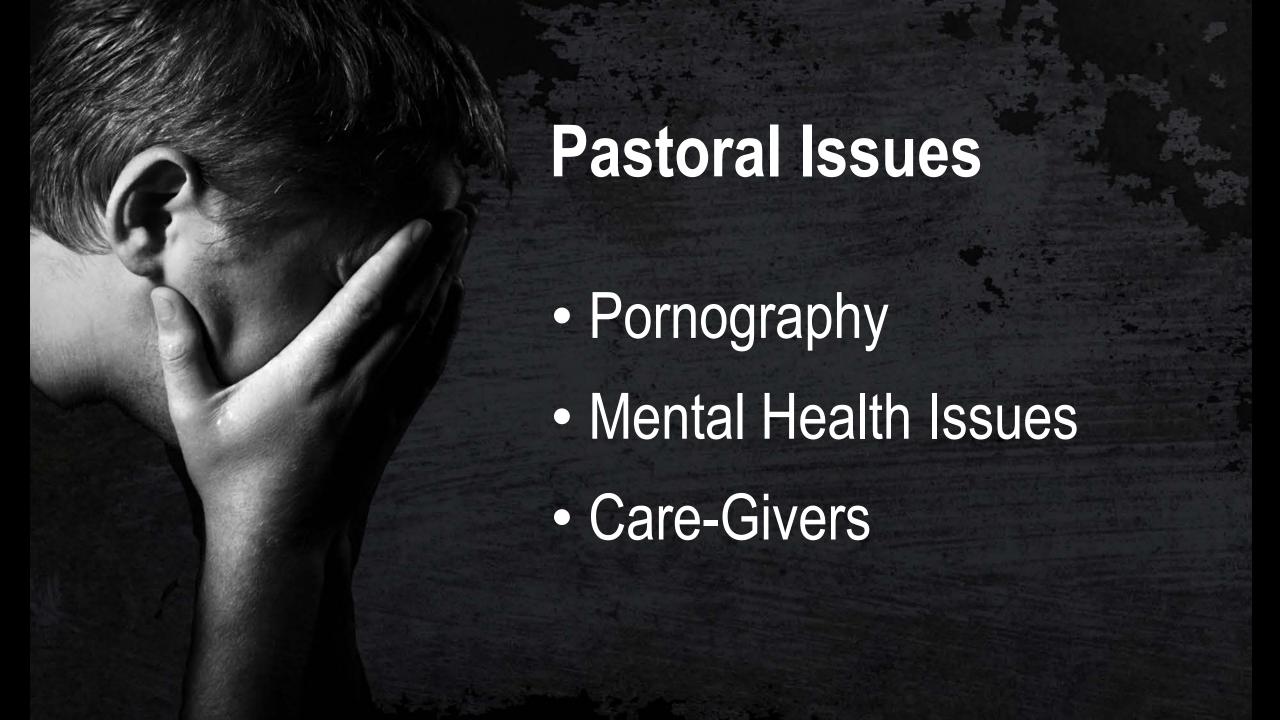
# Effective Prayer(2)



## **Theme Verse**

James 5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails

much.



- I. Effective Prayer is always praying the Will of the Father.
  - 1. The Will of the Father is in the Word.
  - 2. The Will of the Father is always consistent with His Character.
- II. Effective Prayer is always based on righteousness.
  - 1. Righteousness is right standing with God.
  - 2. Righteousness is also right believing and right doing.
- **III.** Effective Prayer is always by **faith**.
  - 1. Faith on the part of the pray-er.
  - 2. Faith on the part of pray-ee.
  - 3. Faith on the part of the intermediary.

- IV. We must know and understand the character of God.
  - 1. God is always loving and just and righteous.
  - 2. Justice and Righteousness are the foundation of His throne.
  - 3. God cannot do anything that violates His character.
- **V.** We must know and understand the works of the evil one.
  - 1. He is a liar and murderer.
  - 2. He is a deceiver.
  - 3. He is a condemner.
  - 4. He is an accuser.

