

Take the shield of _____

Take the helmet of _____

Take the sword of the _____ which is the _____

Why do you think these are so important? _____

CONCLUSION:

Remember we are in a battle BUT the victory has already been won! We just simply have to obey and trust in God's Word.

To all you overcomers - read these scriptures regarding those who endure for Christ until the end!

Revelation 3:5 _____

Revelation 3:12 _____

Revelation 3:21 _____

STUDY 3: BEING AN OVERCOMER

MEMORY VERSE:

'Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you' - James 4:7

INTRODUCTION:

The Bible often refers to the Christian life as a race. We can run this race with joy, confidence, and endurance as we keep our eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. (See Acts 20:24; 1 Corinthians 9:24-26; Hebrews 12:1-2).

As with all races there are obstacles to be overcome. As Christians we learn to recognise the obstacles and where they come from.

1. Overcoming temptation:

In Matthew 4:3 and 1 Thessalonians 3:5 the Bible refers to the devil as the tempter. Satan has no power to make you do anything. He cannot force you to sin or to give up your faith. However he does have a 'bag of tricks' that he will use in an attempt to get you to act independently of God and to go against His will. One of his most common weapons is temptation.

How temptation works:

James 1:12 – 15

The devil will look for an area of weakness in my life. He then entices me in that area. If I give in to temptation sin is conceived. If I don't repent of this and forsake it the sin will get stronger in my life until it controls me.

Compare **Genesis 3:6** with **1 John 2:16**. In what three areas will Satan attack me? _____

James 4:7-8a - What three things am I told to do? _____

Luke 22:40-46 – How else does God help me to overcome temptation? _____

Hebrews 4:15 – Can Jesus relate to the temptations I face?

1 Corinthians 10:13 – Will God allow temptations to overtake me?

1 John 1:9 and **Romans 8:1** – If I sin, is God willing to forgive me?

Ephesians 4:22-24 – List the key thoughts given in these scriptures that will help me to overcome any struggle against sin.

An old saying goes, 'you can't stop a bird from flying over your head, but you can stop it from building a nest in your hair!' The same applies to sin. Temptation starts in your mind with a thought. That is where we need to stop it.

2. Putting on the armour of God:

The following reading instructs us to put on the whole armour of God. As any soldier knows, without complete armour you are vulnerable to the attacks of the enemy.

Read **Ephesians 6:12-18** and complete the following:

Gird your waist with _____

Put on the breastplate of _____

Shoe your feet with the preparation of _____