

CHAPTER 8

AN OVERCOMING BRIDE

The Bride of Christ is an overcomer. There are two primary things that we overcome. First, the Bride of Christ overcomes the desires of the human flesh. Secondly, the Bride of Christ overcomes the ways and values of the world's system. Both the desires of the flesh and the ways of the world's system seek to dominate and control the lives of believers by imposing their values upon them. The evil force who is behind the desires of the flesh and the ways of the world is Satan.

After God's people are saved, God desires for all believers to love God with all their heart, mind, soul and strength (*Mark 12:30*) and yield their lives to the indwelling Holy Spirit so that every believer has the power to overcome the evil in this world. In *Romans 12:21* it is written:

"Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Believers overcome the flesh and the ways of the world by faith in Jesus Christ, by the power of the blood of Jesus, by the Word of God abiding in our hearts and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

OVERCOMING THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

Believers overcome the desires of the flesh and the ways of the world through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of our lives. In *I John 5:3-5* it is written:

"For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcomes the world: and this is the victory that

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overcomes the world even our faith. Who is he that overcomes the world, but he that believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

OVERCOMING THROUGH BELIEVING GOD'S WORD

Believers overcome the desires of the flesh and the ways of the world through believing the Word of God and allowing the Word of God to abide in our hearts. Jesus said in *John 8:31-32* as it is written:

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If you continue (abide) in my word, then are you my disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

In *1 John 2:14* it is written:

"I have written unto you, fathers, because you have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you and you have overcome the wicked one"

OVERCOMING THROUGH THE BLOOD OF JESUS AND OUR TESTIMONY

We overcome the desires of the flesh and the ways of the world by the blood of Jesus and the testimony of our faith in Jesus Christ. In *Revelation 12:9-11* it is written:

"And the great dragon was cast out; that old serpent called the Devil, and Satan, which deceives the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives (psuche/soulish life) unto the death."

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OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

In the book of Revelation chapters 2 and 3, there are letters written to seven different churches in Asia Minor. The Apostle John was instructed by Jesus to write these letters to these seven churches when John was exiled to the Isle of Patmos. In *Revelation 1:9-11* it is written:

"I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What you see, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodoea."

Some Bible teachers interpret these seven letters to prophetically represent seven different periods of time within the present Church age. Others believe that these seven letters represent the composite condition of the Body of Christ at the present time. In any event, Jesus gives exhortation to those believers who are within each of the seven churches to overcome. To those believers who do overcome, they are promised eternal rewards by Jesus.

Because these seven letters are written to churches, these seven letters are written to believers. Because Jesus gives promises to those believers within the churches who do overcome, this means that there are believers within the seven churches who do not overcome. Those believers who do overcome will be the Bride of Christ. Those believers who do not overcome, will be in heaven because they are saved by faith in Jesus Christ but will lose the eternal rewards given to the Bride of Christ (*I Corinthians 3:13-15*). Let us examine the promises of Jesus to those believers within the seven churches who do overcome.

OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF EPHESUS

In *Revelation 2:7* it is written:

"He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches: To him that overcomes will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

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OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF SMYRNA

In *Revelation 2:11* it is written:

"He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches; He that overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death."

OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF PERGAMOS

In *Revelation 2:17* it is written:

"He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches: To him that overcomes will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knows saving he that receives it."

OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF THYATIRA

In *Revelation 2:26-27* it is written:

"And he that overcomes, and keeps my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father."

OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF SARDIS

In *Revelation 3:5* it is written:

"He that overcomes, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before the angels."

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OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA

In *Revelation 3:12* it is written:

"He that overcomes will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven, from my God: and I will write upon him my new name."

OVERCOMERS WITHIN THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA

In *Revelation 3:21* it is written:

"To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."

OVERCOMING SATAN'S BABYLONIAN NEW WORLD ORDER SYSTEM

Since the time Satan first plotted to overthrow heaven, he has desired to sit on the throne of God. In *Isaiah 14:12-16* it is written:

"How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How are you cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations! For you have said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet you shall be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon you, and consider you, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms...?"

When Satan tried to overthrow heaven and the throne of God, he did so by creating chaos in heaven. According to his plans, after creating this chaos, he decided to bring about his new order of rule. This is the motto of those who are plotting to establish the "New World Order" and One

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World Government. They seek to create chaos and confusion. Through this chaos, they desire to bring about change. They desire for this change to bring about the "*New World Order*" and One World Government.