- VI. Before Calvary, the evil one brings condemnation, charges and accusations against us before God.
  - 1. When Adam fell, Satan took over the **keys** to the earth plus **access** to the Presence of God.
  - 2. He consequently accuses the OT saints before God. Revelation 12:10
    - EG: Job 1 Job; Zechariah 3 Joshua; Luke 22 Peter

- VI. <u>Before</u> Calvary, the evil one brings condemnation, charges and accusations against us <u>before</u> God.
  - **3A.** His accusations are <u>legal grounds</u> before the throne of God for him to steal, kill and destroy.
  - **3B.** God <u>cannot</u> extend His grace to the saints due to the grounds against us because He is always <u>righteous</u>.
  - **3C.** Consequently, the OT saints will reap the <u>negative</u> consequences and <u>suffer</u> accordingly.
  - **3D.** The remedy is <u>repentance</u> before God and applying the blood of prescribed clean animals to <u>cover</u> their sins.

- VII. After Calvary, Satan has been thrown out of the highest heavens to operate on earth from the second heavens atmospheric realms.
  - A. Satan was earlier cast out from the highest heavens when he rebelled. Isaiah 14; Ezekiel 28.
    But, when he took over the keys from Adam, he had access to God.
  - **B.** After Calvary, Satan NO longer had access to God to accuse us. Revelation 12:10; John 12:31.
  - **C.** The places in heaven previously trodden by him has been cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Hebrews 9:23-24.

- VII. After Calvary, Satan has been thrown out of the highest heavens to operate on earth from the second heavens atmospheric realms.
  - 1. The evil one **NOW** brings condemnation, charges and accusations directly against the NT saints.
  - 2. NT saints [after Calvary & Pentecost] now have the <u>indwelling</u> Holy Spirit.
  - 3. We can now **resist** the evil one.
  - 4. We can now tear down the accumulated lies and deceptions called strongholds in our lives.

VIII. HOW to overcome the evil one's accusations?

- 1. Know and understand the evil one can never <a href="harm">harm</a> us or <a href="touch">touch</a> us.
- 2. The evil one can block our prayers from being answered by bringing legal grounds against us.
- 3. Because God is righteous, He <u>cannot</u> extend His grace to us when we give <u>foothold</u>, <u>ground</u> and <u>doorway</u> to the evil one.
- 4. This happens when we grieve the Holy Spirit.
- 5. We must know the **finished** works of Christ on the Cross.

VIII. HOW to overcome the evil one's accusations?

- **6.** Consequently, we must
  - A. Repent and confess our sins to receive forgiveness;
  - B. Be <u>cleansed</u> and have the legal grounds against us <u>covered</u> by the Blood of Christ.
  - C. Submit to God.
  - **D.** Resist the evil one.
  - E. Commit our lives totally to live in utter dependency on Him.





## 1. Approach God as Father.



#### Luke 11:1-4

1 Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." 2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 3 Give us day by day our daily bread. 4 And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."

## 1. Approach God as Father.

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."



Hebrews 4:16 (NIV) Let us then <u>approach the throne of grace with</u> <u>confidence</u>, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

1. Approach God as Father.

#### Luke 11:11-13

11 If a son asks for <u>bread</u> from any father among you, will he give him a stone?
Or if he asks for a <u>fish</u>, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?
12 Or if he asks for an <u>egg</u>, will he offer him a scorpion?
13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,

