

**Overcome
Overcoming**
Nancy J. Baker

Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night. And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Revelation 12:10-11

Sometimes in a war, small pockets of final resistance have to be uncovered and destroyed before it is evident that the enemy really has been defeated.

The word *overcome* used in **Revelation 12** is the Greek *nikao* (Strong's 3528), which means "to carry off the victory, come off victorious." It's used as a past tense verb. We can't look just at the present. We have to read the end of the Book. God gave the Apostle John a vision showing that our enemy Satan, the one who accuses us before God day and night, has already been thrown down. He has been overcome. We are already the victors even though we have to fight small battles with the enemy.

Therefore, when our accuser attacks, we need to remember that he is a liar. He may roar, but he has no teeth. God pays no attention to his accusations. "Yes," God tells him when he accuses us, "they're sinners, that's why Jesus died for them."

The accuser has been overcome because of the blood of the Lamb, by what Jesus Christ did when he sacrificed His life for us. We who believe are made righteous by His work on the cross. He paid the penalty for our sins with His blood.

The accuser has been overcome because of our testimony. We acknowledge his defeat when we tell others what we've experienced from God: His love, His faithfulness, His healing, His peace, His comfort, and the overcoming faith He gives us.

The accuser has been overcome because we did not love our lives even when faced with death. That death may be a living death—a life full of trials and suffering one right after the other—or physical death. "Do not fear," God says and promises, "for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you. I will uphold you with my victorious right hand." (**Isaiah 41:10**)

Do you feel overwhelmed by the trials you are facing? Trust God and what He accomplished by sending His Son to die so that we can share the victory.

Dig Deeper

- Read **John 9:1-38**. What was the testimony of the man born blind? Even though he was thrown out of the synagogue, how was he an overcomer?
- Read **Acts 6:8-7:60**. How did Stephen overcome his accusers? How did he show courage? Who helped him speak? What did he see?
- Read **Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26** and **3:5, 12, 21**. What are the promises made to all who overcome because of their faith in God and what He has done in sending His Son? How do those promises encourage you today?