The One Who Overcomes

(Go to Meeting)

Roy Assanti—March 4, 2022

Today, as we watch the news, we observe troubled times, indeed. We have that news-box there and we keep our eyes on it and see what's going on. We hear of war, preparations for war, encirclement of a nation. There are columns of armament on the move. It is ominous, and there is a an encirclement of the Ukrainian cities by Russian tanks. There's a danger that such a situation may not necessarily be contained in that one area.

I also believe that I heard that the Russians have now taken control of Europe's largest nuclear plant, if I heard right. As events continue to unfold at this time, there is an eerie silence from China. What's going on there?

Matthew 24:6: "And you shall hear of wars and rumors of wars. See *that* you do not let *these things* disturb you.... [comforting words] ...For it is necessary *that* all *these* things take place, <u>but the</u> <u>end is not yet.</u>"

A political tight situation. We understand that it's going to lead to 'hot' war. Many nations are going to be dragged into the fray. We don't know how and we don't know when.

Verse 7: "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom... [doesn't look like a localized situation] ...and there shall be famines... [as a result of war] ...and pestilences and earthquakes in *different* places."

We'll just divert a little bit. The focus is on us as individuals. There was a time in King David's life when he was caught 'flatfooted.' We also consider that we can be caught 'flatfooted.' David had relaxed, took it easy, no problems, and the world came crashing down on him by surprise with the account of Bathsheba. David was a diligent man, a man after God's own heart, and he will be resurrected.

If there was a spiritual example of strength and closeness to God, David was it! He was there! He authored many of the Psalms. Imagine the knowledge that he had, and the heart and desire to serve God. Yet, what happened?

Acts 13:22: "And after removing him, He raised up David to be their king; to whom He also gave testimony, saying, 'I have found David, the *son* of Jesse, <u>a man after My own heart</u>, <u>who will</u> <u>perform all My will</u>.""

It's comforting to say that that was said of David. Yet, he did make some grievous errors. What

happened at one time in his life?

2-Samuel 11:1: "And it came to pass at the turn of the year, at the time kings go forth *to war*, David sent Joab... [David's commander] ...and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they destroyed the children of Ammon and circled Rabbah. <u>But</u>... [that's a big little word] ...<u>David remained at</u> Jerusalem."

He didn't need to go! He had peace, everything was okay!.

Verse 2: "And it came to pass one evening, David arose from his bed and walked upon the roof of the king's house. And from the roof *he saw* a woman bathing And the woman *was* very beautiful to look upon." *I wonder if she turned around and see David*!

Obviously, he could look at her, but we don't get the information from the other side. It's a situation, no one is being victimized here, but it's a situation that happened.

Verse 3: "And David sent and asked about the woman. And *one* said, '*Is* not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"" *He was not an Israelite by birth, he was a Hittite!*

Verse 4: "And David sent messengers and took her. And she came in to him and he lay with her...."

A terrible scene for a man who was faithful to God and after God's own heart. Is there a warning message there for us? *Not necessarily with what he did with his sin, but we all have weaknesses of the flesh!* We are all instructed and indeed commanded to overcome.

"...And when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house. And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, 'I *am* with child'" (vs 4-5).

I guess one of the things that we might ask as we look at this Scripture and say that was no good. Should we also ask, 'Can I be taken where I don't want to be'?

He was a man after God's own heart. Is this a warning in God's word for us? *If it happened to David, a man after God's own heart, it surely can happen to us!* We have been given is warning!

Luke 21:33: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall never pass away. <u>Watch</u> yourselves, lest your hearts be preoccupied with high living and drinking and *the* cares of *this* life... [one day after the other and life goes on] ...<u>and that</u> <u>day come upon you suddenly</u>" (vs 33-34).

It came upon David suddenly; he didn't expect it! It's a warning for us. If he was a man after God's own heart, and we definitely see God, *we should take heed!*

It also reminds me of an occasion where Samson was also tempted with Delilah and she deceived him. Three times she said, 'Samson, the Philistines are upon you.' Did he repent? *No!* Finally it happened, he was blinded.

There is a type of a false woman—I'm not talking about women—I'm talking about types. There's a *false woman* and she's not the Bride. We know who the Bride of Christ is. There's also a unrestrained desire. We take these elements and warning and basically extrapolate and understand what they mean for us. So, v 34 is a comparison for us today.