In reality, the New World Order and the One World Government is not a new plan of Satan for this world. It first started in heaven in the passage we just cited in *Isaiah 14:12-16*. It continued with the Tower of Babel.

THE TOWER OF BABEL: THE NEW WORLD ORDER / ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT

The leader in the movement to build the Tower of Babel was Nimrod. Nimrod founded the kingdom of Babel (*Genesis 10:8-10*). When Nimrod built the Tower of Babel, it was built under the following conditions:

1. The people were one, and they had one language (*Genesis 11:6*)
2. The Tower of Babel was built to reach heaven and exalt the name of the people above God (*Genesis 11:4*)
3. The reason given for building the Tower of Babel was survival (*Genesis 11:4*)

ONE WORLD AND ONE LANGUAGE

The "*New World Order*" is a code word for One World Government. One World Government is able to become a reality in this day and age because of the increase in technology and knowledge as predicted by God through Daniel (*Daniel 12:4*). Language and distance is no longer a barrier within the world. Although there are many languages spoken in the world, this is no longer a barrier to the nations of the world uniting together to establish One World Government. Therefore, today we have the same condition as when Nimrod built the Tower of Babel. The world is one, and they had one language (heart and purpose) (*Genesis 11:6*).

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ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT WITHOUT GOD

Even as Satan desires to exalt his throne above heaven (*Isaiah 14:12-16*), Nimrod desired to build a city and a tower whose top would reach heaven. Even as Satan desired to make his name greater than God (*Isaiah 14:13-14*), Nimrod inspired the people to build the Tower of Babel to make of themselves a great name (*Genesis 11:4*). Clearly, the goal was to build a world organization without God.

ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE EARTH

The greatest reason given today for the need to establish one world government is to preserve the earth and to preserve the people who are living on the earth. In the name of preserving the environment, organizations exist and are being formed which will be incorporated into the One World Government structure. In the name of preserving the earth against a nuclear holocaust, the nations of the world are uniting to disarm and give control of the weapons of war to various United Nations agencies. Therefore, One World Government is being organized through the United Nations for the reason of protecting the citizens of the earth and for protecting the survival of planet earth. This was the exact reason for building the Tower of Babel. In *Genesis 11:4* it is written:

"And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach up to heaven: and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT IS THE PLAN OF THE RICH MEN OF THE EARTH

One of the methods that Satan used in his rebellion against God was merchandising. In *Ezekiel 28:13-14, 16* it is written:

"Thou has been in Eden the garden of God ... You are the anointed cherub ... By the multitude of your merchandise you have filled the midst of thee with violence, and you have sinned ..."

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In the same manner, One World Government is being accomplished through the rich men of the earth controlling the economic and financial systems of the world. Through the international banking system and through economic treaties among the nations of the world, the world is very quickly merging itself toward a system of One World Government. In doing this, the rich men of the earth have defrauded the common people in the earth through fraud, usury and corruption. Meanwhile, the majority of the people of God are ignorant of these plans.

The rich men of the earth are plotting to establish One World Government to give them the power, rule and authority over all the people who live on the earth. In doing so, they desire to establish for themselves a great name. This is the same reason why Nimrod led the people to build the Tower of Babel (*Genesis 11:4*).

However, in plotting to establish these plans, the rich men of the earth are trying to do these things based upon their own morals and values which are contrary to the ways of God. Also, they are plotting to exclude God's people from having any power or influence once the system is established. The book of James speaks about the plans of the rich men of the earth. The judgment of God upon this system will occur prior to the second coming of Jesus to the earth to rule and reign on the earth in justice and righteousness during the Messianic Age. In *James 5:1-8* it is written:

"Go to now, you rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. You have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, cries: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. You have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; you have nourished your hearts, as in the day of slaughter. You have condemned and killed the just, and he does not resist you. Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord, Behold, the husbandman waits for the precious fruit of the earth, and has long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be you also patient; establish your heart; for the coming of the Lord draws nigh."

This passage tells us that God will judge the rich men of the earth prior to the second coming of Jesus. The Bride of Christ can understand these days and know how to Biblically respond to them. We will be examining the response of the Bride to the plans being made against God and His people in the rest of this chapter.

