

*"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who for the JOY that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the Throne of God." **Hebrews 12:1-2 KJV***



How often have you fallen over and over again into the same temptation and sin? You wring your hands in distress wishing to be rid of it yet find no help in obedience, prayer, or meditation. If you sense temptation FLEE! We cannot resist temptation! Temptation's titillation should alert your senses the same way the scent of a lion alerts a gazelle! *"Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of HIS OWN LUST (sinful desire), and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth DEATH."* If you try to resist temptation, you will fail; every time! At the first hint of sinful desire, RUN immediately run to a phrase of Scripture! Avert your eyes, cover your ears, or walk away. No matter how you pray or plead it will come again and again with ruthless regularity to crush your spirit and discourage your zeal! You find yourself standing shamefacedly before the LORD in abject misery at your inability! Our Lord told us, *"Come unto me (Jesus, God's Word), all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* Often applied to bereavement or sickness, but rarely thought of in terms of deliverance. Paul's admonition is quite apropos; *"O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the Truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you: Received ye the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?"* We brought nothing to the Cross on the Day of our Salvation. We came just as we were; totally dependent upon the mercy and Blood of Christ to save us from our sin, but after salvation we somehow FEEL more empowered to conquer the *"sin which doth so easily beset us."* So we flex our ability and forge ahead on our own forgetting victory over sin is not ours, but Christ's and we are only *"more than conquerors THROUGH HIM that loved us!"* Deliverance from sin is through faith in Christ alone! Faith is believing AND obeying! Without God's Word killing sin, prayers, repentances, and tears are worth nothing! None but Jesus can do helpless sinners good; or helpless saints either!

We cannot fight temptation's tease,
It overcomes with guile and ease,
So we must flee its wretched grasp,
And rest in Truth till it is past. -CGP

You can only be conquerors THROUGH HIM, Jesus, God's Word made flesh. Christ's Blood is the fulcrum upon which the power of Divine Deliverance rests! Sin is conquered only by and through Christ. Does some sin beset you? Tell it to Jesus alone! *"A just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again."* True repentance is a return to obedience as many times an hour as needed. Thought is where Satan always begins his attack. If we would be rid of sin we must come and lay it at the Master's feet trusting in His Blood and Mercy as we did on the day we first trusted! "Jesus Saves" is always present tense!

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for He shall save HIS PEOPLE from their sins." Matthew 1:21 KJV