I guess our lives are like driving down the road:

- Who would dare, would you dare, driving down the road suddenly close your eyes for a minute?
- Would we do that? *No way!*
- Why? Because of danger!

Should we close our eyes for a little while—*spiritual* eyes—it could lead to disaster! It almost did for David!

Verse 35: "For as a snare... [a surprise; we're asleep and the BOOM!] ...it shall come upon all those who dwell on the face of the earth." *We need to be awake and alert!*

Prov. 7:21 is a comparison of seduction, and there is *spiritual seduction!* We know that there is *the prince of the power of the air!* He's in control, but we have a far more powerful spiritual Source than that, that we need to seek! There are physical types of *spiritual* seduction.

Proverbs 7:21: "With much *alluring*, seductive speech..."—*which is all around us*:

- this world
- materialism
- we have to earn a living
- we have to do all things we have to do
- we're physical

"...she... [this civilization] ...caused him to yield; with the flattering of her lips she induced him" (v 21).

When we are seduced by this world, by the

things that are just there that we do, that we need to do, this is the end result:

Verse 22: "He goes after her immediately... [spiritually speaking] ...like an ox goes to the slaughter, or like a fool to the correction of the stocks."

My picture of 'stocks' is this wooden thing where there's a hole for you head and also for your arms and you can't shake yourself free; you're done! That's it, you don't move!

Revelation 17:6: "And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints..."

Ultimately that's what we're talking about what is coming on this world. We don't know when or how, but we know that it is coming. This whole system is the ways of this world.

Proverbs 7:23: "Until a dart strikes through his liver; as a bird hastens to the snare and does not know that it will cost him his life"—*spiritual life*!

We need to guard our spiritual life with all diligence! We need to make sure that we're not ensnared and trapped. We need to continually draw close to God with our eyes open, especially in these times as we see the days unfold. *We need to consider this admonition*:

Luke 21:34: "Watch yourselves, lest your hearts be preoccupied with high living and drinking and *the* cares of *this* life..." *Peace can*:

- seduce us
- blind us
- misdirect us
- put us to sleep

And the result: "...<u>and that day come upon you</u> <u>suddenly</u>" (v 34)—upon us! The day will come suddenly!

Today are we not hearing of wars and rumors of wars? *The admonition is to ensure that our day does not catch us unaware and by surprise!* There's a characteristic about human nature that we need to be weary of. Let's not be ignorant; we need to be aware of our human nature and the natural way things go. The delayed affects of our actions, a lack of discipline if it's there. A lack of focus and keeping on and keeping on, that we can and will put us to sleep. It's a reality and we need to be aware of it.

Imagine yourself on top of a 30-story building, would you step off the building? What would happen, is that very quickly the ground, the dirt would be coming toward you very, very quickly. Keep that in mind! Ecclesiastes 8:11: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily... [it will come, but not yet] ...therefore, the heart of the sons of men... [this is the way it works in human nature in us] ...is fully set in them to do evil."

In other words, if we're going to stray a little bit, it's okay, we're not hurt. A little bit more, it's okay, we're not hurt. But why is this admonition continually to remain that you are 'hot'; 'I would that you were hot, not lukewarm.' All these admonitions are given to us that we need to be strong!

Prov. 22—does this apply to the unconverted?

- Do we come to the point of writing down and keeping record of prayer time, study time, looking at it? How much am I in this world?
- How much am I close to God?
- What aggregate time have I spent drinking in, thinking, eating, drinking spiritually?
- Do I keep a tab on that?

If we look at records and say, WOW, I didn't do so good there. This was good. Let's keep that up! We are admonished *to pray without ceasing!*

Proverbs 22:3: "A prudent *one* foresees the evil and hides himself... [herself as well; being awake spiritually] ...but the thoughtless plow ahead **and are punished.**"

We're not of those who sleep. We are to be those who have to be diligent, seeking God, being strengthened, walking in the Spirit.

These times we're going through are times of war and rumors of war; perilous times! We know that they're going to go from bad to worse. We're told that; instructed. Deception is rampant!

2-Timothy 3:13: "But wicked men and imposters shall become worse and worse, <u>deceiving</u> others and being deceived themselves."

If it's raining everywhere you're bound to get wet. It's bound to effect you. If wickedness is multiplied, it's bound to effect you. Understand that it will; you have to be defensive.

This is not a time, and it's really never a time, to cruise spiritually. If we're at the edge of a 30-story building, are we going to hang on? Go back? Or are we going to take another step forward?