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THE HEATHEN RULE OVER A DISOBEDIENT PEOPLE OF GOD

Why do the heathen rule over the people of God? Why do the heathen make the laws and rules of the world and not the people of God according to the values of God's Word? The reason is God's people are in disobedience to Him. They are more concerned with the ways of the world than they are building the Kingdom of God and doing the will of God. The prophet Haggai spoke about this. In *Haggai 1:4-8* it is written:

"Is it time for you, O ye; to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste? Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but you have not enough; you drink, but you are not filled with drink; you clothe you, but there is none warm: and he that earns wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, says the Lord."

The people of God who are more concerned with the ways of this world than the Kingdom of God can be compared to the church of Laodicea in the book of Revelation. In *Revelation 3:15-19* it is written:

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot: I would you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth. Because you say, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and know not that you are wretched, and miserable and poor and blind, and naked. I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich: and white raiment, that you may be clothed, and that the shame of your nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."

In *John 14:15*, Jesus said, *"If you love me, keep my commandments"*. In the book of Leviticus, God gives the warning to His people if they would not obey Him and keep His commandments. In *Leviticus 26:33, 37-38* it is written:

"And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste And they shall fall one upon another, as it were before a sword, when none pursues: and you shall have no power to stand before your enemies (James 5:6). And you shall perish among the heathen, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up."

Because the rich men of the earth are ruling the people of God and plotting to establish a One World Government system that is anti-God, this is evidence that the people of God are living

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in disobedience to God and to His Word. The heathen are ruling over the people of God and God's people are in reproach.

GOD WILL TAKE AWAY THE REPROACH OF HIS PEOPLE WHEN THEY REPENT

In the last chapter, we discussed that the Bride of Christ will be a glorified Bride. Presently, the people of God are in reproach and the heathen are ruling over them. When God's people repent with all their heart and cry out to God so that the heathen will not rule over them, then God will pour out His glory upon His people as a witness to the rich men of the earth. When this happens, the rich men of the earth will be judged. In *Joel 2:12-17* it is written:

"Therefore also now, says the Lord, Turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God for he is gracious and merciful slow to anger, and of great kindness and repenteth him of the evil. Who knows if he will return and repent and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not your heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?"

GOD WILL POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT UPON HIS PEOPLE WHEN THEY REPENT

When God's people cry out to God and repent of their sins, God will pour out His Spirit in a mighty way for all the world to see prior to the second coming of Jesus. In *Joel 2:18-19, 28-29* it is written:

"Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Yeah the Lord will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and you shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen ... And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and

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your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit."

THE RICH MEN OF THE EARTH WILL SEE THE GLORY OF GOD UPON HIS PEOPLE

When this happens, the outpouring of God's Spirit will be so mighty and so powerful that nations and kings and all the rulers on the earth will see it. During this time, God will take away the reproach of His people and God will manifest His glory among and upon those who are serving Him with a pure heart. In *Isaiah 60:1-3* it is written:

"Arise, shine: for your light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

HOW SHOULD THE PEOPLE OF GOD RESPOND TO THE PLOT OF THE RICH MEN OF THE EARTH?

When the rich men of the earth try to establish their One World Government system upon the nations of the earth by bringing upon them planned chaos to establish a "New World Order" what should be the response of God's people? There are three destinies for the people of God when this happens.

1. They will go into captivity (*Revelation 13:6-7, 10*)
2. If you fight the rich men of the earth through guns and sword, you will die by the sword (*Matthew 26:47-52, Revelation 13:6-7, 10*)
3. Trust in God, plead the blood of Jesus and testify of your faith and God will deliver you by the supernatural power of the outpouring of His Holy Spirit (*Mark 13:9-11, Revelation 12:9-11*)

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DELIVERANCE FROM THE FIERY FURNACE

God gave His people many examples in the Bible to show us how His people should respond to the rich men of the earth and how God will deliver His people. In this chapter, we will examine two examples. The first example is found in Daniel 3. In this chapter, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon desires that all the peoples of the earth worship him. Nebuchadnezzar is a type of Satan, the Babylonian system, the kingdom of the false Messiah, and the rich men of the earth who are plotting to establish One World Government.

