

THE CONQUEROR'S SPIRIT



CREFLO DOLLAR

THE
CONQUEROR'S
SPIRIT

CREFLO DOLLAR

CHAPTER 1

PROGRAMMED FOR VICTORY THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS

Have you ever met people who have a defeated attitude? It is always evident in the way they speak, think, and carry themselves in life. People who are defeated have no hope and cannot seem to rise above their circumstances; they are always playing the victim role. Unfortunately, there are a lot of Christians who have the same mentality! The reason is because they don't know exactly what they have a right to as born again children of God. The truth is that victory in life is like the "wet" that comes with the "water" of salvation the day we invite Jesus into our hearts. The key is to know exactly what we possess, why it belongs to us, and how to activate it. When we get a revelation of victory through Christ, we will never be subject to Satan and his attacks again.

Being a Christian is much more than just receiving what I call "fire insurance," or the guarantee of going to heaven, and not hell, after we die. There is much more to salvation than that. God, through Jesus, has made provisions for us to walk in absolute and total

mastery over Satan on the earth. Victory is part of our inheritance as Believers, but our understanding of what is ours is critical to our success.

The New Creation Reality

So what enables a Believer to have a conquering spirit? The answer is found on the inside of us. First we must understand how God created us. Man is a tri-part being, meaning we are spirits who possess souls (our mind, will, and emotions), and we live in physical bodies. Before becoming born again, every one of us was dead to the eternal life of the Father. All humanity is born into sin, according to Psalm 51:5, because of Adam and Eve's disobedience in the Garden of Eden. As a result, we are subject to the curse, sin, sickness, spiritual death, and eternal separation from God when we are not saved. We are on our way to hell simply because we are natural-born sinners, not because of anything we did.

Now, the unregenerated spirit of man is programmed for failure and defeat, by default. This simply means that when we are not born again, certain things can be expected to happen. The curse that came upon Adam and Eve affected them on every level, from their mental and emotional well-being, to their provision in life. The Bible states that

from the day they sinned they would have to “toil” for their food because even the ground became cursed (Genesis 3:17-19).

Thankfully, God had a plan to redeem mankind from the curse and restore everything He had bestowed upon Adam and Eve when He created them—health, wealth, abundant prosperity, emotional wholeness, and more. His plan included sending His Son, Jesus, in the form of a man, to teach us how to live in victory. Jesus was our example and continues to be the prototype for living the victorious, conquering lifestyle God has destined for us to live.

Jesus came so we could have access to the abundant life of God; He was the epitome of victory. There was nothing that was able to hold Jesus back in any area. He never lacked, He never gave in to His flesh, and He even had complete mastery over the elements of nature! When faced with challenges and impossible situations, the faith and life of God consistently rose up to meet the challenge. Not even death could get the upper hand on Him.

In John 10:10, Jesus exposes the devil’s agenda and lets us know His purpose, “*The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*” This “abundant life” is

also called Zoë, and it is imparted into the spirit of every Christian when they accept Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. When we receive Jesus, we receive eternal life. Our spirits are instantly recreated and transformed from a dead spirit that was disconnected from God to a spirit that is re-connected to the life of God. This is the first step in the salvation process. It is the abundant life on the inside of us that gives us the *power* to be victorious.

Second Corinthians 5:17 says, “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed; behold, all things are become new.*” With our reborn spirits, and with a mind that is renewed to the power we now possess, we are able to walk in a level of dominion that supersedes anything in the world. This life of God that is resident in our spirits is what gives us the edge as Christians. We no longer have to be subject to ungodly desires and temptations, and we even have authority over sickness, disease, poverty, and lack. The old, unregenerated spirit is no longer what governs and controls our lives, which means we can tap into untold levels of power as Believers. It is this power that causes us to have a conquering spirit.

The Ultimate Spiritual Victory

So we understand that through Jesus, our spirits

have been recreated, and we are now victorious over the devil. But what is the nature of this victory? What is at its core? The answer lies in what Jesus accomplished when He died on the cross and went to hell on our behalf. It is through His death and resurrection, and our faith in His substitutionary work, that we are empowered to follow in His footsteps in our everyday lives.

God's plan of redemption for mankind was brilliant because it was designed to completely annihilate the works of Satan. Take a moment and reflect on the attacks the enemy has launched against you in your life. All of us can think of situations where the devil's hand was clearly at work.

At the time of the attack, we may not have had a revelation of how powerful we actually are as Believers. Or, we may not have known the Lord and *really* felt powerless against Satan's attacks. There is great news, however, for every person who has ever wondered if Satan has really been defeated. First John 3:8 (The Amplified Bible) states, "... *The reason the Son of God was made manifest (visible) was to undo (destroy, loosen, and dissolve) the works the devil [has done].*" Getting a working revelation of what Jesus has done is critical to our success.

When Jesus hung on the cross, He literally

became sin for us. He became sickness, disease, poverty, lack, and oppression so that we wouldn't have to endure these things. Galatians 3:13, 14 says, "*Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessings of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*" Jesus essentially exchanged His righteousness for our sin, making it possible for us to be made the righteousness of God through Him.

The "promise" the Apostle Paul is speaking of in this passage is *the blessing*, or empowerment to prosper. The blessing is what gives us the ability to be victorious in life. It is the supernatural ability of God on our lives that enables us to do what we cannot do in our own natural ability. This is what we carry inside of us and upon us as born-again children of God!