We need to hang on! It's not a time for lackadaisicalness, especially as we 'see the day approaching' that we're getting older. Or as we see events in the world, we don't know it's going to take everyone by surprise. We'll go through that, so it's not a time for cruising.

I'll share with you an Italian proverb. My dad would always admonish me and tell me: *The person who watches themselves will save themselves.* If you watch yourself, you save yourself. That came from the time that he was in a war. That's a proverb that they had. *You watch yourself and you will live; if you don't, you're gone!* We are in *a spiritual* war! The bottom line is that we are either going to progress or we're going regress. There's no neutral ground. We can't kid ourselves! We can't just coast along!

Matthew 12:30: "The one who is not with Me is against Me, and the one who does not gather with Me scatters."

You're either with God or you're not! There's no in between! There's always striving to draw close to God, to be strong, because it's not natural. I guess God has made it this way is because the one who is the greatest being that God could create—the bright, shining star—he created by fiat character, musical ability, the whole bit, yet, he went astray.

Now God has made it in a way that before He grants permanence we have to strive—and that's the missing element—in the character that He is developing that will be like Him. *We need to strive*!

You know that we repeat these Scriptures many times, and we encourage one another. These are treasured principles as we read the Word of God. We need to repeat, repeat and repeat, and never stop repeating. If you think about character, the way of God and our mind as we read we repeat and keep moving, eyes open. That's what we repeat, *that path*! That's where we need to go and where we desire to go, and that's where God leads us.

Malachi 3:16: "Then those fearing the LORD spoke together, *each* man to his neighbor. And the LORD listened and heard.... [just like we're doing now, encouraging one another] ...And a Book of Remembrance was written before Him for those who feared the LORD, and for those who thought upon His name." *Encourage one another continually*.

- How many times have we read Matt.25? *There is a danger that we get used to it!*
- Are we enthused?
- Are we pricked every time we read this Scriptures because of the meaning and warning? It's there to wake us up! Look out!

That's what happened to Samson; *Samson, the Philistines are upon you!* Three times! Then he lost his eyes! I ask myself, do I associate, do I visage,

what it's like to be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- Do half make it and half don't, *really*? It's what it says!
- Has the meaning sort of... 'Oh, we've heard it so many times'?

Matthew 25:1: "Then shall the Kingdom of Heaven be compared *to* ten virgins, who took their lamps *and* went out to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish" (vs 1-2).

As I wrote this down, I looked at the TV that was on silent, and there I could see these columns of Russian tanks, continual endless columns, rushing to their assigned positions.

Verse 3: "The ones who were foolish took their lamps, *but* they did not take oil with them."

We need to establish not only strength, but *reserves* and never stop.

Verse 4: "But the wise took oil..."

- Am I wise?
- Am I taking oil? *Everyday*!
 - ✓ prayer
 - ✓ study
 - ✓ drinking in the Spirit of God
- Is that what I'm doing?

Pivotal Scriptures like this should like pin, pinning your arm; how many times can you prick yourself with a pin and not go whoa? *Every time!* We need to be alert every single time we read Scriptures like this.

Verse 5: "Now, when the bridegroom was gone a long time... [or delayed] ...<u>they all became</u> <u>drowsy and slept.</u>"

Who is 'they'? All of them! It doesn't say that there was any exception! So, you and I—all those who are called by God—*will fall asleep!*

- What's going to save us?
- What's going to help us?
- What's the message here?
 - \checkmark the reserves
 - \checkmark the Spirit of God dwelling in us

Even though we're asleep we wake up and are ready for action. That is what we need to be about. *We need to be about our Father's business!* Strengthening and taking in all the time.

Verse 6: "But in *the* middle of *the* night there was a cry: 'Look, the bridegroom is coming! Go out to meet him."" *That's the best time to sleep, in the middle of the night.* Verse 7: "Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps."

Got to have God's Spirit! How many times have we heard this Scripture. Lackadaisical! A pin in your arm! The message shouldn't be deadened; the message should never ever lose its impact!

Verse 8: "And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us *some* of your oil, because our lamps are going out." Can we imagine our lamps going out? *We need to make sure!*

Verse 9: "But the wise answered, saying, "*No*, lest *there* not *be* enough for us and *for* you. But instead, go to those who sell, and buy for yourselves." *It can't be given to you!*

When it's time that we die or when Christ returns, you either have it, or you don't! I heard a really good definition of successes and failures at a seminar that I attended years back; it's description of successes, which is what we're about:

> Successful individuals are those who do what they have to do when they have to do it whether they feel like it or not.

