


LOVE
 Without Hypocrisy
 (in the book of Romans)

67 – Victory!

**IN SOME WAYS,
 IT'S LIKE A BATTLE!**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Romans 12:21 (NIV)

EVIL **GOOD**



Except that:
They want us dead ...

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Romans 12:21 (NIV)

EVIL **GOOD**



We want them alive,
 ★ **and on the side of good!** ★


Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Romans 12:21 (NIV)

EVIL **GOOD**




What YOU do will determine if you are overcome by evil and die!

For if you live according to the sinful nature, **you will die**; ...



but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, **you will live**, ...
Romans 8:13 (NIV)



Our ability to LIVE... Where does it come from?
Is it our own self-sufficient strength?

"The righteous will live by **faith**."
Romans 1:17b (ISV)

Christ is your life.
Col. 3:4a (GW)

... strengthened by **grace**, ...
Hebrews 13:9b (NIV)

Finally, receive your power from **the Lord** and from **his mighty strength**.
Ephes. 6:10 (GW)



Our ability to LIVE is 100% because of Jesus Christ.

JESUS SAYS:
... apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:5b (NIV)

THE FOLLOWER OF JESUS SAYS:
I can do everything* through Christ who strengthens me.

Philip. 4:13 (GW)



* ("Everything" – whether in pleasant or unpleasant circumstances – see v. 11-12.)

If you choose to do EVIL, you will be OVERCOME by it.



If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be **destroyed** by each other.

Galatians 5:15 (NIV)

▪ **WHEN YOU DO THIS**, you're actually providing a tasty lunch for someone else...

The devil will take his share of the meal!

Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

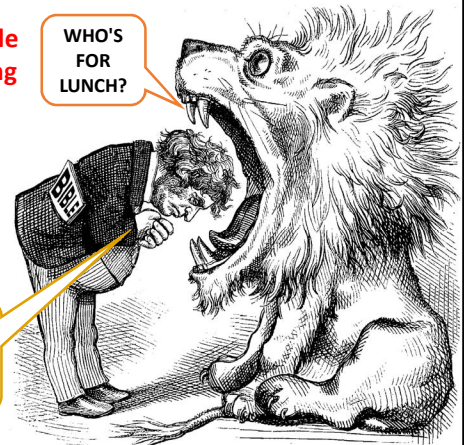
1 Peter 5:8b (NIV)



Many people are unwilling to take the Bible seriously!

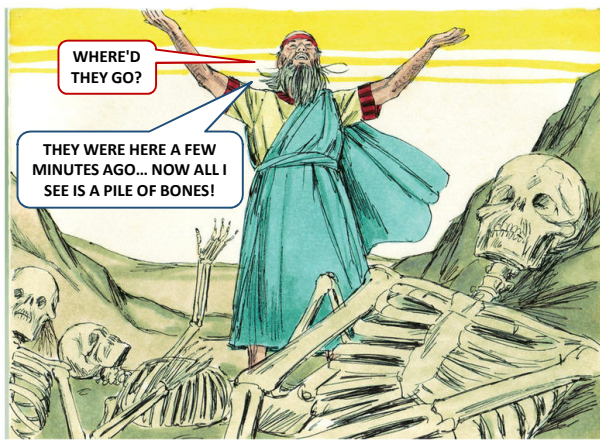
WHO'S FOR LUNCH?

SEE? NOTHING'S HAPPENING TO ME!



WHERE'D THEY GO?

THEY WERE HERE A FEW MINUTES AGO... NOW ALL I SEE IS A PILE OF BONES!



THE BIG ISSUE

▪ Are you going to be OVERCOME?

OR...

▪ Are you going to be the OVERCOMER?

▪ Are you going to be OVERCOME?

If so → **EVIL WINS! YOU LOSE!**

- ✓ Their evil now controls you. You have joined your enemies as a loser to evil.
- ✓ If you claim they were wrong, you now condemn yourself (Romans 2:1).
- ✓ You have just given them an excuse to return evil for your evil... thus escalating the problem.



▪ Are you going to be the OVERCOMER?

If so → **GOOD WINS! YOU WIN!**

- ✓ You are living as one who has a transformed mind – Romans 12:2.
- ✓ Your love becomes a picture of God's love toward sinners.
- ✓ You are demonstrating victory over the evil in your own heart.
- ✓ There will be less hate in the world: Though they may hate you, they won't be hated by you.

▪ Are you going to be the OVERCOMER?

If so → **YOUR ENEMIES MIGHT WIN!**

- ✓ Their evil will have NO power or control over you.
- ✓ You might take away their incentive to do evil.
- ✓ If they repent, good may fill their lives. Then they also will become winners!



