OVERCOME THROUGH JESUS!

(New year sermon - 2021)

Happy New Year everyone. May you all have a blessed, Christ filled 2021.

Promise verse for 2021.

Rev. 3:21.

21 He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne......

What a privilege to sit next to Jesus on the same seat! Looks like it is one long bench throne for those who overcome their hurdles! Blessed are they who sit next to Jesus! We must all covet that seat! Two disciples already coveted those seats, but they were eying the earthly kingdom!

Mathew 20:20-23:

.20Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, bowing down and making a request of Him. 21And He said to her, What do you wish?" She said to Him, Command that in Your kingdom these two sons of mine may sit one on Your right and one on Your left." 22But Jesus answered, You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to Him, We are able." 23He said to them, My cup you shall drink; but to sit on My right and on My left, this is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by My Father."

As per our promise word, God has kept those seats reserved only for those who overcome all their fiery trials and tribulations through faith in Christ, and those who can drink the cup of suffering, just like Jesus! How can we be overcomers of everything? Let's see what the scripture says

1 John 5:4:5.

4For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—Our Faith.

5Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Every person who is born of the Spirit should be able to overcome any problem in life through the power of the Holy Spirit, and through faith in Christ. We can move any mountains of problems and overcome them through our faith in Christ!

I John 4:4.

4You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

When we have the Holy Spirit within us, we will overcome every problem! There is no problem that the Spirit cannot overcome, for the Holy Spirit that is in us is greater than the devil that is in the world.

Note. This verse says that we have already overcome. It speaks in past perfect tense. Why? Jesus has already overcome!

John 16:33. "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world."

Jesus has already conquered and overcome sin through His atoning death on the cross, (you must believe that, otherwise, you will be always living with the guilt of sin). Jesus already overcame and destroyed death through resurrection, (you must believe that, otherwise, you will be always living in the fear of death and will be dying everyday of your life!). He already overcame hades through His ascension, (so there is no need to fear about the dark world of hades or hell any longer). He does answer every one of our prayers according to His will and purpose! The Holy Spirit gives us the guarantee of eternal life in us all the time! If we have the Spirit, we have eternal life! He holds on to us even beyond this life! So why are we so afraid of living and dying in this pandemic era? We are indeed conquerors over every problem.

ROM. 8:37-39.

37Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate (overcome) us from the (protective) love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Why are we anxious about our finance? He feeds even the birds of the air. We are more precious than those birds.

Why are we afraid of plagues? He will protect us. As much as possible, just stay home, and follow the protocol.

I understand, we are surrounded daily with the news of death and dying because of this pandemic. Anything could happen to any of us anytime. We never know. But why are we afraid of it? Let us overcome this fear of death also. Our Lord Jesus clearly said, He who believes shall never die (John 11:26). For us, to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord! For us, death is not an "exit door", but an "entry door" into God's glorious, heavenly mansion where His majestic heavenly throne is! If we can overcome this fear of death, we can easily overcome anything else in our life!

But sometimes, we may not be ready to leave this world, because, we have some unfinished job on earth. Moses wanted to lead Israelites to the promised land and enjoy the blessings of that promised land! But his work was cut short by God Himself! Moses was taken to a better promised land, the heaven itself! It is perfectly ok to express our

personal wishes to God, but let us pray like Jesus, not my will Father, but your will be done! That is the secret to overcoming our fears of death! Our life span is in God's hand for each one of us! For some people, it may be more, for others, it may be less. Every day is added by His mercies. Let us rejoice every day He has given and be glad in it! Let us just take one day at a time, focus on living daily according to God's will, and overcome all our hurdles and tribulations for that day! The Holy Spirit will give us strength to overcome all our problems!

We should be able to overcome every hurdle in this world. Let us try to overcome the sickness through healthy eating, exercise, and medicines.

We must try to overcome poverty through hard work, and good planning of managing our finance.

We must push hard to overcome ill feelings toward each other and press on to love everyone.

We can move any mountain and overcome any problem through Jesus Christ, our Lord. He has reserved a seat next to Him for those people who will overcome their problems! Fear not! It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom! Fear and faith are exactly opposite. If you sense fear in you, that means, your faith is faltering. Fear not, under any circumstances. I love the song, we shall overcome.

We shall overcome, we shall overcome, We shall overcome some day. Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, We shall overcome some day.

Yes, we will overcome every problem in 2021 through faith in Jesus Christ, and by the power of Holy Spirit! Nothing can separate us from His love!

Daniel Israel 12.31.20 pastor@acts242church.org