That's a description of a mandate for us!

Verse 10: "And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast, <u>and the door was shut.</u>" *That's a thought to consider!*

- Where do I want to be?
- On which side of the door?

Verse 11: "And afterwards the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us.' But He answered *and* said... [these are words we don't want to ever, ever hear] ...'Truly I say to you, <u>I do not</u> <u>know you</u>' <u>Watch, therefore, for you do not know</u> <u>the day nor the hour in which the Son of man is</u> <u>coming</u>" (vs 11-13).

We need to be alert. We don't know when the Bridegroom is coming. We don't know the time when we die, or when there is actually the return of Christ.

Again, we say, 'I've heard it before, I've heard it before.' I repeat, *the lesson of Samon*: 'Samson, the Philistines are upon you'; he was told three times!

- How many times do we get tired of listening to it?
- Do we get tired of looking at these lessons?

Luke 12:35: "Let your loins be girded about and *your* lamps burning."

All the time your lamp has got to be burning, How does a lamp burn if it doesn't have the fuel? *Our job is easy, all we have to do is provide the fuel, we've been give the Light!* But it's not so easy! We need to continue on a daily basis and throughout each day.

Verse 36: "And you yourselves be like men who are waiting for their lord, whenever he shall return from the wedding feast; <u>so that when he</u> <u>comes and knocks, they may immediately open to</u> <u>him.</u>" *He's going to come!*

Verse 37: "Blessed *are* those servants whom the lord, when he comes, shall find watching. Truly I say to you, <u>he will gird himself, and will make</u> them sit down, and will come *and* serve them."

How is that going to happen? *That's* something to ponder on! Here again is the urgency, be awake, don't go to sleep, keep on keeping on!

Verse 38: And if he comes in the second watch, or comes in the third watch, and finds *them watching*, <u>blessed are those servants</u>"—who are awake and watching! Pretty hard to watch through the night. *This is a <u>spiritual</u> night that we're going through*!

Verse 39: "But know this, that <u>if the master</u> of the house had known in what hour..."

It's important that you don't know when and how; it's going to happen. That's God's plan! There was one time when the *bright shinning star* had it all—the wisdom and knowledge—he was there, and he lost it usurping God's wisdom. God had to create this desire that was missing with Lucifer, the bright shinning star, to turn rebel.

It's a matter of creating character that is permanent, that is just like tears.

"...<u>if the master of the house had known</u> in what hour the thief would come, he would have watched..." (v 39).

We don't know the time. If we knew that it was going to be like 2_{A.M.} we would set our clocks at a quarter to two and we would be right. *That's not the way it works!*

What does the thief do? *Comes to take something from you!* 'I am going to come and try to take eternal life from you,' is what he's saying. God knows that we treasure life that He is giving, and it will last, not like the rebel Lucifer. In God's wisdom that's the way that He has decreed it. That's the only way it's going to work.

"...he would have watched, and would not have allowed his house to be broken into:" (v 39).

If you've had your house broken into and

vandalized? It's not a good feeling! We did one time!

Verse 40: "Now you, therefore, be ready; for the Son of man is coming in an hour *that* you do not think."

It says that *all* the virgins were asleep! Everyone is going to be taken by surprise. Forget about knowing the time; you don't know the time or the hour! *But remember to be ready at all times in a strong spiritual state! Be storing oil for the lamps!*

- Why do some fall asleep?
- What's going to happen?

A good example is Samson; three times. Who is the woman, the false woman, the harlot? *Samson, the Philistines are upon you!* He was asleep. Three reveals!

Ezek. 12 is a peril that we can see on the horizon. There is a potential for it, but it's not here, yet! It's for tomorrow, a future time. 'For now it's easy, we can relax'; *that's a deception!*

Ezekiel 12:20: "And the cities that have people shall be laid waste, and the land shall be desolate. <u>And you shall know that I am the</u> <u>LORD</u>."

An ominous warning! What does it mean to "...be laid waste..."? Nuclear?

Verse 21: "And the Word of the LORD came to me, saying."

Do we think that this for another time way off. It will happen, but...

Verse 22: "Son of man, what *is* this proverb *that* you have concerning the land of Israel...saying: 'The days are prolonged and every vision shall fail'?" *Not yet! Not now!*

We don't naturally visualize the potential disaster as imminent, widespread destruction and tragedy. Do we take in the urgency of what God is actually telling us.