Nebuchadnezzar had an image made of himself which was gold and demanded that all people in his kingdom worship him. This is prophetic of the last days when the False Prophet will demand that the entire world worship the image of the Anti-Christ (*Revelation 13:11-18*). The height and breadth of this image measured 66 cubits. In *Daniel 3:1* it is written:

"Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore, cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits ..."

It was commanded that all those who were under the rule of Nebuchadnezzar would bow to the image that he made (*Daniel 3:3-5*). Those who would not worship and bow down to the image were sentenced to be cast in the fiery furnace (*Daniel 3:6*). However, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down to the image and were cast into the fiery furnace (*Daniel 3:20*). This is a parallel to what Jesus said in *Mark 13:9-11*. Because they trusted in God for their deliverance and because of their faith in God, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were delivered by God from the fiery furnace and were a witness to Nebuchadnezzar of the power of God.

THE DEFEAT OF GOLIATH BY DAVID

The second example that God gave to show us how He desires for His people to defeat the plot of the rich men of the earth to establish a One World Government through the leadership of the Anti-Christ is David and Goliath. Goliath is a spiritual picture of Satan's kingdom, the Babylonian system and the desires of the rulers of the earth and the rich men of the earth to establish One World Government. Their desire is to make all the peoples on the earth conform to this system. Saul and David are a spiritual picture of the two different responses of God's people to fight against this anti-God system. Saul and his army are a spiritual picture of the response of carnal Christians. David is a spiritual picture of the response of the Bride of Christ. Let us

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examine these truths in greater detail.

GOLIATH IS A SPIRITUAL PICTURE OF SATAN'S KINGDOM

Goliath was from Gath (*I Samuel 17:4*). The word Gath is the Strong's word 1661. Gath in Hebrew means "winepress". When Jesus returns at his second coming, He defeats Satan and his army by "*treading the winepress of the wrath of God.*". In *Revelation 19:15* it is written:

"And out of his (Jesus) mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."

The height of Goliath was six cubits (*I Samuel 17:4*). The head of his spear weighed 600 shekels of iron (*I Samuel 17:7*). The helmet on his head was brass. Brass in the Bible represents judgment. Therefore, Goliath is a spiritual picture of the rulers of this world who follow after the desires of Satan's kingdom.

SAUL IS A SPIRITUAL PICTURE OF THE CARNAL CHRISTIAN

Goliath mocked Saul and his army. In the same way, the rulers of this world mock God and those who follow after the ways of God. In *I Samuel 17:10* it is written:

"And the Philistine (Goliath) said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together."

The response of Saul and his army is a spiritual picture of the response that carnal Christians will have to the plot of the rich men of the earth to establish One World Government. Saul and his army only viewed the situation with their natural eyes. According to the natural circumstances, Saul and his army could not defeat Goliath. Therefore, Saul and his army were afraid. In *I Samuel 17:11* it is written:

"When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid."

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DAVID IS A SPIRITUAL PICTURE OF GOD'S BRIDE

David is a spiritual picture of God's Bride. David is the Strong's word 1732. The word David in Hebrew means, "*Beloved*". Beloved is a term for God's Bride. There are many verses in the Epistles which are addressed with the word, "*Beloved*." The Song of Solomon is a love song between God and His Bride. In the *Song of Solomon 6:3* it is written:

"I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine ..."

DAVID WAS TRAINED IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE, SAUL WAS NOT

Just like the Bride of Christ, David was trained in spiritual warfare. When the lion and the bear attacked David's sheep, David saw the deliverance and salvation of God and slew the lion and the bear. Because of David's faith in God, David was convinced that God would defeat Goliath just as God helped David to kill the lion and the bear. However, Saul viewed the zeal of David and his faith in God to defeat Goliath through natural eyes and natural circumstance. Saul showed concern for David that David would be killed by Goliath. On the other hand, David had faith in God that God would defeat Goliath because of David's faith in the covenant that God had with His people, Israel. In *I Samuel 17:33-36* it is written:

"And Saul said to David, You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for you are but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. And David said to Saul, Your servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and smote him, and slew him. Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God."

Saul (a picture of a carnal Christian) attempted to arm David (a picture of God's Bride) with natural warfare. David refused the weapons of natural warfare because David was not skilled in them. In *I Samuel 17:38-39* it is written:

"And Saul armed David with his armor, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail. And David girded his sword upon his armor, and he attempted to go: for he had not proved it. And David said to Saul, I cannot go with these: for I have not proved them. And David put them off him."