The blessing was evident in every aspect of Jesus' ministry, from His teaching to His ministry of healing and deliverance for those who were being held captive by Satan. The blessing was responsible for Him being able to speak to the storm and cause it to cease. The blessing was also the anointing that enabled Jesus to carry out the will of the Father all the way to the cross.

Jesus had complete mastery over the devil, both during His ministry on earth and after He died and went to hell. His ultimate victory was defeating death! In Revelation 1:18, Jesus says, “*I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*” Jesus never faced any person, situation, or challenge that did not submit to His authority. The Bible is full of countless stories documenting the dominion in which Jesus walked, even to the point of vanquishing death, hell, and the grave. Consequently, we are also victorious over *everything* related to the kingdom of darkness. We simply must renew our minds to this truth and begin to walk in it.

Our Heavenly Position

Once we become born again, our spirits are reprogrammed for victory, and we have everything we need to handle the enemy. The fruit of the spirit—love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance—now resides within us, along with the Holy Spirit, who will lead and guide us into all truth. Even more exciting is that we have been elevated to a high spiritual position by way of our relationship with Jesus. This position of spiritual authority should be a source of great

confidence and encouragement for the Believer.

Ephesians 2:4-6 says, *“But God who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”* We must go through life with a consciousness of our spiritual position at all times. Many times, we get into “hand-to-hand” combat with the enemy because we lose sight of our heavenly position, and he drags us down to his level. When we get in the flesh or allow ourselves to fall into his traps, it becomes much harder to fight him off. But with a constant awareness of our spiritual authority, we can actually override his attacks and avoid many of them altogether.

Being a victorious conqueror is the right and inheritance of every Christian because of who we are connected to (Jesus) and what He has accomplished. Our born-again spirit, when trained in the things of God and saturated with the Word of God, will carry us through any adversity in life. We must meditate on these truths every day until they become a part of our consciousness on a deep level. As a result, situations and circumstances won't be able to move us from whom we are in Christ. By receiving the blessing

that is available through salvation, we can truly be
the conquerors God has created us to be!

CHAPTER 2

CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S WORD: THE CONQUEROR'S KEY

One of the things that causes people to be defeated, rather than conquerors in life, is the fact that they don't have a revelation of God's love. As a result, their confidence in God decreases, and they find themselves on the losing side of their battles. The enemy is always working to get us to doubt God's love. However, we must not be swayed from our belief in what He has promised us in His Word. The love of God toward us is unconditional and unending. It is the basis for everything He has promised us. No matter what we have done, nothing will ever cause Him to stop loving us. It is only through continual meditation on His Word and character that we obtain this revelation. Our confidence in God's Word and His love are two powerful keys to being a conqueror.

When it comes to the battles of life, we must remain cognizant that we are soldiers in God's army, and we're fighting against spiritual forces of darkness every day. There is a constant spiritual battle going on between God's people and the kingdom of

darkness, and Satan is always devising schemes that are designed to destroy our lives spiritually, and in the natural realm. His ultimate goal is to kill us and get us in a position of complete separation from the Father after we die. He stays on his job, so to speak, which is why it is critical that we stay on ours. As we go through life with this understanding, we can begin to implement certain key strategies and use specific tools to defeat the enemy. The primary tool in our arsenal is the Word of God.

Our confidence as Christians must be based on the Word of God and our belief that the Bible is the final authority in life. Everything God has said that has been recorded in His written Word provides us with the answers we need to be victorious. Every situation we will face is covered in the Word of God, which is why it is so important that we spend time in the Bible and find out what it says.

Knowledge Produces Confidence

Without a solid knowledge of the Word, we cannot really have confidence in it. Reading our Bibles is the first step toward developing our faith in God. Hebrews 10:35 says, “*Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.*” Confidence is the missing substance of

faith, meaning we can believe the Word on a mental level, but unless we have absolute confidence in it from the very core of our being, our results may be limited.

Confidence comes from what we know, and what we know will cause us to win when we are in a battle. For example, if the enemy attacks you with an illness or physical challenge, and you are ignorant of the truth that by the stripes of Jesus you have been healed (1 Peter 2:24), you won't have any confidence whatsoever in God's promise of healing, or the necessary scriptural ammunition to overcome the disease. The same is true in the areas of finances, marriage, salvation, and deliverance. We must find out what God says so that we can develop confidence in Him.

When we have knowledge of God's Word, something powerful happens in our spirit—we develop joy, which is a fruit of the Spirit. And when our “joy tanks” are full, we can maintain the right attitude in the midst of trouble. One of the things we must take joy in knowing is that God loves us and will never leave or forsake us, no matter what we are going through. Opposition will always melt away when we put up a good fight and stay the course, and having a working revelation of God's love is vital.

Sometimes, when things are rough in our lives, there is a tendency to think God doesn't love us or that He has abandoned us; however, we can never be moved by the circumstances. Again, we are in a spiritual battle against Satan, and we will face tests and trials. Sometimes the situations we find ourselves in are the results of our own poor decisions, which give the enemy access into our affairs. Other times, the battle is simply the enemy coming against us because we are part of God's family. Either way, God is ready and willing to help us. That's just how much He loves us.