By the way, get our book: American and Britain: Two Nations that Changed the World by Philip Neal {truthofGod.org}

Verse 24: "For there shall never again be any vain vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel." What is this about?

Ezekiel 13:2: "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy.... [this is what's going on] ...And say to those who prophesy out of their own hearts... [and mind] ...'Hear the Word of the LORD; thus says the Lord GOD, "Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing!""" (vs 2-3).

Isaiah 30:10: "Who say to the seers, 'See not,' and to the prophets, 'Do not prophesy to us right things, speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions.""

People will say they don't want to hear bad news, prophesy smooth things, nice things. People what to hear the good stuff, the nice stuff; they don't wan to hear correction. Does it affect us? God's message is continual change, redirection, stop and turn around and go the other way. They don't want to hear about repentance and growing close to God.

Ezekiel 13:4: "O Israel, your prophets are like the foxes in the ruins. You have not gone up into the breach, nor built the wall for the house of Israel... [not strengthened your defenses. This is the ambiance that is about us] ...that it might stand in the battle in the Day of the LORD" (vs 4-5)—talking about the English-speaking nations predominately being attacked!

Verse 6: "They have seen vanity and lying divination..."

Do we fall back into sleep again. How are God's very elect being affected by this type of a thing? Everything is okay, procrastination, falling asleep, it's not going to happen, not now.

"...saying, 'The LORD says' And <u>the</u> LORD has not sent them..." (v 6).

It's around us; don't talk about destruction, God is love! How does it affect us subconsciously?

- we need to be on our toes
- we need to not be deceived

"...but they hoped to confirm *their* word. Did you not see a vain vision, and speak a lying divination?.... [falsely representing God's Word; it's a fearful thing to do to get it wrong] ...When you say, "The LORD says"; <u>although I have not</u> <u>spoken</u>.' Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Because you have spoken vanity and seen lies, therefore, behold, I *am* against you,' says the Lord GOD. 'And My hand shall be against the prophets who see vanity and who <u>divine</u> a lie...." (vs 6-9).

It's almost a satanic reference. Can God's very elect fall into this category? Impossible? Being also deceived? *We need to take heed!*

"...They shall not be in the assembly of My people, nor shall they be written in the writing of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I *am* the Lord GOD. Because, even because they have seduced My people, saying, 'Peace,'...." (vs 9-10). 'I can't be deceived'; we need to be on guard!

Ezekiel 12:25: "'For I, the LORD, will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall be done. It shall no more be delayed; for in your days, O rebellious house, I will say the word and will do it,' says the Lord GOD."

Events are going to take place in a rush when it's least expected.

Verse 26: "And the Word of the LORD came to me, saying... [these are the excuses] ... 'Son of man, behold, the house of Israel says, "The vision that he sees *is* for many days to come, and he prophesies of the times that are far off"" (vs 26-27). *This is the lulling to sleep routine*!

Verse 28: "Therefore, say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'There shall none of my words be delayed any more, but the word which I have spoken shall be done,' says the Lord GOD."

More than ever we must not be those who get involved in civilian pursuits! Notice the advice from Paul to Timothy. We are drafted and have a mandate, a work.

2-Timothy 2:4: "No one who is serving as a soldier... [no choice they have to follow orders] ...becomes involved in civilian pursuits, so that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. We're not of this world (John 17); yet, we're here, kind of in enemy territory.

Romans 8:14: "For as many as are led by *the* Spirit of God, these are *the* sons of God. Now, you have not received a spirit of bondage again unto fear, but you have received *the* Spirit of sonship, whereby we call out, 'Abba, Father'" (vs 14-15).

We have more power available to us than we realize. That includes all of us! When we walk by faith, we're not like the others around us. We have a source of spiritual power. We're different! We march to a beat of another drummer, a different drum, being led by God's Spirit. We are the light of the world and a lamp that is lit. We're also compared to salt.

Matthew 5:13: "You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has become tasteless, with what shall it be salted?...."

What do you do with salt? We need that taste, and have that strength. We need to develop that faith and trust and walk that walk!

"...For it no longer has any strength, but *is* to be thrown out and to be trampled upon by men" (v 13).

If we lose that flavor, we're no good. That's another comparison, another impetus to be diligent

and hot and strong. To keep it up! Keep drawing close to God!

