

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Revelation 12:10-12.**
- B. One of the great themes in the book of Revelation is that of being an overcomer.

I. SATAN IS THE GREAT ACCUSER OF THE BRETHREN.

- A. Rev. 12:9 gives the following five titles to Satan:
 - 1. A dragon, this indicates a devourer, one who devours (1Pet. 5:8).
 - 2. A serpent, this indicates a beguiler, or trickster (2Cor. 11:3, 14).
 - 3. A devil, this indicates an accuser (Rev. 12:10).
 - 4. Satan, this indicates an adversary (1Jn. 3:8).
 - 5. A deceiver, this indicates a liar (Jn. 8:44).
- B. Satan is an accuser of the brethren, day and night. Satan is always looking at the sin in our life and telling God about it. Satan is trying to get back at God, and show his control over all souls.
- C. Fortunately for us, Jesus has died for us and we have an Advocate with God. The accusations of the devil are useless (see 1Jn. 1:21).

II. OVERCOMING BY "THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB."

- A. The core of the gospel is X's death, burial, and resurrection (1Cor. 15:1-4). It was to that hour He was appointed to be glorified (Jn. 12:23, 27). At the cross He shed His blood for our sins (Heb. 9:22).
- B. We have now been justified by His blood (Rom. 5:9).
- C. He has made the supreme sacrifice to end all sacrifices (Heb. 9:24-26).
- D. We now have redemption through His blood (Eph. 1:7).

III. OVERCOMING BY "THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY."

- A. The purpose of the church is to be busy preaching the word (Mk. 16:15; Eph. 3:10).
- B. Confession should be something very natural to the Xian. In knowing what X has done in his/her behalf, one should be eager to share the message with others (Mt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10).
- C. Part of the work of our testimony is to be able to teach others about X (2Tim. 2:2).
- D. We must know the Book to be a workman in the kingdom (2Tim. 2:15).

IV. OVERCOMING BY "NOT LOVING THEIR LIFE UNTO DEATH."

- A. Jesus has promised the overcomer a crown of life if they will remain faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).
- B. Christians are ready to die, more so than unbelievers, because their citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20).
- C. Jesus gave a very simple but powerful formula which fits very well here. Not only are we speaking of physical death in this context, but also of denying ourselves in this life, which means the giving up of a part of our lives to serve God (Lk. 9:23).
- D. The promise is for those who will endure to the end (Lk. 21:19).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. John gives a 3-step formula for being able to overcome sin.
- B. It is simple to know, but will take our entire life to carry out.
- C. Let us strive to be an overcomer of our accuser, Satan, by:
 - 1. Being cleansed in the blood.
 - 2. Preaching the word to those we meet.
 - 3. Being faithful unto death.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.