how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those

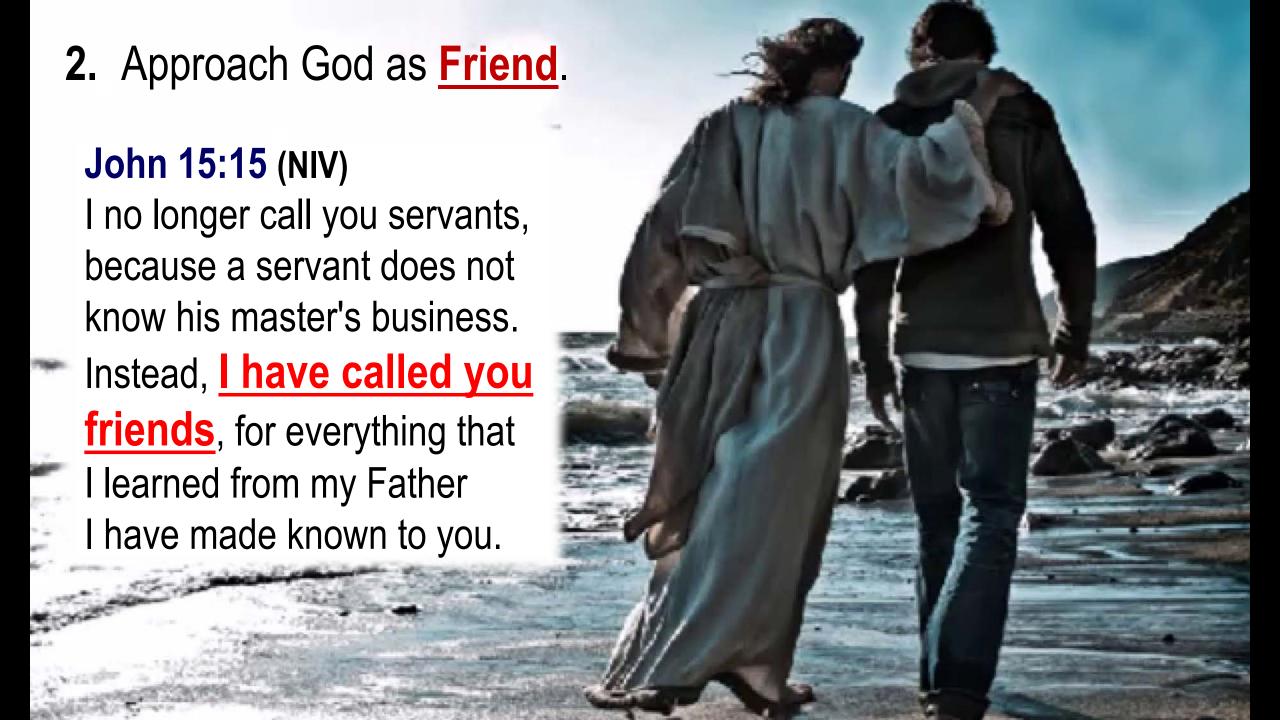
who ask Him!"

## 2. Approach God as Friend.

#### Luke 11:5-8

5 And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; 7 and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? 8 I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.





2. Approach God as Friend.

Psalm 25:14 (NKJV) The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.

Psalm 25:14 (NIV) The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them.

2. Approach God as Friend.

2 Chronicles 20:7 Our <u>God</u>, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of <u>Abraham your friend</u>?

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend.

**Genesis 18:17-33** 

3. Approach God as <u>Judge</u>. Parable of the Persistent Widow.

### Luke 18:1-8

1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, 2 saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. 3 Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' 4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man,

3. Approach God as <u>Judge</u>.

Parable of the Persistent Widow.

### Luke 18:1-8

5 yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me." 6 Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. 7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? 8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

- II. About the **Adversary**.
  - 1. One who brings a law-suit.
- 1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your **adversary** the devil walks about like a roaring lion, **seeking whom he may devour**.

Adversary = "Anti-dikos" in Greek, which means one who brings a "lawsuit".

"Anti" means to <u>deny</u> and "Dikos" means <u>rights</u>.



- II. About the **Adversary**.
  - 2. One who makes a **complaint** in the judicial system
    - courts of heaven.

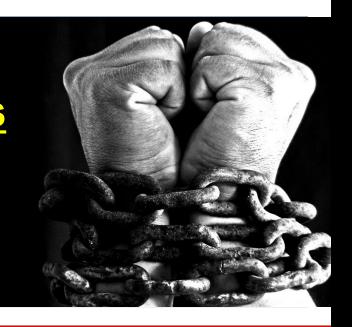


Revelation 12:10 ... for <u>the accuser</u> of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Accuser here is "Katagoros" in Greek which means a complainant in the judicial system, or one who is bringing a case against someone judicially in a court system.

- II. About the **Adversary**.
  - 3. Is a strongman with **legal rights**.

Matthew 12:29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.



To <u>bind</u> the strong man is to <u>remove / nullify</u> the <u>legal rights / power base</u> of the strong man!

## II. About the **Adversary**.

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your <u>adversary</u> the devil walks about like a roaring lion, <u>seeking whom he may devour</u>.

John 10:10a The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

- **A.** Never go to war against our adversary before we go to court and ensure we have <u>right</u> standing *i.e. no legal grounds against us*.
- **B.** Otherwise we can face **backlash** when the enemy has legal rights against us.

