

# FAITH THAT WELCOMES THE VICTORIOUS KING

Pursuing God's presence is how we overcome. His nearness is our victory—our faith brings heaven's power into Earth's battles.

## Today's Scripture

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God... This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of Him.”

—1 John 5:4-5; 14-15 (NIV)

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

—2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)

## Reflect on the Word

John and Paul, the authors of these verses, were no strangers to suffering. Paul's afflictions are portrayed in 2 Corinthians 11, and John refers to himself as a companion in the tribulation endured by the people of God in Revelation 1. What sustained them? How did they persevere in such adversity? How could Paul, with unwavering conviction, write, “We are more than conquerors” (Romans 8:37)?

They were not men of influence, wealth or military might. They were, in every sense, ordinary people. And yet, they possessed one extraordinary treasure—faith in Jesus Christ.

John and Paul, despite their sufferings, knew that they were victors, whether it appeared that way or not. They both had faith and confidence

in God. They knew, without a doubt, that Jesus will one day be victorious. They knew that we serve a God who uses even the schemes of the enemy for His good and His glory. He wins.

John writes that we too will overcome the world, not by our own power, but because of our faith in Jesus. As we welcome Jesus as Lord or our lives, we become soldiers with Him, going to battle against the powers of darkness in this world.

But unlike worldly soldiers, we know that the victory has already been won. The more time we spend in the presence of our victorious King, Jesus, the more His victory will spread in our hearts, lives and the world around us.

### **Prayer + Contemplation**

- 01 — What does it mean to you that Christ is a victorious king? How might remembering this truth impact how you see your day-to-day life and struggles?
- 02 — Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any strongholds of the enemy in your life. Then pray God's victory over these areas, knowing that He hears you and that He will be victorious.
- 03 — Pray for those in spiritual battles who are held in strongholds by the enemy. Pray that they may encounter the victorious presence of God, and stand firm in His power and peace.

### **Notes + Reflection**

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