**WHEN GOOD WINS
OVER BOTH
YOU AND
YOUR ENEMY...**



**THAT'S A
REASON TO
CELEBRATE!!**

**The word translated as "OVERCOME"
has to do with "VICTORY."**

Do not be overcome by evil, but
overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:21 (NIV)

[It's the SAME word group!] *

HOW USED	TYPICAL WAYS TRANSLATED
NOUN	VICTORY, VICTORIOUS
VERB (USED AS VERB)	OVERCOME, OVERPOWER, CONQUER, WIN THE VICTORY, ETC.
VERB (USED AS NOUN)	HE WHO OVERCOMES, THE VICTOR, THE CONQUEROR, ETC.

* [Greek – the language the New Testament was written in.]

JESUS HAD VICTORY OVER EVIL.

I have **overcome** the world.
John 16:33b (GW)

"World" refers to the present EVIL system that is controlled by the devil.

★ If we are **FOLLOWING** Jesus, we need to do the same.

... **overcome** evil with good. [This is a command.]
Romans 12:21 (NIV)

★ Those who are **FOLLOWING** Jesus will learn to obey his command to "overcome."

This is why many Scripture passages describe this victorious overcoming as a fact.

I've written to you, young people, because you are strong and God's word lives in you. You have **won the victory** over the evil one. [This is a fact.]
1 John 2:14b (GW)

★ There are also many **blessings** for those who are willing to obey the command to overcome.

"He who overcomes..."
> Which may also be translated as...
"To the one who conquers..."
"The one who is victorious..."

[These are blessings.]
Mentioned several times in Revelation 2 and 3

★ **READ** the examples found throughout Revelation 2 and 3. ★

Your Mission...

BE A WINNER!

Have the **VICTORY** – and the *blessings* – of those who **OVERCOME** evil!

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
Romans 12:21 (NIV)

Your Mission...

PRAY

THAT WE, AS A GROUP, WILL TAKE SERIOUS THIS OBLIGATION TO **BE OVERCOMERS!**

(Beginning – of course – with ourselves.)



LOOKING FOR DESSERT!

(WHO will be next?)

Credits (1)

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Your Mission...

**"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."
Romans 12:21**

OVERCOMING AND VICTORY

in the New Testament

GOD / JESUS CHRIST - THE ULTIMATE VICTOR

- Jesus is the ultimate victor over all - over this sinful world (John 16:33); over demonic forces (Luke 11:21-22, illustrated in a parable; see vs. 14-26); over the evil powers at the end of the age (Revelation 17:14).
- Jesus is the victor because he is the King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 17:14). He sits on the throne of God (Revelation 3:21b); and he is worthy of opening the "scroll" that brings this evil age to an end (Revelation 5:5).
- He is the one who will bring victory over injustice (Matthew 12:20). He can take from the devil what the devil claims as his own (Luke 11:21-22, illustrated in a parable; see vs. 14-26).
- Because of Jesus' victory, we can have peace and encouragement (John 16:33); we will share in Jesus' victory over the evil powers of this world (Revelation 17:14); and in the end, we will rule with him (Revelation 3:21).
- Nobody can accuse God of any wrongdoing; any who try will be proven false - God will prevail (have victory) over their accusations (Romans 3:4).

EVIL AND DEATH - THEIR "VICTORIES" ARE TEMPORARY

- Death's victory over God's people is only temporary; Jesus has had victory over death, and has given this victory to us, his people (1 Corinthians 15:54-55, 57).
- During the end times, the evil powers will have temporary victory over the world (Revelation 6:2). This will include power to be victorious over God's people (Revelation 11:7; 13:7); *but we must remember that this victory is only temporary.*

GOD'S PEOPLE - THE VICTORY OF THOSE WHO FOLLOW HIM

- Victory - overcoming evil - is an obligation for God's people (Romans 12:21). However, because they *are* God's people, this victory is a *fact* - over the devil (1 John 2:13-14; Revelation 12:11); over those empowered by false spirits, who attempt to pull us away from the truth (1 John 4:4).
- The victory of God's people includes victory over the evil "world system" (1 John 5:4-5, made possible because of our trust in Jesus); over the evil powers of the world (Revelation 15:2, describing the victory of God's people during the end times); and over death itself (1 Corinthians 15:54-55, 57, the victory being given to us by God himself).
- God has many blessings in store for those who are willing to be victorious (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26-29; 3:5-6, 12-13, 21-22; 21:7 - the context of each passage showing what the victory is over).

The only thing we can conclude...

- Those who choose to live for God are *"more than victorious"* in all things; *we cannot lose* (Romans 8:37).