I love the biblical account of David and Goliath because it is a shining example of the conquering power available to us when we have confidence in God's promises and in His love. When it came time to go up against the giant Philistine, who was one of Israel's chief enemies, David had absolute confidence in the Lord's ability to empower him for battle. First Samuel 17:32-37 reads:

And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a

youth, and he a man of war from his youth...David said moreover; The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

There are some key things to consider in this passage of scripture. First, the battle David was up against was impossible by natural standards. He was facing an enemy (Goliath) who was well-versed in the art of war, having been a soldier from the time he was young. He was bigger, stronger, and more experienced than David, who was an inexperienced teenager. From a natural, military perspective, David could easily have been annihilated by the much larger and stronger Goliath. In addition, Saul was telling David he wouldn't be successful in the battle because of his inexperience.

How many times have you faced a situation that looked impossible? How many times have you been in the midst of a battle and the enemy told you the odds were against you? I believe all of us have been there. David's response, however, holds the answer to why he won this battle.

David responded to the challenge and the impending battle with faith and confidence in God. He didn't listen to the voice of Saul, nor did he look at the natural circumstances that were before him. Instead, he recalled what God had *already* done for him and reminded those who doubted him of those previous victories. I can almost hear the righteous indignation in his voice when he said, “...*who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?*” David looked at the battle as an affront to the almighty God, with whom he was in covenant!

David was confident in his covenant with the Lord, to the point where the only thing that came out of his mouth was faith in the face of the battle. We must adopt the same attitude when it comes to the battles we face in life. We have the power of God, the blessing of God, the Word of God (His covenant), and His love backing us. Carrying this awareness with us is the confidence boost we need in the face of battles.

Confidence in God's Love

Having confidence in God's love is vital to being a conqueror. However, confidence comes from spending significant time in His Word. When the Word becomes an integral part of our lives, our

faith in His promises to deliver us from whatever we are facing rises to an all-time high. We must make spending time in God's Word an absolute priority because the Word builds up our spirit.

Knowing the love of God puts us in the position of not being moved by our circumstances. You may be facing the biggest battle of your life, but Psalm 125:1 says, *"They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever."* This abiding faith is what puts us over the top in the midst of troubling situations.

Romans 8:35 says, *"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"* The Apostle Paul listed some pretty severe circumstances in this passage, but at the end of it all, the revelation to be gleaned from this scripture is that nothing can separate us from the love of God. He cares about us that much.

In order to build your confidence in God's love, think about what He has already done for you. Bringing to remembrance all the instances of His deliverance, healing, and salvation is enough to make me shout and praise Him! Whenever I'm up against a battle that looks impossible, I take time to meditate not only on God's Word but also on all my

past victories. All of us can think of something God has done for us, something He brought us out of that looked impossible. He is not a respecter of persons, and if He did it once, He will do it again.

First John 4:18 says, *“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”* God doesn’t just have love, He *is* love. This means when He sees His children in trouble or up against something they can’t handle in their own strength, He is standing by to help. This is the nature of our heavenly Father. He did it for David when he was facing Goliath, and His power and strength are available to us today.

The Voice Behind the Word

Another important component of victory, tied into confidence in God’s Word and His love, is that He wants to speak to us personally about our situations. The written Word of God is the starting point for hearing from Him, but it is equally important to be able to receive a “rhema” or spoken Word from the Lord. God’s love for us compels Him to want to speak to us and give us strategies to defeat the giants in our lives. It is the things God speaks directly to us that activate the spirit of might, which is the ability to do *anything*.

The spoken Word of God is what I call “revealed knowledge.” It can be a word of wisdom for you to proceed in a certain way, or some other instruction. I believe David received a spoken Word from the Lord before he killed Goliath. The Bible says when it was time for battle, “*David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth*” (1 Samuel 17:49). This was not the typical way people would have expected Goliath to be killed, but God knew exactly what David had to do to be victorious. He gave him specific instructions that proved to be the key to victory.

This brings me to my next very important point, and that is the issue of obedience. God knows the exact combination to unlock our deliverance and victory, but we must do whatever He tells us to do, without hesitating or questioning Him. Imagine what the outcome of David’s showdown with Goliath would have been if he had hesitated to grab that stone, or if he took time to question the method God was putting on his heart to use. If he had disobeyed, or hesitated to move when God said strike, it could have been his defeat instead of Goliath’s.

What God spoke to David was what gave him the

power to overcome his adversary, and it gave him absolute confidence that he would be the winner. The same thing is true in our lives. The same spirit of might that came on David, as a result of his confidence in God's covenant, his confidence in God's love, and his willingness to obey God, can also come upon us.

We may not be facing a literal giant, but we will definitely have situations come up that look just as daunting as what David went through. The good news is we have a divine heavenly backing that is available to us through our faith. John 14:21 tells us Jesus will manifest Himself to those who love God. When we truly love God and have a revelation of His love, through the study and meditation of His Word, there is no battle we cannot win. Our confidence in God and our obedience to His written and spoken Word will cause us to conquer every battle, all the time. All we have to do is believe!

CHAPTER 3

THE ANOINTING FOR BATTLE

I love the premise of comic book superhero stories such as Batman, Wonder Woman, and Superman because they paint a picture of what it means to operate in the spirit of might. Even though these characters are fictional, their ability to do extraordinary things illustrates a profound truth regarding what it means to operate in the power of God as a Christian. When we accept Christ, we are empowered with abilities that defy our own natural strength. We have the tools necessary to fight and win every battle in life. With knowledge and confidence in God's Word, we are guaranteed success.

