

Overcoming Impossible Circumstances.

There is a way that the Word God laid out for us to overcome impossible circumstances. I am not saying that we will always get our way in the results, but I am saying that Jesus will get His Way! This way relies on Romans 8:28.

Romans 8:28,

“28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

The Lord spoke this to me.

1 Corinthians 3:9-15 is something that God spoke to me many years ago – back in 1998- when things in my business world looked like they had collapsed. At the time I had no idea what the Scripture meant. Carol and I were at an airport returning to Atlanta. I was reading the Word in a Burger King restaurant. Suddenly I cried out to Carol, “It’s going to be okay!” I had no idea what the Lord was saying except that the magnificence of His presence in this rhema was so powerful that I had no doubts.

It was only many years later, probably ten years, that our business supernaturally turned around that the Lord reminded me of this Scripture. At that time He explained to me what it meant.

1 Corinthians 3:9-15,

“9 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building.

10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.”

“11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

13 each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is.

14 If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.

15 If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.”

Paul wrote this to the Corinthians in the context that they were living carnal lives, continually being fed with “milk” and not “solid food.” He told them the things to remove in their lives so that could receive solid food and overcome impossible circumstances. This would not only benefit them, but also the Kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 3:1-4,

“1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ.

2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;

3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

4 For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not carnal?”

The materials mentioned in verse 12 are,

3:12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw,

Silver is redemption, God’s free grace in causing us to be born in Him. We must continually realize and appreciate His grace.

Those who who like to find symbolic meaning in colors usually associate silver with redemption, largely because silver coins were used to redeem or purchase goods.

Redeemed like off a slave block. Ransom for a slave.

Quoted from unknown.

“Everyone is in need of redemption. Our natural condition was characterized by guilt: “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). Christ’s redemption has freed us from guilt, being “justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24).

The word redeem means “to buy out.” The term was used specifically in reference to the purchase of a slave’s freedom. The application of this term to Christ’s death on the cross is quite telling. If we are “redeemed,” then our prior condition was one of slavery. God has purchased our freedom, and we are no longer in bondage to sin or to the Old Testament law. This metaphorical use of “redemption” is the teaching of Galatians 3:13 and 4:5.

Related to the Christian concept of redemption is the word ransom. Jesus paid the price for our release from sin and its consequences (Matthew 20:28; 1 Timothy 2:6). His death was in exchange for our life. In fact, Scripture is quite clear that redemption is only possible “through His blood,” that is, by His death (Colossians 1:14).

The streets of heaven will be filled with former captives who, through no merit of their own, find themselves redeemed, forgiven, and free. Slaves to sin have become saints. No wonder we will sing a new song—a song of praise to the Redeemer who was slain (Revelation 5:9). We were slaves to sin, condemned to eternal separation from God. Jesus paid the price to redeem us, resulting in our freedom from slavery to sin and our rescue from the eternal consequences of that sin.”

Gold is a godly character. Character is also described as the Fruit of the Spirit. We must continually repent as we miss the mark. That will keep us able to hear His voice. It is also described as the Fruit of the Spirit. We must continually repent as we miss the mark. That will keep us able to hear His voice, and allow His character to continue to develop in us.

Galatians 5:22,23

“22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Another godly characteristic is God speaks things into existence calls those things that be not as though they are. As we are going through our overcoming process, this godly characteristic of speaking God’s Word is very important as it continually defeats satanic forces.

Romans 4:17

“17 (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed--God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;”

Gold is even in Heaven – it can be eternal.

Revelation 3:18-20,

18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Revelation 21 18b,21,

18 - and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. 21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

Precious stones are jewels, which infer suffering and pressure.

Jewels are developed out of stones that have been buried and have endured much pressure over a long period of time.

Revelation 21:19-21,

19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. 21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

The above Scripture indicates that the New Jerusalem, the City of God, is constructed of sever suffering.

Usually the final results of our overcoming will come through much suffering and pressure.

Paul speaks of his experience of how suffering, when overcome, actually gives one more strength in the battle with satanic forces, and causes ministry to blossom.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10,

“7 And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.

8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me.

9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

If we apply all three of these as a lifestyle, then the attacks against us are illegal and we overcome the demonic forces and put them out of operation and take their spoils. That includes the souls of men as in Revelation 18.

1 Corinthians 3 also talks about the foundation.

1 Corinthians 3:11

“11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is (already) laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

Strong’s Concordance definition of foundation.

1. laid down as a foundation, the foundation (of a building, wall, city)
2. Metaph. the foundations, beginnings, first principals.

2. of institution or system of truth

Everything we do in life becomes a building block.

Not only do we need to choose to use the proper materials as stated above, but we also need to make sure we are building on the foundation of Jesus and not the World system. The World system will cause us to use our own ideas as foundations. What governs our “system of truth” as the Strong’s concordance defines it?

Matthew 7:7,

Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking

7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread,

will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

This is my personal opinion.

Asking is simply seeking God, primarily in His Word and through the Holy Spirit, to speak to you. Seeking is continually staying in touch with God until He speaks. Knocking is to continually speak the Word against all the forces of evil that are trying to stop God's plan for your life. All of this speaks about our relationship with Jesus and our endurance through trials.

One final thought. Hang on brothers and sisters- He is coming!

I believe that as we overcome impossible conditions, that we touch the very heart of God by adorning His Son Jesus with jewels.

The last few chapters of Revelation describe the Kingdom of God. It is interesting to note that the foundations of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones.

Revelation 21:19,

“The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald

The City described is made of gold, representing the good God ordained works of man. However, the Foundation, who is Jesus, is adorned with jewels, representing the fruit of suffering. Also the entire City has a luster resembling a rare and most precious jewel, like jasper, shining clear as crystal. In addition, the very wall of the City was made of jasper.

Revelation 3:12,

“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name”

Pillars stand on the underground and unseen foundation. They are the manifested portions of the invisible foundation of any building.

(Revelation 22:21)

“He who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming quickly.’ Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen”

There are eternal rewards.

They have nothing to do with our salvation or going to Heaven. That is all grace. But when we obey Jesus in His work, and endure beyond what most would consider reasonable, the fruit comes and we receive a present day as well as an eternal reward.