to remembrance the former days, in which, after ye were illuminated, ye endured a great fight of afflictions;

Partly, whilst ye were made a gazing-stock both by reproaches and afflictions; and partly, whilst ye became companions of them that were so used.

For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in a better and an enduring substance.

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward.

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God ye might receive the promise.

For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.

Now **the just shall live by faith:** but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Hebrews 10:32-39

At this juncture going by the importance of faith in the living God I need not forget to draw your attention to chapter 11 of the epistle to the Hebrews

which not only explains what true faith is but also goes ahead to list down some of those who through their faith overcame the world. The epistle has some of the names of the people we had in our study series as well as others.

NOW faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

By faith E'-noch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and

that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of righteousness which is by faith.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Through faith also Sarah herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Therefore sprang there even one and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in

multitude, and as the sand which is by the seashore innumerable.

These all died in faith, not having received the promises but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son.

Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

By Faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshiped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel, and gave commandment concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he was born was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

By faith Moses, when he was come to years refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

Through faith he kept the pass over, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

And what shall I more say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gid'e-on, and of Bar'-ak and of Samson, and of Jeph'-thah; of David also, and Samuel and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong,

waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sown asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that the without us should not be made perfect.

Hebrews 11

The individuals listed above overcome the world because they exercised their faith in life being

obedient, patient and enduring and were not neutral but active as faith without works is dead/is not faith.

But be ye doers of the world, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

James 1:22

Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

Take my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of job, and have seen the

end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

James 5:7-12

What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?

If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

Even so, faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

James 2:14-17

It is time we born again Christians put our faith into practice on a daily basis and also to refuse to quit whatever happens and be overcomers as God intended for his children.

Let us strive in doing so and have our names added to God's list of overcomers. You are liberty to read:

Galatians 6:7-10

NOW we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by Spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-7

From the above scripture we can see the man of sin also known as the lawless one or the wicked who actually is the antichrist has been held and restrained by the Holy Spirit all along and it is only when the Holy Spirit leaves with the Church of Christ the man of sin will be fully revealed/manifested. We also know that the Holy Spirit do inhabit Christians (the body of Christ) and is more powerful than the spirit of Satan (1 John 4:4) who will give the antichrist (the beast) power (Revelation 13:1-2) and the same Satan had been defeated by Jesus Christ (Hebrews 2:14-15, Colossians 2:10-15, Revelation 1:18). It follows therefore that Satan (the dragon) who has already been defeated and obviously is even weaker gives the antichrist power, how then can he overpower Spirit filled Christians? The chances are very slim

as Christians can only overcome all these evil powers as long as they remain steadfast in the Lord. As a Christian you were called by God into activity and not into inactivity and therefore you are expected not to sit back in life but rather to rise up against situations in life in the authority and power of God.

In God you have a high potential to bring change in the world (Matthew 5:13-16). Ideally God called you to manage life here on earth just as he had instructed the first man Adam (Genesis 1:26-28) and to be an overcomer just as he called Jeremiah (Jeremiah 1:1-10).

Now just look at what the following scripture says touching on the superiority of Christian over the enemy- satan.

AND there was famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham.

And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.

And the LORD appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swear unto Abraham thy father;

And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.

And Isaac dwelt in Gerar:

And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, She is my sister: for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon.

And it come to pass, when he had been there for a long time, that Abimelech king of the Phil'-is'-tines

looked out at a window, and saw, and, behold, Isaac was sporting with Rebekah his wife.

And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife: and how saidst thou, she is my sister?. And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, lest I die for her.

And Abimelech said, What is this thou hast done unto us?. One of the people might lightly have lain with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us.

And Abimelech charged all his people, saying, He that toucheth this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.

Then Isaac sowed in that Land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him.

And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great:

For he had possession of flocks, and possessions of herds, and great store of servants: and the Philistines envied him.

For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the

Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

Genesis

26:1-16

We can see from the above scripture that God was with Isaac for he too just as his father Abraham obeyed the voice of God. Only he faltered just as his father by lying that Rebecca his wife was her sister out of fear for his life (Genesis 20). Let us be careful on the issue of fear as it is the opposite of faith and also it is one of the powerful weapons of Satan which often uses on us to immobilize us so as to have victory over us as we don't react to his advances.

But we see that by God's mercy and compassion God went ahead and blessed Isaac and prospered him (Exodus 33:13-19). But here now comes a most interesting thing: That Isaac became so great in Gerar such that he was envied and also was a threat not only to the Philistines but to their king as

well, the king who requested him to go out from them (verses 13 to 16).

The key to all that is obedience to the voice of God which guarantee God's presence and blessings and victory over one's enemies (The Philistines were enemies of the Jews). If God gave Isaac victory I cannot see how he cannot do it to you and I if we remain obedient to Him (The great I am) (1 John 4:4).

And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.

And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding:

So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

Matthew 8:28-31

In the above scripture we do see that devils knew very well who Jesus was and the authority and power he had over them and that is why they told Jesus those words. We see that they were subject to him and obeyed him always (verse 32). We Christians born of God's spirit need to know that Christ Jesus whom we believed in gave us authority and power over our enemies and we have but to overcome them just as he too overcome (Matthew 10:1-8; 28:16-20, Mark 16:14-20, Luke 10:17-19). Just as the devils (demons) were subject to us as well. We have no business with them but just to cast them out of people (Matthew 8:31-32; 10:1, Mark 16:17, Luke 10:19 Matthew 16:21-23, Acts 16:16-18). The same power and authority of Jesus is with us but we must ensure that we are Spirit filled and are living a holy life and are hostile to sin and demons and Satan and for sure overcome by faith.

For who Is God, save the Lord? and who is a rock,
save our God?