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In the same way, when those who are desiring to establish the "New World Order" and One World Government by bringing about chaos in the world, many Christians will try to defeat the armies of the rich men of the earth by fighting with natural weapons. They will respond like Saul responded to Goliath. By living by the sword, they will die by the sword (*Matthew 26:47- 52, Revelation 13:6-7, 10*). However, the Bride of Christ will respond to these hard times by trusting in Almighty God for her deliverance. They will overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony (*Revelation 12:9-11*).

DAVID DEFEATS GOLIATH

Rather than choosing to fight Goliath with natural weapons, David chose five smooth stones. The stones represented David's faith in God and in the Messiah. Goliath came to the battle in the name of his gods and David came to battle in the name of the God of Israel (*I Samuel 17:43-46*). David was able to defeat Goliath by trusting in the Lord and allowing God to fight his battle with Goliath for him. In *I Samuel 17:47* it is written:

"And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hands."

David defeats Goliath with a sling and a stone. In *I Samuel 17:50* it is written:

"So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him: but there was no sword in the hand of David."

Therefore, when the rich men of the earth try to establish their One World Government by creating chaos and making war against the people of God, the people of God will have two responses to make. They can choose the way of Saul who is a type of the carnal Christian and fight the enemy in the natural and be defeated or they can choose the way of David who is a type of the Bride of Christ and defeat the enemy by trusting in the supernatural deliverance of God.

THE LORD WILL DEFEAT THE PLANS OF THE KINGS OF THE EARTH

The rulers of the earth with the backing of the rich men of the earth are plotting to establish One World Government and rule over the people of God. When the people of God

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repent of their ways and cry out to God, God will bring deliverance to all those individuals who put their complete trust in Him. In doing so, God will take away the reproach of His people. When this happens, God's people who trust in Him will once again be a glory on the earth. In *Isaiah 60:1-3* it is written:

"Arise, shine, for your light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee, For; behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light and kings to the brightness of your rising."

Just as when God confounded and scattered abroad those who attempted to build the Tower of Babel, in like manner, God will bring derision upon the plans of those who are planning to establish a system of government on the earth which excludes God and His ways in their plans. In *Psalm 2:1-4* it is written:

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us, He that sits in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision."

God will defeat the plans of Satan through the rich men of the earth through the second coming of Jesus. When Jesus returns, the meek and humble (God's Bride) will inherit the earth and rule and reign over it forever and ever with the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

THE OVERCOMING BRIDE

From studying the things in this chapter, we can understand that God desires for ALL believers to be **OVERCOMERS**. We overcome by our faith in Jesus as Messiah, by the power of the blood of Jesus, by the Word of God abiding in our hearts, and by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

The heathen of this world are presently ruling over the people of God because God's people are in disobedience to God. When Satan's plots to rule this world through the plans of world leaders and the rich men of the earth to establish One World Government, they will do so by bringing about chaos in the world to establish their "*New World Order*". During this time, God's people will cry to God for deliverance and repent of their sins with all their hearts. When God's people cry out to God for deliverance and repent of their sins, God's glory will be seen upon His people. God will fight for His people and take away the reproach of His people through mighty and miraculous supernatural deliverance.

Who is the Bride of Christ?

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Chapter 8, An Overcoming Bride

Not all believers will put their trust in God to defeat the enemy. Many carnal Christians will trust in natural warfare. To those who do, they will be defeated by the enemy. However, those who put their trust in God like David when he defeated Goliath and like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego when they refused to bow their knee to the demands of the enemies, God will supernaturally deliver and save His people who trust in Him. These people will have the characteristics of the Bride of Christ and will have the power to overcome the enemy.

God promises mighty rewards to those who are **OVERCOMERS. All believers who accept Jesus as Lord and Savior are saved (*Romans 10:9-10*). However, not all believers who are saved are **OVERCOMERS**. Those that overcome will overcome by their faith in God, by the blood of the Lamb and the Word of their testimony (*I John 5:3-5, Revelation 12:9-11*). Those who overcome will be the Bride of Christ and will rule and reign with Jesus during the 1,000-year Messianic Age (*Revelation 2:26-27, 3:21, 5:10*).**

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