

Sermon Handout

Called to Overcome

Revelation 21:1:1-7

I. Jesus is the Ultimate Overcomer

- a. He declares he has overcome the world Jn 16:33
 - i. The source of peace for his followers
 - ii. They are not to be dismayed by tribulation
- b. He overcame the power of the devil Heb 2:14-15
 - i. The means: his incarnation and passion
 - ii. Satan's "power of death" is sin and its effect
- c. Christ overcomes all the powers of the world Rev 17:14; Ps 2:6-12

II. The Promises to Believers Who Overcome

- a. The Tree of Life Rev 2:7 (Ephesus) *cf.* Gen 3:24; Rev 22:1-2
- b. Protection from the second death Rev 2:11 (Smyrna)
- c. Hidden manna, white rock (a new name) Rev 2:17 (Pergamos)
- d. Power over the nations Rev 2:26 (Thyatira) *cf.* Ps 2:9
- e. Righteousness, protected, confessed by Jesus Rev 3:5 (Sardis)
- f. Permanent pillars in God's house, God's name Rev 3:12 (Philadelphia)
- g. Sit on God's throne w/ Jesus Rev 3:21 (Laodicea) *cf.* Eph 2:5-6

III. The Process of Being an Overcomer

- a. Instructions from St. Paul Rom 12:16b-21
 - i. Guard against evil reactions to circumstances
 - ii. Overcome evil by doing good *cf.* Mt 5:16
- b. How God's people overcome evil Rev 12:10-11 *cf.* Jn 16:33; Heb 2:14
 - i. By the blood of the Lamb *cf.* I Pet 1:18-19; Acts 20:28; Eph 1:7
 - ii. By the word of our testimony *cf.* Rom 10:9-10; I Jn 5:4-5
 - iii. By not loving our own lives *cf.* Jn 12:25; Mt 10:32-39; 16:24-27
See also I Jn 2:13-17