The spirit of might is the ability to do *anything*, and it is a key to the Christian's victory. A good way to look at the spirit of might is in terms of it being similar to the superhero "suits" that Bruce Wayne and Clark Kent put on in order to become Batman and Superman. Without their suits and capes, they were simply ordinary men who could do nothing spectacular. But the moment they changed into their superhero uniforms, they transformed into men who

could defy the laws of nature and overcome any evil force. No matter how dangerous their enemies were, these guys always won in the end.

The truth is, we *can* live victoriously in this world, untouched and unscathed by the enemy. We can be modern-day supermen and superwomen by understanding how to activate the power of God. We were not created to be defeated in life, but to win all the time! Superhero stories don't have to remain on the pages of comic books and on movie screens; they can be a reality for everyday people.

A Special Anointing

There is an anointing, or ability, that resides on the inside of us, and it is what gives us the power to conquer. Many times, we think something must be wrong in our lives when we are hit with multiple attacks from the devil. However, the truth is, if we are not experiencing any opposition from the enemy as we walk out our Christian journey, it could be an indication that we are not really a threat to his kingdom. Actually, the battles we face could mean we are on the path to our destinies and Satan is trying to stop us before we get there. First John 5:4 says heaven is full of overcomers, so in order to overcome, there has to be a fight. Our victory is guaranteed when we are in Christ.

The anointing that is available for us to be the conquerors God has called us to be is the spirit of might. It is the key to winning every battle, all the time. Now the spirit of might is one of several anointings, or abilities, that God has made available to His people. God Himself is full of might, especially when it comes to crushing His enemies in battle (Psalm 24:7-8). Might is one of the seven facets of the anointing listed in Isaiah 11:2: “*And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.*” It absolutely removes burdens and destroys yokes.

Working simultaneously with the spirit of might is the spirit of wisdom, which can be looked at as might’s “power twin.” Wisdom is the ability to know what to do when you don’t know what to do, and might is the ability to carry out what God reveals to you. When you operate in the spirit of wisdom, the Lord gives you divine instructions that can make a way out of no way. Coupled with the anointing of might, you cannot fail.

Ephesians 6:10 instructs Believers to “*be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might,*” meaning the anointing of might comes from Him. Isn’t it comforting to know that the power we operate in

as Christians isn't our own, but it belongs to the Lord? Equipped with the Lord's power, we can truly fulfill Philippians 4:13, which tells us we can do *all* things through Christ—the Anointed One and His Anointing—Who strengthens us with *might*. God is no respecter of persons, so this ability is available to everyone who has the faith to operate in it.

A powerful example of the spirit of might in operation is seen in the life of Jesus Christ Himself. Jesus was a real-life “Superman,” in that He defied the laws of nature and accomplished amazing things through the supernatural power of God operating through Him. Of all the accounts of the things He did during His three-and-a-half-year ministry, what stands out the most is His journey from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Cross of Calvary, as well as His descent into the pit of hell and His resurrection. The spirit of might enabled Him to do these things.

When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane, a great spiritual battle was taking place. His human side was wrestling with the temptation not to go through with the great task before Him. It was in that Garden that He came to terms with the reality of what He had to do, and His flesh wanted to quit. The Bible says He was under such stress and pressure that He sweat drops of blood (Luke 22:44).

In Luke 22:42 Jesus said, “*Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.*” The next scripture says an angel appeared from heaven and *strengthened* him. That strength was the spirit of might Jesus needed to continue His assignment.

Further on in the account of the events leading up to Jesus’ crucifixion, the Bible says He was scourged. Scourging was a brutal form of torture, perpetrated by Roman soldiers, on criminals prior to them being crucified. It wasn’t uncommon for the victim to actually die from the scourging itself, which involved a flesh-shredding whipping with a “cat-o’-nine tails.” This weapon literally tore the victim’s body to shreds, causing an extreme loss of blood.

Not only did Jesus endure the scourging without so much as opening His mouth, He also endured further beatings at the hands of the Roman soldiers, was forced to wear a crown of thorns, and had to carry His own heavy cross as He made the exhausting trek to the location where He was to be executed. Jesus’ body was completely broken, but His spirit was full of God’s life. Through the power of might, He was able to carry out God’s redemptive plan. The anointing of might strengthened Him to endure the

physical toll, descend to hell, reclaim the keys to the gates of hell, defeat Satan for all eternity, set the captive saints free, and ascend to the earth where He was resurrected!

Jesus was our example. He endured and conquered the enemy in the midst of a battle that no man had ever had to fight. Not only was it a physical battle, but it simultaneously involved His mind, will, and emotions, as well as His spirit. Only the supernatural power of God, working in Him, enabled Him to complete what He was called to do. Jesus' example should encourage us when we are going through battles that draw upon our physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual strength. The good news is we don't have to face these things alone, or go through them in our own strength. We have the power of God working on our behalf, just like Jesus did.

Keep Your Word Level High

If we are going to be conquerors over the enemy, there are certain things we must do to position ourselves for victory, the primary of which is making sure we keep our Word level high. There are too many people trying to fight a spiritual battle in their own strength, without the Word. Trying to win over the enemy without the Word of God is impossible.

As soldiers in the army of the Lord, we must equip ourselves with the necessary weaponry for the battle ahead of us.

Second Corinthians 10:4 reads, “*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.*” We are fighting a spiritual battle, which means we can only overcome with spiritual weapons. The Word of God is the only thing that can successfully take down the strongholds of the enemy, which is why we must have knowledge of it.

