

Overcome Bitterness Take Heart, You will Overcome!

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace, in this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

This is a real story that I heard from a brother in the Lord Jesus and which encouraged me to write this message:

Shahzad met an accident and was admitted to the hospital. He got fracture in his right arm. He stayed in the hospital for three days and then discharged home. He was given an appointment to the clinic of the hospital to continue the treatment of his fracture. It happened on the day that he was sent home that he was not treated well by the doctors. No one had given him much attention to explain well what is next in his treatment program. He got puzzled and did not know what then to do. That caused him to be angry with the medical staff and he was about to face and confront them when all of a sudden something inside him raised up and controlled his evil intent to quarrel and fight, and afterwards he found himself speechless and with no power and strength. He took himself aside and he started to pray: *“Father, God, forgive me and control my anger. Comfort me, Lord. This I pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

Jesus said, ***“Take heart! I have overcome the world.”*** You may wonder and ask how Jesus had overcome? Jesus did not use the sword; He did not do them any harm, but He just spoke to them the very words of God. Even when they arrested Him, He did not become angry and He did not retaliate. To the point that they crucified Him, piercing His hands and feet with nails and hung Him on the cross, His reaction was not to war but to give peace. For He pleaded to God the Father asking Him, ***“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”***

Jesus has overcome the world and the devil by what He did and how He reacted on the cross. The usual thing if an ordinary man is crucified you find him struggling for help and cursing all his enemies. But Jesus was able to overcome all the pain of crucifixion and all the mutilation caused by the nails piercing His body. He was able to overcome all the injustices of the verdict; while He was guiltless and without sin yet He found Himself under the shameful death sentence on the cross. Jesus had overcome when He reacted in a peculiar way that others in the world would not do. He forgave them who insulted Him instead of getting angry to them. He accepted His enemies instead of rejecting

them. He blessed His accusers instead of cursing them. Thus, what made Jesus behaved and acted in such a wonderful way that caused Him to overcome? Basically, the attitudes and actions of Jesus were controlled by the Spirit of God that was in Him. The Lord Jesus Christ although in figure He was man but He is God; He is the image of the invisible God. He said, ***“I am in the Father and the Father is in me.”*** Truly only the Spirit of God, the Father can make Jesus forgive, accept and even love those who crucified Him, people may not believe that Jesus is God, but the work of Jesus on the cross is the clear evidence that God the Father lives in the Spirit of Jesus. He said, ***“It is the Father, living in me, who is doing His work.” (John 14:10)***

My dear and beloved: Anyone who believes in Jesus’ work on the cross – that He died to pay the price of the sin we committed – and anyone who receives Jesus as personal Savior and the Lord he is saved and he has eternal life. Once a person believes and receives Jesus, he receives the Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit starts to live and move in him as the Bible says, ***“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and God’s Spirit lives in you? (1 Corinthians 3:16)***

When you receive Jesus, the Spirit of God will start to work in you to mold you and change your attitudes, behaviors, thoughts and actions to become like Jesus. The Spirit of God will not only change you but He will make you an overcomer. You will be patient in suffering, loving to your enemy, making peace and not waging war. In addition to other peculiar characteristics, heavenly and godly decisions will come out from the Spirit of God that lives in you. That Spirit of God will make you overcomer to overcome evil by doing good; to overcome pride with humility; to overcome evil by doing good; to overcome complaining by preserving and giving thanks to God. The spirit of God in you in times of trouble will cry out, *“Abba Father.”* Subsequently, you will boldly face hardships, pressures, persecution or excessive needs by prayers and requesting God the Father to interfere and to stretch out His hand to control the situation, to solve your problem, to heal your sickness, to provide your need, to protect you from your enemies, to spare you from troubles, and to guide you to walk on the safest ways in this life on the earth until Jesus will come again and take you with Him to heaven to live and spend eternity with God.

My Prayer: *“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the name of Jesus who died for me on the cross to give me eternal life. Thank you for teaching me to overcome anger, bitterness and pride. Make me humble and teach me to follow your ways. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and lead me into the way everlasting. Thank You Lord. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*