## II. About the Adversary.

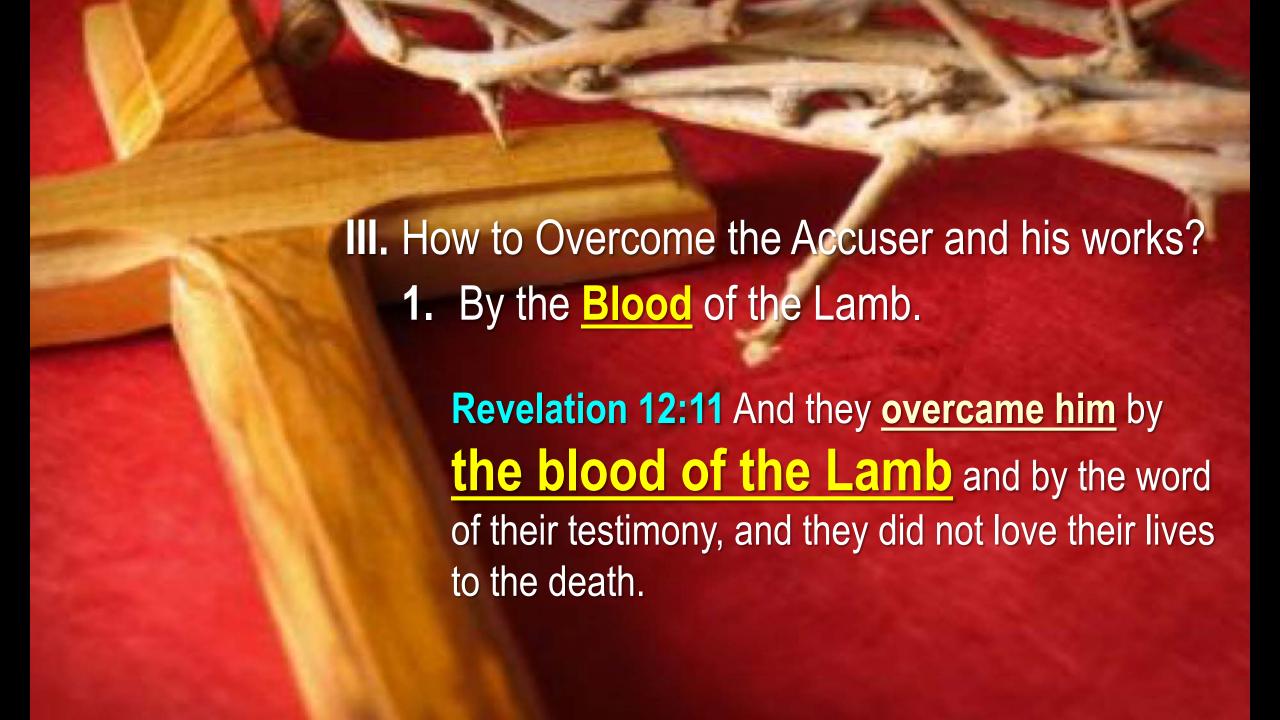
2 Samuel 21:1 (NIV) During the reign of David, there was a <u>famine</u> for three successive years; so David sought the face of the LORD. The LORD said, "It is <u>on account of Saul and his blood-stained house</u>; <u>it is because</u> <u>he put the Gibeonites to death</u>."

2 Samuel 21:14 (NIV) They buried the bones of Saul and his son Jonathan in the tomb of Saul's father Kish, at Zela in Benjamin, and did everything the king commanded. After that, God answered prayer in behalf of the land.

## **III.** How to Overcome the Accuser and his works?

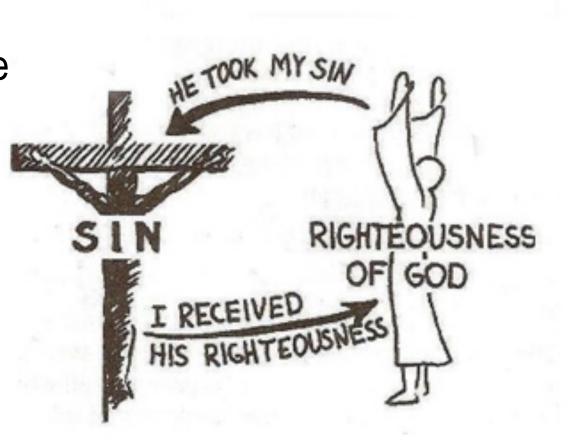
#### Revelation 12:10-11

- **10** Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for <u>the accuser</u> of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. **11** And they <u>overcame him</u>:
- 1. by the **blood of the Lamb**;
- 2. by the word of their testimony;
- 3. and did not love their lives to the death.