Knowing God’s Word actually activates the spirit of might (Ephesians 6:10). In battle, we must do what the Word says, not what we feel in our emotions or what our flesh wants to do. By increasing our knowledge and understanding of the Word through hearing, reading, and meditating on it, we increase our spiritual strength and give the Holy Spirit something to work with. The Bible says the people who know God are strong and do great exploits (Daniel 11:32). An *exploit* is a feat that is humanly impossible and unattainable through natural means. In order to get these kinds of results, we must *know* what the Word says and how to appropriate it in our lives.

Confidence in God’s Word also turns on the spirit of might. The first thing Satan attacks in the

midst of battle is our confidence because he knows it has a great recompense of reward if we hold onto it (Hebrews 10:35). He will try everything he can to move us from our confidence in God's Word, but we must refuse to let it go.

Guaranteed Victory

A conqueror's mentality is one that already knows that the victory has been won before the fight even begins because the Word says so. Knowledge produces strength and strength guarantees triumph. For the Christian, this is not something we have to convince ourselves of because the Bible says Satan's power has already been vanquished by Jesus (Hebrews 2:14). We simply must declare and walk in the victory that belongs to us.

The Holy Spirit is our partner through this entire process, and we must rely on Him for guidance, direction, and support. He is the one who supplies us with the wisdom we need for our particular situations, wisdom He receives directly from the Father. Anything the Holy Spirit speaks to us has victory attached to it, which is why we must always obey Him when we hear His voice.

The more Word we have on the inside of us, the more "material" the Holy Spirit has to work with.

When we remain vitally connected to the Word and the Word remains in us, God speaks to us in very clear terms. Once we hear what He is telling us to do, we must act on it. Our way of escape in the midst of crisis or in the heat of battle comes in the form of knowledge, according to 1 Corinthians 10:13, AMP. God is faithful to His love and His Word, and He will never allow us to be tested above our ability to win.

If there is anything that will block the victory God has called us to walk in as Christians, it is sin. Dealing with any areas of sin in our lives is essential because these things could be hindering our authority over the enemy. Unforgiveness, strife, and other works of the flesh will cause spiritual setbacks we can't afford. We must always keep in mind that the battle is never only about us, but that God also wants to impact others *through* us. He has an intricate plan that includes bringing a multitude of souls into the kingdom of God. When we are in sin or have not repented for something we know God is dealing with us about, it disrupts the plan of God. Not only that, sin prevents us from hearing from God and receiving the instructions we need to be conquerors.

I encourage you to saturate your mind and heart with the Word of God so the anointing of might can go to work for you. The spirit of might is available today,

along with every other anointing that comprises God's character. Your faith will determine the level of power you walk in and whether you become the "superman" or "superwoman" God has called you to be!

CHAPTER 4

THE CONQUEROR'S ROOT

Everything has a root, or origin, that serves as its starting point. For example, an oak tree's origin is an oak seed, planted in the ground. With proper nourishment, it produces a beautiful, stately tree with deep roots. Similarly, peace, wholeness, and prosperity in life originate from the Word of God, which is the spiritual seed for all the blessings we experience. When it comes to having a conquering spirit, there is a point of origin that is responsible for us being overcomers. Consistent conquest has its roots in God.

To call ourselves conquerors but have no revelation of the role God plays in the victories we experience is to lack understanding about exactly how we are empowered to conquer. Romans 8:37 says we are actually *more* than conquerors *through* Him who *loved* us. This means the victory God has given us surpasses even our understanding of what it means to win. Again, the theme of being empowered by God confirms that it is not through our own ability that we are able to overcome, but through *His* ability.

God's love for us is an empowering force that gives us the edge in life.

When we know and understand that our connection to God is the root to victory, we will have even more assurance in the inheritance we are entitled to as Believers. In addition, every Christian is a spiritual descendant of the tribe of Judah, the tribe from which Jesus also descended. Judah is considered the "conqueror's tribe." It is a tribe of kings. Since Jesus is from the tribe of Judah, and we are in Him, we are also part of the conqueror's tribe, which ensures absolute mastery over the enemy.

The anointing on the tribe of Judah can be traced back to the Old Testament, in Genesis 49:1-12. In this prophetic passage of scripture, Jacob calls all of his sons to him to speak over their lives and prophesy their destinies and the destinies of their descendants. In verses 8-10 he says, "*Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee...The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.*"

One of the chief characteristics of the tribe of Judah is its victory over its enemies. The prophecy

dealt specifically with the fact that they would be conquerors and highly respected by their descendants. The word *scepter* also connotes rule or kingship. A scepter is a rod or staff, held by a sovereign, as a sign of authority. The fact that the Bible says the scepter “shall not depart from Judah” implies the permanency of Judah’s position as conqueror. This prophetic word was also foretelling the kingship of Jesus and how He would ultimately establish His righteous reign forever.

Judges 1:1-4 says, “*Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand...And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men.*”

Judah’s tribe *always* conquered because of the anointing of victory they possessed. The prophecy Jacob gave over Judah was ultimately fulfilled when David took office as king of Israel. Jesus Christ is the “branch” that grew from Judah and came from the house of David. Therefore, the conqueror’s anointing is our inheritance as well.

Five Keys to Conquest

Having the Word of God as our guidepost in life is powerful because when we read the stories of people who conquered, without question, we can be inspired in our own lives. I don't care what you may be going through or facing right now; you possess a conquering spirit!

