

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” - Psalm 119:105

June 3, 2007

How To Overcome the World

Rick Duggin

Alexander the Great conquered nearly every country from Greece to India, and then, after a drinking bout, died at the age of 33. In the truest sense, he did not conquer the world; the world conquered him.

The Lord endured everything the enemy could throw at Him; and then, near the age of 33, He died on a Roman cross. After the cross came the resurrection; after the shame, the glory. He truly overcame the world – and so can we.

Our victory is rooted in the victory of Christ. Our victorious Lord allows us to share in His victory. When World War II ended, U.S. citizens celebrated in the streets. When our leaders win, we win. Jesus won the most glorious victory in the world. Because He won, we can win.

Paul writes that Jesus nailed the handwriting of requirements to His cross and adds, *“Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it” (Colossians 2:15).*

The word *disarmed* was used of soldiers who were stripped of their clothes and weapons, a symbol of total defeat. Satan and his demons are disarmed; all they can do is deceive and create fear.

He made a *public spectacle* of these enemies (He made an example of them). Roman generals often led their victorious soldiers in a triumphal procession, followed by their vanquished enemies (Cleopatra committed suicide in order to avoid the triumphal parade of Octavian Augustus Caesar.). Defeated soldiers often were chained to the chariots of their conquerors. For a short time after Jesus died on the cross, Satan may have thought he had won, but Hell’s greatest “victory” was turned into a humiliating defeat for Satan and his demonic assistants.

Jesus has overcome the world (**John 16:33**) by conquering:

1. Satan (**Luke 11:22**)
2. The darkness of ignorance and error (**John 8:12**).
3. Sin (**1 Peter 2:23-24**).
4. Death (**Revelation 1:18**).

“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith” (1 John 5:4).

A Note about Bible Call

Troy Nicholson

Several people have made comments before wondering how many people call Bible Call. Now we know! The phone company recently offered us a special promotion that allows us to get several calling features, including caller ID. With a caller ID device attached to the machine with the Bible Call tapes, we can now know how many people – and sometimes who – call.

We appear to be averaging around 10-20 calls a day. On the day we had 20, five of the numbers were recognizable as members here. While it could be said that more of our own ought to be calling, it also indicates that several others are.

Earl and I are concluding a Bible study with a lady who requested it via Bible Call. A few correspondence courses have also been sent to those requesting them via Bible Call. While we do not know of any conversions as a result of Bible Call, we do know that people are calling and that the messages are having a positive impact on lives.

Sometimes even if the callers don't make a request, they will still leave a comment. Here are a couple of the comments that people have left:

“Thank you for the wonderful message. It means so much to me.”

“Thank you very much for the short thought-provoking message. I really appreciate that. I just happened to be driving by your church, which I do twice a day, and just decided to call on a whim; and I'm looking now how to apply what I just heard into my daily life and into my Bible study. God bless you for that ministry, and I pray that someone else decides to pick up the phone and call like I did.”

For those of you involved in recording the messages, know that your time and effort are not in vain. People are calling, and people are benefiting. Keep up the good work!

For those of you who don't call, realize what you are missing. You are passing up an opportunity to receive “a regular helping of ‘soul food,’ a daily message from God's word.”

Thanks be to God for this evangelistic tool we have at our disposal and for the good it has done and continues to do.

“The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.” – Psalm 98:2

Family News

Betty Chapman started on antibiotics. She still gets tired easily.

Justin Edwards leaves tomorrow for Texarkana with a potential two-year guard assignment. Julia and Jessie may be following soon.

Metty Fain remains in Highland Manor Nursing Home; Room B2; 215 Highland Circle Dr; Portland, TN 37148.

Elmo Ferrell remains at NHC, room 112, for rehab.

Sandra Hunt received better results on her blood work, but she is still having several problems – especially with her stomach.

Al Johnson, Bob’s father who is staying with the Johnson’s, dislocated his hip yesterday. He has fallen a few times lately, resulting in bruises and cuts, as well as fighting pneumonia and another infection.

Bruce Jones, Karen Moore’s dad, had a good day yesterday. He had his trachea capped and was able to talk some and eat ice chips.

Cotton and Nancy Read are still not doing well.

Laura Reed is still having trouble getting her calcium high enough.

Christie Shimak, Cindy Shimak’s niece, died this past week in NJ.

The **Williams** family is preparing to move to Arkansas the second week of July to be with Randy’s father as he deals with failing health.

Robert Wray goes to the eye doctor on Tuesday.

New Reports: Gary Hunt, Chad Lynn, Allen Malone.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: Robert and Candy Jenkins (PM-Wed)

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"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).