

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

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HOW WE ARE TRANSFORMED FROM VICTIM TO CONQUEROR

1. What Is a Conqueror?

Conqueror: A person who conquers or vanquishes; victor.

Victor: A person who has overcome or defeated an adversary; conqueror or a winner in any struggle or contest.

This is how a person who is more than a conqueror thinks:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? As it is written: 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (Romans 8:28,31,36-37 NIV)

2. What Is a Victim?

Victim: A person who suffers from a destructive or injurious action; a person who is deceived or cheated, as by his or her own emotions or ignorance, by the dishonesty of others, or by some impersonal agency.

A person who lives like a victim has a selfish, childish, and soulish attitude. A Christian who considers themselves as a victim is immature.

"When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things." (1 Corinthians 13:11 NLT)

3. How Do We Transition from Victim to More than a Conqueror?

a. Do not take offense.

"Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous, love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offense, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7 ESV)

"Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends." (Proverbs 17:9 ESV)

B. Receive the Love of God.

"Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses." (Proverbs 10:12 ESV)

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: 'For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35-39 NIV)

c. Give out the love you receive even if you don't receive love back. This is true unconditional love.

"Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will bless you for it." (1 Peter 3:9 NLT)

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even 'sinners' lend to 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Luke 6:27-36 NIV)

Once you become more than a conqueror, nothing can hold you down. Your circumstances, situations, and feelings cannot control you. Even other people's bad choices can't control you. This will happen because you will operate out of your spirit through the Holy Spirit. And when you do that, you will finally represent Christ in the right way. No longer will life happen to you. You will happen to life. You are now more than a conqueror.