There are five keys to conquest that can be learned from Jesus and King David, both of whom are excellent examples of people who possessed the conqueror's anointing. We can apply these keys to our own lives as reminders of what we possess as Believers.

1. Jesus and David were anointed, approved, and sent by God.

To be anointed means to be empowered. To anoint something means "to smear or rub on." When God "anoints" a person, He rubs His supernatural ability on him so he can accomplish things he could not normally do in his own power. Jesus was a man who was *anointed* by God. He demonstrated to us how we are to live as Christians. Yes, we are human, but there is a supernatural aspect of who we are that comes from the Father. David was anointed by God to carry out the assignment God had given him as King of Israel. David won many battles and accomplished

many great things because of God's anointing. Likewise, through our connection to Jesus, and our spiritual lineage as part of the tribe of Judah, God has smeared us with His power. We have been approved by God and sent by Him into this world to make a mark in the lives of people and bring souls into the kingdom of God.

2. Jesus and David knew they had a covenant with God.

A covenant is a binding agreement between two or more parties that can only be broken through death. The people of Israel understood this and had a culture based on covenants. In fact, the Bible is a covenant book of promises that is designed to exchange our weaknesses for God's strength. Covenants are all about giving someone the advantage, and that is exactly what God has done for us. He has given us an advantage over sin, sickness, poverty, oppression, and spiritual death. We are not subject to these things when we absolutely know and have confidence in the covenant God has made with us in His Word. Knowing our covenant takes our faith to another level and empowers us to conquer, just like Jesus and David did. We must constantly remind ourselves of our covenant with God, knowing He will deliver us when we place a demand on His Word.

3. David and Jesus both spoke the covenant language.

Being a covenant person means abiding by the terms of the covenant, or agreement, and one of those terms deals with words. God has designed His covenant to function within the context of words. We are to speak the Word of God, which is covenant language, and allow our words to always be a reflection of our understanding of the covenant. To speak contrary to the Word of God is to nullify its benefits. Jesus never spoke words that didn't line up with the written Word. In fact, everything He spoke and acted on came from the Word. David also understood covenant language, and spoke it. A great example is his declaration of victory in the face of Goliath.

Confessing the scriptures is a great way to engage in covenant language because it builds your faith and puts God in remembrance of His promises. Because words are spiritual containers, speaking the Word also releases the power of God into the situation and keeps your mind focused on the victory.

4. Jesus and David had a revelation of God's love for them and knew the battle belonged to God.

David was a conquering king who never lost a battle or sustained bodily injury during war. Even

though he didn't look like "king" material at first, God was still behind him at every turn. He defeated Goliath with a single effort because his mind was already trained to win.

David's battle with Goliath was not the only one he faced that put him in a position of having to trust God. Most of the Psalms were written by David during some of the most trying times of his life. Psalm 59, for example, was written when Saul was hunting David down and trying to kill him. In verse 5, David declares, "*You, O Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel, arise to visit all the nations; spare none and be not merciful to any who treacherously plot evil*" (The Amplified Bible). And in verse 10, he says, "*My God in His mercy and steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look [triumphantly] on my enemies (those who lie in wait for me).*" These are the words of a confident man who knows God is backing him up in battle.

Jesus was also fully confident in His ability to conquer the enemy because of His connection to the Father and because of what the Word of God had already declared. In fact, Jesus said that He did nothing except what He saw the Father do (John 5:19). With this kind of power at His disposal, there was no way Jesus could *ever* lose a battle. The power of almighty God was working in and through Him.

5. Jesus and David knew how to get ahead in life.

The conqueror's anointing that Jesus and David walked in enabled them to crush their enemies where it mattered most—the head. This is significant because the head is the control center where all activity originates in someone's life. Damaging the head is the best way to destroy someone or something completely.

The Word of God prophesied long before Jesus was born that He would bruise the head of the serpent (Genesis 3:15), and we also possess the same power when we are in Him (Romans 16:20). With Satan's head bruised, he cannot win! Knowing our position in Christ and exercising our authority to bruise the head of Satan puts us in the conquering position.

Similarly, when David killed Goliath, he didn't aim for his heart or any other body part. He aimed for the head. When his stone sunk into Goliath's forehead, there was no chance for the enemy to recover. Afterward, he cut off the giant's head as a further sign of victory in war.

Use Your Weapons

Our best weapons against the devil in these last days are fearlessness and the presence of God. Satan can't stand in the presence of God, nor can he stand

up against a Christian who refuses to walk in fear. In fact, fear is a spiritual force that works the same way faith does. When we fear, we are connected to the very things we fear. But when we walk in the love of God, and allow the love of God to be expressed through us, fear is eliminated. We cannot allow fear to govern our lives and expect to be victorious in the battles we face.

Putting on the armor of God and confessing the Word of God consistently are two powerful things we can do to get rid of fear. These should be regular habits and practices of Believers. Just like we don't leave our homes without getting dressed in the morning, neither should we venture out into the world without dressing our spirits with the armor of God.

Ephesians 6:13-18 tells us exactly how to dress ourselves for daily battle against the enemy. It lists six pieces of armor that must be "put on." They are the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. In addition, verse 18 instructs us to pray *always*, which means prayer is another weapon of spiritual warfare. We should take time to meditate on each piece of our armor and declare that we are dressed in the armor of God every single day. As we

renew our minds to the protection that is available to us, fear will begin to fade.

