

He Who Overcomes
Notes By Tracy Hogan
July 18, 2015

Revelation 2:3-3 READ

- 1) **Revelation 2:3-5** Ephesus: left love they had at first. Note: they did not “lose” it. There is a big difference.
- 2) **Revelation 2:9-10** Smyrna: persecuted church, be faithful unto death.
- 3) **Revelation 2:13-14** Pergamum: teachings of Balaam, idol worship, true prophet who merchandised/prosperity ministries.
- 4) **Revelation 2:20-23** Thyatira: tolerated Jezebel, spirit of harlotry, sexual sin, and where homosexuality comes from.
- 5) **Revelation 3:1-3** Sardis: you think you are alive, but dead. Therefore, wake up, remember what you learned, repent and obey.
- 6) **Revelation 3:10-11** Philadelphia: they guarded His word, and endured. Therefore He will keep them from the hour of testing.
- 7) **Revelation 3:15-20** Laodecia: lukewarm, He will vomit out. They think all is ok, but they must purchase gold refined by fire, and eye salve to see.

These messages are to believers. They represent the state of the Church today. The message is the same – repent/obey, endure to the end. To him who overcomes, the Lord will give the crown of life. Smyrna (persecuted church) and Philadelphia (representing the Bride, end-times) were different.

Matthew 24:13 He who endures to the end will be saved. Not at the beginning, but when we finish our race, if we do.

John 18:36-37 Jesus answered, **My kingdom is not of this world.** If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now **My kingdom is not from here.** **37** Pilate therefore said to Him, **Are You a king** then? Jesus answered, You say rightly that **I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth.** Everyone who is of the truth hears/obeys My voice (NKJV).

John 14:15, 21, 23 Tells us that if we love Him, we will obey Him – obey Truth. He is Truth. He is the Way that leads to Truth – the Truth that leads to Life. There is only One Way. It’s not negotiable – there is no neutral ground to Truth, and it does not compromise.

John 14:24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words... (NKJV).

May this scripture hit us right between the eyes and pierce our hearts! It’s one or the other. We either love Him, or we don’t. Too many believers say they “love” Jesus, but really are liars. They do not obey His Word, whether written or spoken. They walk in darkness, full of compromise. Most in the Church today represent those we read about in Revelation 2-3. Most have not lost their first love as we hear so often in prayers, but the Word teaches us that they left it! **There is a big difference between “losing” and “leaving.”** Loving Him is not just something that escapes us. **We decide by the decisions we make.** We need to call it for what it is and what the Word of God teaches us. He says:

1 John 1:5-6 ...God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. **6** If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, **we lie and do not practice the truth** (NKJV). If we say we love Him, we will obey; if not, we’re in darkness, and a liar.

To add to this equation, Paul lets us know:

Romans 14:23 But the man who has doubts about eating, and then eats, stands condemned [before God], because he is not true to his convictions and he does not act from faith. For **whatever does not originate and proceed from faith is sin.**

Remember, faith almost always precedes understanding. Remember Zachariah and Mary in Luke 1, how they both had an encounter with the angel Gabriel. Both had a message from God and both were about to give “birth” to a “revelation” from heaven concerning their destinies. But each had two totally different responses. One spoke doubt, and therefore paid a consequence that he would not speak, because he spoke doubt. Mary, although she did not understand the word spoken, responded, “Let it be done according to your word.” She believed, and had faith in the unseen.

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (**Hebrews 11:1**).

We further see in James, that faith is not only a “substance” of the unseen, but it’s an action: **READ James 2:14-26.**

James 1:3-4 Be assured and understand that **the trial and proving of your faith** bring out **endurance** and **steadfastness** and **patience**. **4** But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that **you may be perfectly and fully developed**, lacking in nothing.

The purpose of our trials and testing is to work: endurance, steadfastness and patience within us. **Why?** Verse 4 tells us, so that we can **become perfected**, lacking nothing – so we can receive the end result of it.

1 Peter 1:9 Receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your soul. The renewal of mind is our soul, stage 2.

So we can go onto stage 3 – glorification, to become vessels that can carry His glory. This is why He gives us faith. The reason He wants our faith to keep growing, through trials and testing, is so that we can become the overcomers. These will ultimately become His Bride, who rules and reigns with Him for all of eternity. He who overcomes I will grant to him to sit beside Me on My throne, as I Myself overcame (**Revelation 3:21**). This is the purpose, and the end result of our faith: Forming in us the qualities that will make us overcomers, and thus qualifying us to become the Bride of Messiah.

We need to understand that faith and love work hand in hand. We cannot have one without the other. The opposite of both of these is fear.

The reason that Yeshua says that if we love Him, we will obey Him, is that He knows what we are called to. And He knows what it will take to get us there. More often than not, He's asking and requiring us to obey Him, when we will not understand the reasons why. That requires faith.