I've heard of the example of the Dead Sea. The heat of the sun has taken the flavor out of it. It's no good. We have to deal with the heat of trials.

We've read this many times; Ephesians 6:13: "Therefore, <u>take up</u>... [do we take up] ...<u>the whole</u> <u>armor of God</u>...."

Sometimes you have to repeat it and repeat it, otherwise it can become blasé! "...take up the whole armor..." *We need it!*

I watched the movie *Saving Private Ryan*, and this fellow got hit with a bullet in the head, but he had his helmet on and it bounced off. He took the helmet off as an act of bravado and looked at and then another bullet through the head and he was gone.

He took off his armor! It's a visual lesson that you continually keep!

"...so that you may be able to resist in the evil day... [*never take it off*] ...and having worked out all things, to stand" (v 13). *Talk about the helmet of salvation!*

There's a modern proverb that goes like this: It's not about the size of the dog in the fight, <u>it's</u> <u>about the size of the fight in the dog</u>!

1-Corinthians 9:26: "I therefore, <u>so run</u>..." *Look at the attitude!*

We need to take in this attitude! We know that the Apostle Paul was a man who should have died a couple times before he did. *He was diligent*!

"...not as one who is uncertain..." (v 26). *We know, and we know that we know!*

"...so also I fight, not as beating *the* air.... [makes every single strike count] ...But I discipline my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, after preaching to others, **<u>I myself might be rejected</u>**" (vs 26-27). We can be rejected!

He looked at that and said, 'No, I'm moving forward!' There's a lesson in that! Let's look at Christ's example for us today. He more than walked the walk!

Luke 22:40: "And when He arrived at the place, He said to them, 'Pray *that you* do not enter into temptation.""

It can come! It's in the head! Keep alert! Keep strong! You need to overcome continually, grow continually. *You're either growing or you're dying spiritually!*

Verse 41: "And He withdrew from them

about a stone's throw; and falling to *His* knees, He prayed... [when He was having His moment of trial] ...saying, 'Father, if You are willing to take away this cup from Me; nevertheless, not My will, but Your *will* be done.'" (vs 41-42). *His frame was so weak*!

Verse 43: "Then an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. And His sweat became..." (vs 43-44).

Look at the example for us. Have we ever got to this point?

"...<u>as great drops of blood falling down to</u> <u>the ground</u>" (v 44).

The stakes were high! He knew the ordeal right ahead! He knew that it was Satan the enemy!

Verse 45: "And after rising up from prayer, He came to *His* disciples *and* found them sleeping for grief. Then He said to them, 'Why are you sleeping? Arise and pray, so that you do not enter into temptation" (vs 45-46).

Unless you forsake all of your possessions—home, job, loved ones—you can't leave <u>spiritual Egypt</u> behind!

Hebrews 12:3: "Now meditate deeply on Him Who endured such great hostility of sinners against Himself <u>so that you do not become weary</u> <u>and faint in your minds</u>. You have not yet resisted to the point of *losing* blood in your struggle against sin" (vs 3-4).

It's an all out effort! There are no holes barred; no looking back!

Revelation 2:17: "<u>The one who has an ear,</u> <u>let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.</u> <u>To the one who overcomes</u>..."

Verse 26: "And <u>to the one who overcomes</u> and keeps My works <u>unto the end</u>, I will give authority over the nations."

Scriptural References:

- 1) Matthew 24:6-7
- 2) Acts 13:22
- 3) 2-Samuel 11:1-5
- 4) Luke 21:33-35
- 5) Proverbs 7:21-22
- 6) Revelation 17:6
- 7) Proverbs 7:23
- 8) Luke 21:34
- 9) Ecclesiastes 8:11
- 10) Proverbs 22:3
- 11) 2 Timothy 3:13

- 12) Matthew 12:30 13) Malachi 3:16 14) Matthew 25:1-13 15) Luke 12:35-40 16) Ezekiel 12:20-22, 24 17) Ezekiel 13:2-3 18) Isaiah 30:10 19) Ezekiel 13:4-10 20) Ezekiel 12:25-28 21) 2 Timothy 2:4 22) Romans 8:14-15 23) Matthew 5:13 24) Ephesians 6:13 25) 1 Corinthians 9:26-27 26) Luke 22:40-45 27) Hebrews 12:34
- 28) Revelation 17, 26

Scripture referenced, not quoted: John 17

Also referenced: Book: *American and Britain: Two Nations that Changed the World* by Philip Neal {truthofgod.org}

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