Second, we must spend time in the presence of God, which guarantees our victory and builds our spirits up in the confidence necessary to be conquerors. We do this by seeking Him through prayer every day, reading His Word, and praising Him. These things are key elements to winning in life. It is in the presence of God that we will receive the answers and strategies we need to triumph over whatever the enemy sends our way.

Conquerors are Believers who have the hand of the Lord upon them. God is our power back-up, and when His hand is on us, we will be propelled to new levels of power, strength, and wisdom. Conquerors are also possessed by a winning attitude at all times, knowing they win, not just some battles, but *every* battle. By continually renewing our minds to our position as conquerors, through Jesus and our spiritual lineage, as well as walking in the love of God, the devil doesn't stand a chance. As you remain covenant-minded, the enemies that now confront you will see the power of God on your life and flee from you!

CHAPTER 5

CONQUERING THE SPIRIT OF FEAR

Christians must have a zero-tolerance for fear. Fear is a spiritual force that will absolutely neutralize a conquering spirit, rendering us ineffective against the enemy. Fear has the power to connect us to the things we fear. In fact, Satan *is* the spirit of fear, just like God is love. When we allow fear to have place in any area of our lives, we open the door to the destructive forces of darkness. We must fight against fear and get rid of it at all costs if we want to walk in victory.

One of the reasons conquerors win every battle is because they are fearless. As a result, they are able to perform great exploits, just like the Bible says in the book of Daniel. On the other hand, people who walk in fear are slaves to the enemy and powerless against him. You can see it in their lives and in the type of results they get.

The first thing to understand about fear is that it does not come from God. It is not uncommon to hear people say that fear is normal or healthy. I have even heard of motivational speakers telling people

to embrace their fears instead of getting rid of them. The truth is that fear is never okay, nor is it something we should ever accept in our lives.

Second Timothy 1:7 reads, “*For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*” We know from the Word of God that the Lord does not put fear in people’s hearts. If God isn’t giving it out, then it’s coming from the enemy, and anything the enemy gives us is designed to destroy our lives. What God *has* given us is love, power, and a sound mind! What an awesome trio of spiritual tools to employ in the midst of life’s battles. Let’s examine all three more closely.

Love, Power, and a Sound Mind

If there is anything that will guarantee victory, it is the love of God. Romans 5:5 says the love of God has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost. At the moment we accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, something supernatural happened within us. The love of God, the same love that exists between Jesus and the Father, was deposited inside of us. This means we now have the capability to love others as Jesus loves us, and as the Father loves Jesus! We literally possess the very love that makes up God’s character.

The love of God is the power of God in action. It is the power that raised Jesus from the dead. It is what enabled Jesus to do the many great miracles and exploits He performed during His earthly ministry. The love of God is what empowers us to prosper in our own lives. When we purpose in our hearts to release love toward God and others, every day of our lives, we will begin to see the conquering power of God operating in our lives all the time. There is nothing that can stand against the love of God.

Jesus knew the protective power of God's love, and it went to work for Him throughout His ministry. As a controversial preacher, He was a target of vicious attacks from the religious leaders of His day, and they were constantly seeking ways to silence Him. The Bible says, at one point, they tried to throw Him off a cliff because they were so angry with Him.

In spite of the Pharisees trying to kill Jesus by throwing Him off a cliff, He was able to escape. How was He able to do it? Because He was surrounded with what I call a "love bubble." The anointing of God, which is the power of love at work, prevented Jesus from becoming a victim. Jesus' assignment on the earth centered on Him laying His life down for others, of His own accord, not being taken out because someone decided he was going to throw Him

off a cliff. He was surrounded and protected by God's armor of love, and we can be, too, when we refuse to walk in fear. Love and power are synonymous, and have been given to us as Believers.

God has also endowed us with a sound mind, which the Amplified Bible describes as a "calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control." A calm, undisturbed mind is essential to being a conqueror. A soldier can't afford to be ruled by his emotions in the heat of battle. He must be focused, disciplined, and able to clearly discern his surroundings, as well as what his next move or strategy needs to be. In fact, when confronting his enemy, he doesn't have time to think. He must be so practiced in his disciplines of training that he automatically responds to his enemy the right way.

Just like the soldier, we can develop a victorious mind-set that is absolutely prepared for battle, *before* the battle shows up. We do this by renewing our minds with God's Word. In doing so, our minds are affected on a subconscious level—the place where our automatic responses and reactions originate. When we allow the Word to transform us from this deeper level, we can obtain the calm, undisturbed mind that the Scripture describes. It is a mind that is not moved by circumstances, negative situations, or

the scare tactics of Satan. The sound mind is the mind of Christ, and Jesus was never afraid of anything, at any point in time. This is the inheritance of the Believer.

The Root of All Fear

Understanding the spirit of fear and how it operates is essential to overcoming it. We know it doesn't come from God, but how does it work? Satan uses fear in the form of thought injections that are designed to get us to doubt the validity of God's Word. By destroying our confidence in what God said will come to pass, he knows we will never win our battles or be a demonstration of God's power in the earth. Fear is a direct attack on our faith in God's Word.