- 1. By the **Blood** of the Lamb.
  - A. We must know the finished works of Christ on the Cross.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.



1. By the **Blood** of the Lamb.

**A.** We must know the finished works of Christ on the Cross.

Romans 5:17b ... much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the <u>gift of righteousness</u> will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)



Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the **gift of God is eternal life** in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1. By the **Blood** of the Lamb.

A. We must know the finished works of Christ on the Cross.



14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

- 1. By the **Blood** of the Lamb.
  - **B.** Appropriate the finished works of Christ on the Cross.
    - (1) Confess and repent of your sins to ask for forgiveness.
- 1 John 1:9 (NIV) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- 1 John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.



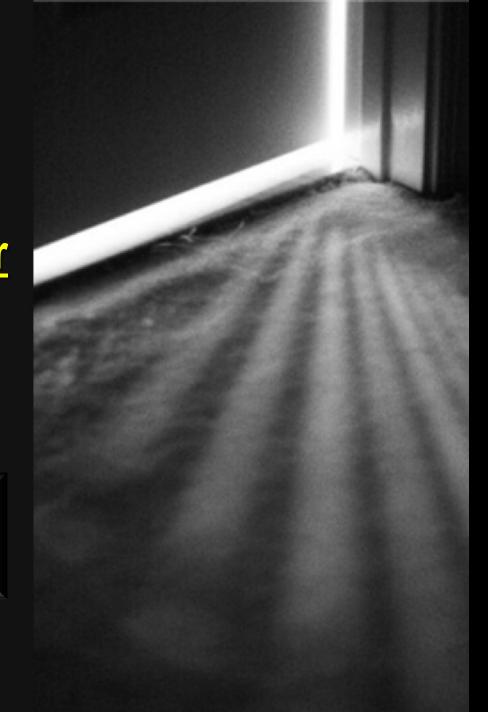
B. Appropriate the finished works of Christ on the Cross.

(2) Appropriate the blood to cleanse us from the defilement.

2 Corinthians 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us <u>cleanse ourselves from all</u> <u>filthiness of the flesh and spirit</u>, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

- 1. By the **Blood** of the Lamb.
  - **B.** Appropriate the finished works of Christ on the Cross.
    - (3) Appropriate the blood to cover the legal ground-foothold-doorway given to the evil one.

Ephesians 4:27 nor give place/ground to the devil.