CLOSING Yeshua said:

Luke 18:8 When the Son of Man returns, will He find faith on the earth? Will He find those who loved Him, and obeyed Him unto death, if necessary, like those who were exhorted in Revelation 2:9-10?

For those who do, He says, You are My friends if you keep on doing the things which I command you to do (**John 15:14**).

He further says that if we do, we are no longer called a servant, but a friend, and He reveals His secrets to His friends.

John 15:15 I do not call you servants any longer, for the servant does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you My friends, because **I have made known to you everything** that I have heard from My Father.

Sadly, He has very few friends. Becoming a bondservant is first step – it is the deeper commitment that is sold out 100%, with no compromise. To do so, you must be willing to go through His refining fire. You must be teachable/correctible by the Master. Few are willing to enter into bondservant relationship, with a hope of becoming His friend, with a hope of coming into full Sonship (a son knows His Father's business and dwells in His house), with a hope of the ultimate prize to be His Bride.

These are all different levels of intimate relationship we can have with Him, but we alone decide, and they are not automatically granted. The last three are not possible to enter into unless one is willing to become a bondservant. This is where the Master owns him, and he is disposable to the Master's use 24/7. He owns nothing, but all that the Master has will be at the bondservant's disposal, to fulfill what is being asked of him. From there the relationship grows, matures, and becomes much more intimate. But so few are willing to pay the price, as it will cost you everything. Most will stay as a servant (relegated to the outer courts, having missed their highest destiny).

Yeshua made it clear when they were about to crucify Him that His kingdom is not of this world (**John 18:36**). The very reason He was born was to be King and to bring this Truth: That His kingdom here on earth must first be formed within us, and then He (working with and through us) will restore all things. Most missed His purpose then. Most have also missed it now in the Church, and we have not fully grasped His larger purpose for coming to this earth.

We need to heed the words that our King spoke to the churches in Revelation. The bottom line is that the Church must wake up! You are missing the mark. I AM coming in My kingship, glory, power and might. If you don't repent – put away your idols, forsake all other lovers, get the sin/compromise out of your life, obey Me and keep watch for Me, not only are you going to miss Me, but I AM coming like a thief (**Revelation 3:3**). And all that you clung to that is not of Me, all your rejection of Me, will cause My holiness to destroy all that you think is yours. The treasures you have stored up here on earth will be your reward. You will miss your eternal rewards, because you did not consider Me worth knowing (**Romans 1:28**). I will give to each of you as your work deserves (**Revelation 2:23**).

He is a Just, Fair, Righteous God and Judge. His Kingdom is coming with or without us. The Cloud of God is moving.

There is no neutrality in His kingdom. We are in a real battle. We are either fighting on the side of good or evil. There's no middle ground. Too many in the Church believe that there is a comfortable middle ground, with one foot in His kingdom and one in the world – that's called compromise. We want all the benefits of the kingdom, without 100% commitment to the King. We want our full inheritance from our Father in heaven, but not willing to pass through death-to-self. To live the crucified life, deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him. We need to never forget that when we received Him as Savior, we signed the dotted line, saying that He bought us. **He owns us, and this makes Him to be Lord over our lives.** Most think this is negotiable. In a way it is. If we choose not to obey, by violating the covenant we made with Him, there are consequences to our disobedience. There can be serious ones to the point that we can end up in hell. **But He will never lower His high standards. We get to decide!**

WORD I RECEIVED (Before Weekly Fellowship)

July 18, 2015 – Shabbat, 2:20pm – I AM Coming Like A Thief

After prayer, and waiting on Lord for word for today's meeting. The Lord spoke the following:

“My fire is within you and will consume all that is in you that is not of Me. That day is coming. For you, it will be good fire. For those who have rebelled against Me, it will be holy fire that will destroy them. Man treats Me with contempt. Man does not fear Me. And, to those who don't, it will cost them their life. This is not My desire. I AM long suffering, desiring not a soul perish, but that all turn back to Me in repentance – with an undivided heart. I AM coming again soon, in My glory, in My power, in My might, in My kingship that all of man will know I AM the Lord God Almighty. To those who love Me, obey Me, follow Me, it is the year (understood meaning new Jewish year beginning in September) they will see the kindness of the Lord in their lives, restoring all things that the locusts, the grasshoppers, shearer and cutter worms have stolen. To those who do not love Me, do not obey Me and follow Me, but have an outward appearance of piety but darkness within them, it will be the year they see the severity of God in their lives, where suddenly I will come upon them like a thief in the night, and all that they thought was theirs will be taken from them. Warn My people, My daughter. I AM coming to give to each one according to His works.”

Notes do not reflect all that was spoken when first taught, but are just that – notes for the author's use to teach from. Therefore, because more detail was shared when spoken, notes have a potential to be misconstrued, pending on the readers level of understanding of the Holy Scriptures, if not understood with all that was spoken.