The biblical account of Adam and Eve, in the Garden of Eden, was a great example of how the spirit of fear works to move us from God's perfect will for our lives. In Genesis 3:1-6, Satan used fear to trick Eve in the Garden. He hasn't changed His crafty methods, and does the same thing to us when we allow him to. Here it reads:

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the

woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die... And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

The key here is that Satan made a suggestion to Eve to get her to doubt what God had said. By getting her to question God's instructions, Satan was able to move Eve into a place of disobedience. She became fearful that God was withholding something from her; or that she was missing out on something when she began focusing on the aspects of the fruit that appealed to her senses. After she and Adam partook of the fruit, they immediately became aware of their nakedness. They lost the glory that had been covering them.

Similar to Adam and Eve when they listened to the voice of the enemy, many people begin to doubt God will supply their needs or heal them when Satan gets them to question the infallibility of God's covenant Word. Even though Philippians 4:19 and 1 Peter 2:24 promise these things, we must make a decision to believe the Word of God, no matter what we perceive with our physical senses. We must never buy into the lie that fear is a positive motivation for anything. The only thing that comes with fear is torment and destruction.

Job was another example of someone who gave in to the spirit of fear and reaped some terrible consequences as a result. Job had gotten into the bad habit of offering sacrifices to God on behalf of his sons out of fear that they may have sinned or cursed God in their hearts. The Bible says Job did this "continually" (Job 1:5). Then, one day, his sons were killed in a storm, confirming the fear he had concerning them.

Job was not offering sacrifices because God told him to do so. He was doing it because he was fearful. He didn't understand the spiritual force of fear until later on when he said, "*For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me*" (Job 3:25). His fear connected

his household to destruction and opened the door to the very thing he *didn't* want to happen.

The only thing attached to the spirit of fear is torment (1 John 4:18), which means if we entertain fear, we're inviting torment into our lives on some level. A little fear will give way to more of it until we find ourselves battling fears that weren't even there before. This is why the Word emphatically instructs us to refuse fear.

Words of Faith vs. Words of Fear

Faith and fear are both spiritual forces that are activated and deposited through words. Words are spiritual containers that have the potential to affect us on the subconscious level. Faith comes by hearing God's Word, and fear comes by hearing the words of Satan. The Bible tells us to guard our hearts because the issues of our lives flow out of our spirits, which are either full of faith or fear. In order to keep fear out of our hearts, we must become vigilant about what we look at, what we listen to, and the words we speak out of our mouths. Any words, images, and conversations that are fear-based, or that have even a hint of fear, must be abandoned. We must remind ourselves that entertaining fear, on any level, will destroy our faith and keep us from being the winners

God has called us to be.

Since words of fear are all around us, and constantly being pumped through the media via the news, movies, and television shows, we must be even more diligent in making sure we don't allow these things to get in our hearts. I am a firm believer in avoiding television programs and movies that promote fear, as well as limiting the amount of time spent watching today's news reports.

If you are fighting an internal battle where your faith in God's divine protection is concerned, for example, you will only make it that much more difficult by constantly paying attention to headlines that talk about the most recent crimes that have taken place in your area or around the world. The same thing is true when it comes to natural disasters, health concerns, or reports about financial shortage. I am not saying we shouldn't stay alert about current events, but we should not feed our spirits with the bad reports of the world. Instead, we should feed on the best report that exists—God's Word. Only His words have the power to increase our faith and keep our minds and hearts set on victory.

When I think about the great heroes of faith mentioned in the Book of Hebrews, chapter 11, I realize all these people faced situations and

circumstances that could have brought fear and trepidation to their hearts. The instructions they received from God, and the call to obedience, were accomplished in spite of what often looked impossible, or seemed unreasonable. I am sure every one of the great men and women of faith had moments where fear attempted to take over their thinking and cause them to shrink back from what they had been called to do. Even Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane, faced a whirlwind of emotions that included fear. However, what made these individuals conquerors was their unrelenting stance on God's Word, and their unwillingness to bow their knees to the spirit of fear. As a result, they experienced victory over some of the greatest odds mankind has ever seen, and were counted worthy to be recorded in the Bible's Faith Hall of Fame!

How serious are you about keeping the spirit of fear out of your life? It takes a commitment and a decision to refuse to accept anything that Satan is trying to give you. Jesus told us in Matthew 6:25 to "take no thought," as it related to the spirit of fear and worry. We take thoughts by speaking them and receiving the negative words of Satan. But when those thoughts come, we should resist them by declaring what God has said over and over again. In

this way, we cast down the fearful suggestions of the enemy and build our faith in God's unfailing ability to perform His Word.

Jesus has delivered us from the fear of death (Hebrews 2:14-15) and there is nothing to fear! Satan no longer has the power of death or the ability to harm us when we remain confident in God's love and the covenant we have with Him. Meditating on His Word and walking in the love of God will activate the power that is necessary to flush fear out of our lives and empower us to be the conquerors He has called us to be!

DID YOU KNOW that, as a Christian, your spirit has been programmed for victory in every situation you face? Believers are connected to the power of God through Jesus Christ, which means we have the spiritual tools and resources to overcome the enemy. We cannot lose when we refuse to allow fear to infiltrate our minds. In *The Conqueror's Spirit*, you will discover:

- The role God's Word plays in developing your confidence
- How to activate the spirit of might
- The spiritual root to consistent victory

Just like King David, you possess an anointing for battle that will cause you to win over the challenges of life. God will back you up every time. Stand strong in the face of adversity and obtain the victory that has been made available to you.



Creflo Dollar Ministries • PO Box 1 117, Oxenford QLD 4210 Australia
Ph: (61) 7 5556 0022 • www.creflodollarministries.org
© & © 2010 by Creflo Dollar. All rights reserved.