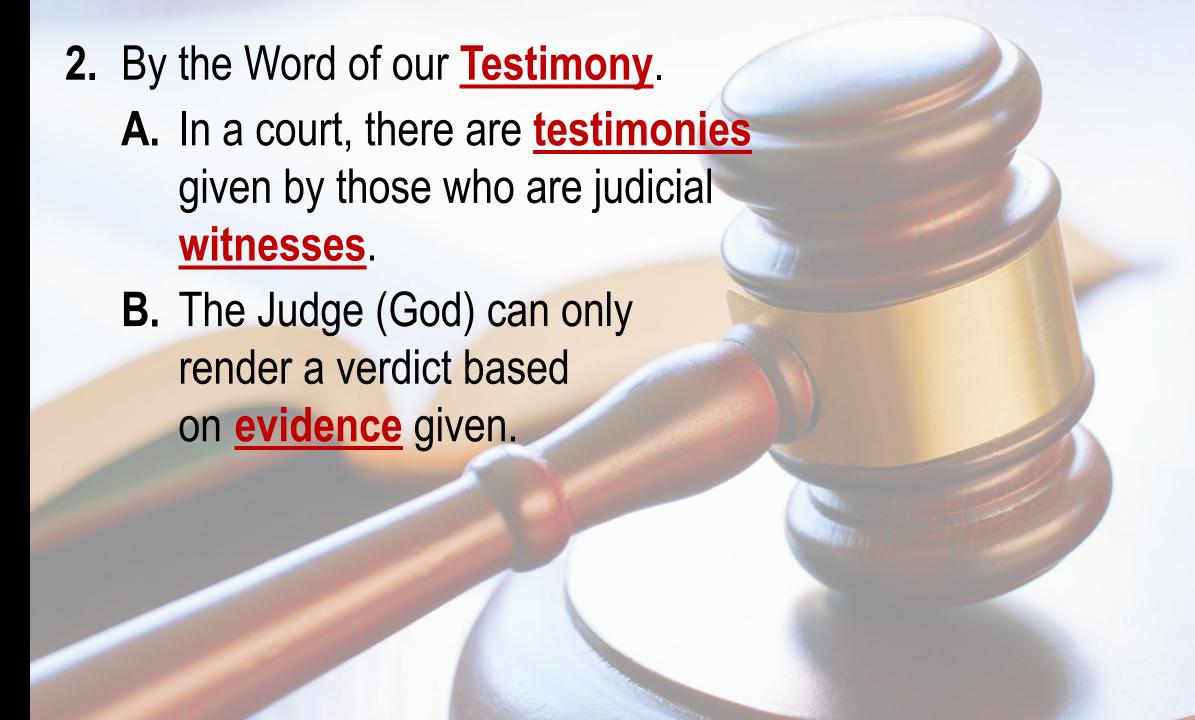


- III. How to Overcome the Accuser and his works?
  - 2. By the Word of our **Testimony**.

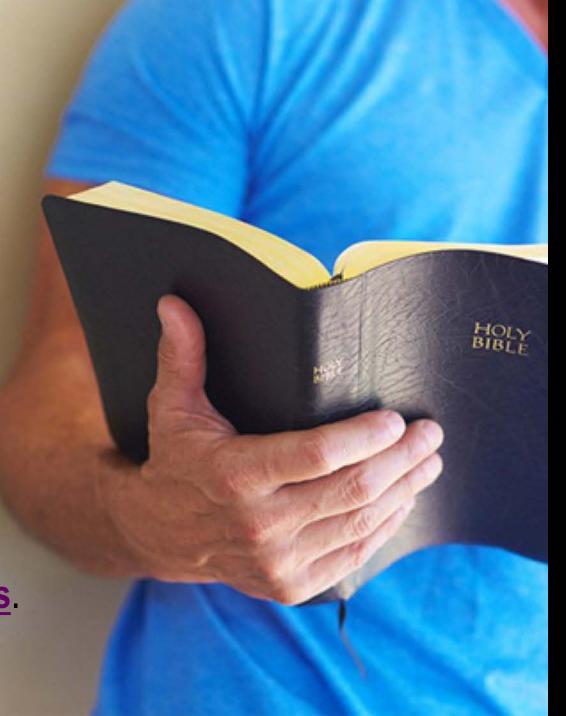


Revelation 12:11 And they <u>overcame him</u> by the blood of the Lamb and by the <u>word of their testimony</u>, and they did not love their lives to the death.

2 Corinthians 13:1b (NIV) Every matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.



- 2. By the Word of our **Testimony**.
  - C. Therefore, the Judge needs a corroborating testimony to <a href="mailto:agree">agree</a> with what Jesus our Advocate is saying before Him.
- 1 John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.



- 2. By the Word of our **Testimony**.
  - D. The answer is that God's people must begin to speak-prophesy in agreement with what Jesus, our Advocate is testifying.

Hebrews 3:1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of Our Confession, Christ Jesus



#### **Ezekiel 37:1-10**

1 The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry.

3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord God, You know."

#### **Ezekiel 37:1-10**

4 Again He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! 5 Thus says the Lord God to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. 6 I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord."

#### **Ezekiel 37:1-10**

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. 8 Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.

#### **Ezekiel 37:1-10**

9 Also He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.""
10 So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.

## 2. By the Word of our <u>Testimony</u>. Example of the 10 spies cf Caleb and Joshua

Numbers 13:30 Then <u>Caleb</u> quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for <u>we are well able</u> <u>to overcome it</u>."

### 2. By the Word of our <u>Testimony</u>. Example of the 10 spies cf Caleb and Joshua

#### Numbers 13:31-33

31 But the men (10 spies) who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." 32 And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. 33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their

2. By the Word of our <u>Testimony</u>. Example of the 10 spies cf Caleb and Joshua

Numbers 14:28-30

**28** Say to them, 'As I live,' says the Lord, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: 29 The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. **30** Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.