God is my strength and power; and he maketh
my way perfect.

He maketh my feet like hinds' feet: **and setteth me
upon my high places.**

He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel
is broken by mine arms.

Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation:
and thy gentleness hath made me great.

**Thou hast enlarged my steps under me; so that
my feet did not slip.**

2 Samuel 22:32-37

The above is part of the psalm king David spoke to
the Lord in thanking him for his goodness and is
quite similar in some way on what Apostle Paul
spoke in his epistle to the church at Ephesus.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love
wherewith he loved us,

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us
together with Christ (by grace ye are saved;)

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:4-7

Now the above scripture places born again Christians at an advantageous position in their combat with the enemy in spiritual warfare and that is very good for the Lord to do so for his own. But let us learn also some important lesson from the life of our Lord Jesus Christ and what the scriptures say on overcoming this life.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Philippians 2:5-12

In that scripture what comes out is Christ's obedience to God even unto death and it is only then that his Father highly exalted him. And in verse 12 Apostle Paul repeated to the church the same thing that they have work to do in their salvation and which is obedience to God. Let us look further:

I give thee charge in the sight of God, who
quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who
before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;
That thou keep this commandment without spot,
unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus
Christ:

1 Timothy 6:13-14

We can see there as well that obedience is required
as if one is obedient one is without spot and is
unrebukeable. I bring to your memory of Hananiah,
Mishael, Azariah and Daniel who were obedient to
God and he rescued them all (Daniel 3 and 6). Also
to note are holiness, righteousness and
perseverance.

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without
which no man shall see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:14

And I heard s it were the voice of a great multitude,
and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of
mighty thunderings, saying,
Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him:
for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife
hath made herself ready.

And to her was granted that she be arrayed in fine
linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the
righteousness of the saints.

Revelation 19:6-8

And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's
sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Matthew 10:22

Chapter 9

The rewards and crowns

It should be well understood by the reader that it is not in vain to be fighting the good fight of faith but it is most beneficial to a Christian and hence the need to strive on unto the end just as we are encouraged in the Scripture.

This charge I commit unto thee, son, Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare.

Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

Of whom is Hy-me-ne'-us and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

1 Timothy 1:18-20

THOU therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.

The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits.

Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

2 Timothy 2:1-7

I CHARGE thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

2 Timothy 4:1-5

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:7-10

Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Malachi 3:13-18

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15: 58

There you are, it is to do with fighting the good fight of faith as well as serving the Lord and at the same time living a righteous life and remaining holy (2 Timothy 2:19-21, Hebrews 12:14, Titus 2:11-14). It is not in vain to do so as the Lord himself has said so below.

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Revelation 22:12

Apostle Paul acknowledged the words of the Lord when he wrote an epistle to the church at Corinth as follows:

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire, and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

For sure there are rewards and crowns awaiting all Christians who shall have overcome the world. The rewards and crowns to be received will depend on each individuals' efforts while he or she was in the world. Now let me begin with the rewards and later to be followed with the crowns.

The rewards

UNTO the angel of the church of Ephe-sus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in

his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works, and thy labor, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted.

Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou has left thy first love.

Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent and do the first works; or else I will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nic-o-la'-i-tans, which I also hate.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; **To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.**

And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

Fear none of these things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; **He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.**

And to the angel of the church in Per'-ga-mos write, These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein An'-ti-pas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them, that hold the doctrine of Ba'-laam, who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before

the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nic-o-la'-i-tans, which thing I hate. Repent, or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; **To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden Man'na, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.**

And unto the angel of the church in Thy-a-ti'-ra write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like brass;

I know thy works, and charity and service, and faith, and patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jez'-e-bel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to

seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto everyone of you according to your works.

But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thy-a-ti'-ra, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

But that ye have already hold fast till I come.

And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

And I will give him the morning star.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

AND to the angel of the church in Sar'-dis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Thou hast a few names even in Sar'-dis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is

new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

And unto the angel of the church of the La-od-i-ce'-ans write; these things saith the A'-men, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: would thou wert cold or hot.

So then because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.

Because thou sayest I am rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable and poor, and blind and naked:

I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore and repent.

Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come into him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcome, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 2 & 3

AND I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

And he said unto me, it is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 21:1-7

The Crowns

In presenting to you the crowns let me present to you the case of apostle Paul who strived in his ministry in order to be a benefactor of the crowns which he states that they are unique/special in that they cannot be compared to the earthly ones that are corruptible as they are heavenly and

incorruptible to those who will have being qualified by the Lord to receive them.

1.The incorruptible crown

For though I be free from all man, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

And unto the Jews I became a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be a partaker therefore with you.

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1Corinthians 9:19-27

2. The crown of life

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

James 1:12

The same crown of life is repeated in the book of Revelation below.

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison,

that ye may be tried, and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Revelation 2:10

3. The crown of righteousness

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

4. The crown of glory

THE elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock.

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive **a crown of glory** that fadeth not.

1 Peter 5:1-4

5. A crown of rejoicing

But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire.

Wherefore we would have come unto you, even 1 Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us.

For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

For ye are our glory and joy.

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

All the above rewards and crowns should be enough to motivate a Christian to strive in life in order to be with the Lord in heaven into eternity and never to miss that golden opportunity of being in heaven eternally with the Lord God.

To me the rewards and the crown are by the ways in heaven, as the big thing is to be there. Therefore we need not unnecessarily be preoccupied with them but be always occupied with the desire to be with the Lord in heaven where he is (John 14:1-3) as that too is the Lord's desire for Christians (John 10:9-11, 12:25-26, 17:1-26).

Notes to the reader

I take this opportunity to thank you for reading this book hoping it has been of help to you. If you have any comments, please do feel free to communicate to us using the address below.

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