

“IS BEING AN OVERCOMER A REWARD?”

A. Which View of the Identity of the Overcomer in Rev. 2-3 is Correct?

1. You are an overcomer if you _____ in Christ and _____ overcome sin, Satan, and the world in order to *keep* your eternal salvation. (Arminian view)
2. You are an overcomer if you _____ in Christ and _____ overcome sin, Satan, and the world in order to *prove* that you are truly saved. (Calvinist, Lordship view)
3. You are an overcomer if you are a _____ Christian, as opposed to an _____, _____ Christian. You are an overcomer if you believe in Christ and practically overcome sin, Satan, and the world so that you can inherit the kingdom as a reward. (Common Free Grace view)
4. You are an overcomer if you simply _____ in Christ, because you have overcome sin, Satan, and the world by virtue of your _____ in Christ. (Less Common Free Grace view)

** What is the difference between your position in Christ and your condition as a Christian?*

B. What GENERAL TERMS are used for OVERCOMING in the New Testament?

1. The noun *nikos* occurs _____ times and means _____; while the verb *nikaō* occurs _____ times and means _____ or _____.
2. The term is also found as part of proper names, like _____ (Jn. 3:1, 4, 9, 7:50, 19:39) and _____ (Acts 6:5); as well as the name of a city, _____ (Ti. 3:12); as well as a descriptive name for a group of people known as the _____ (Rev. 2:6, 15).

C. Who is the OVERCOMER Outside the Book of Revelation?

1. In the Gospels, _____ is the One who overcomes or gets the victory (Mt. 12:20; Lk. 11:22; Jn. 16:33).

2. In Romans 3:4, _____ is the One who overcomes when He is judged;

In Romans 8:37, _____ believers are regarded as already being _____ (hupernikaō) through _____.

** Is this a positional or practical victory?*

In Romans 12:21, believers are _____ not to be overcome by evil but to overcome evil with good.

** Do all believers practically overcome evil?*

3. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57, victory over death is _____ to all believers through _____.

** What should this result in?*

** What does this victory provide the basis for?*

4. In 1 John 2:13-14, believers have _____ overcome the _____.

In 1 John 4:4, believers have _____ overcome _____ (4:1) and the _____ of Antichrist (4:2-3).

** How is this possible when believers are still to “test the spirits” (4:1)?*

In 1 John 5:4-5, the overcomer is defined to simply be one who has been _____ through _____ in Jesus Christ.

** What can you learn from all this?*