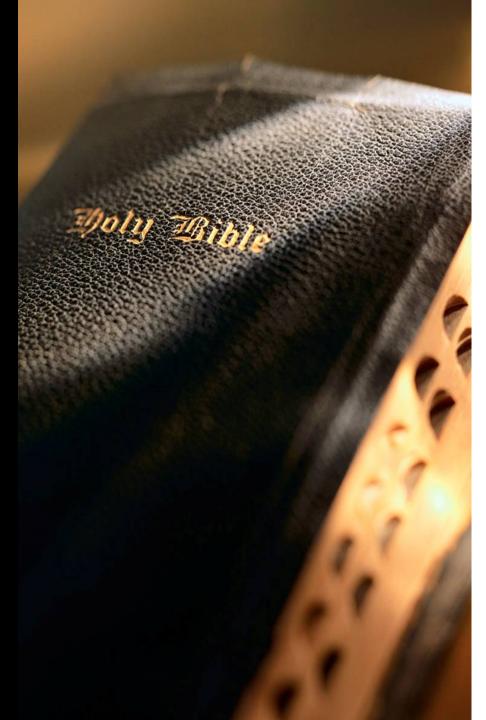


2. By the Word of our <u>Testimony</u>.

Testimony in Heaven and on Earth

1 John 5:7-8

7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.



2. By the Word of our <u>Testimony</u>.

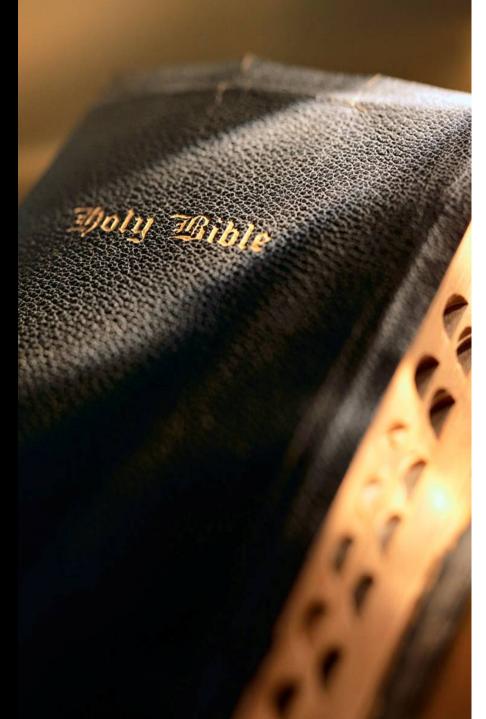
The Importance of our Testimony - what we confess

2 Corinthians 4:13 And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak ...

### 2. By the Word of our <u>Testimony</u>. The Importance of our Testimony - what we confess

Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the <u>testimony of Jesus</u>. Worship God! For the <u>testimony of Jesus</u> is the spirit of prophecy.





### The Importance of our Testimony - what we confess

- (1) What we believe and speak is the **Spirit of Prophecy**.
- (2) The Spirit of Prophecy is the <u>Testimony</u> of Jesus.
- (3) The Testimony of Jesus is the WORD of God.
- (4) Say what the Bible says.
- (5) <u>Declare</u> what the Scriptures declare.

### The Importance of our Testimony - what we confess

- I am deeply loved by God
- I have been completely forgiven in Christ
- I am a Child of God son/daughter of God Most High
- I am the righteousness of God in Christ
- I can come to God 24/7/365
- The devil has no ground in me
- God's love in my life casts out every fear in me
- I have divine wisdom and walk in God's favour
- I am always protected in Christ

Psalm 23

PSALMI 23

The LORD tl



- **III.** How to Overcome the Accuser and his works?
  - 3. Did not love their lives to the death.

Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.



Romans 6:11 Likewise you also, <u>reckon</u> yourselves to <u>be dead indeed to sin</u>, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- III. How to Overcome the Accuser and his works?
  - 3. Did not love their lives to the death.

Galatians 2:20 [[self-life, carnal, flesh] have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I [self-life, carnal, flesh] who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God [live the Christ-life], who loved me and gave Himself for me.





### **BOTTOM-LINE**

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

#### Walk Victoriously daily

Overcome the enemy: Commit to:

- appropriate the finished works of Christ on the Cross;
- declare what the Scriptures declare;
- die to the self-life;
- live the Christ-life.