

March 2021



WHO WILL OVERCOME AND WHY SHOULD WE FEAR?



Administrative Bishop Daniel Hampton

This question is being asked over and over again: How will we overcome all the circumstances we are facing today? Conflicting reports about the pandemic and how to deal with it are constantly being discussed. It appears the medical professionals are as uncertain as to what to do as all the rest of us who are listening to them. Politicians, professors, teachers, lawyers, doctors, preachers and the list could go on and on are giving opinions but that is only adding to the confusion and producing fear. The question is still being asked, who will overcome and accompanying that question is how do I live without fear?

First, I want to admit, as I write this article I do not have all the answers but there is a foundation of truth which I believe will guide us through today just as it has for generations before us. That foundation is the Word of God which has withstood pandemics, famine, financial collapse, political upheaval, racial divides, wars and much more. The scripture is very clear in answering the question: who will overcome and why should I fear?

I will attempt to provide guidance for all of us through the scripture and give hope to the distraught. So many it appears have thrown in the towel and lifted up their hands in surrender to what they call the inevitable. I hear quite often people saying, "I guess we are just going to have to accept things as they are and do the best we can." The eternal word of God gives hope not only for yesterday but for the present and eternity.

What does the Bible say about who will overcome and why should we fear? As I was reading **Psalms 27** today my heart was filled with joy and strength flooded my soul. Read these verses and I know you will be encouraged and strengthened as I was. In verse one pay special attention to the little word **is** and how emphatic the prophet was as he wrote those words. That verse sets the tone for the entire chapter.

Psalms 27 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? **2** When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

3 Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident. **4** One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. **5** For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock. **6** And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord. **7** Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek. **9** Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

10 When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up. **11** Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. **12** Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty. **13** I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. **14** Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

I will close today with the Prophet Isaiah who wrote these words in the twelfth chapter of his book:

Isaiah **12** And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. **2** Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. **3** Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. **4** And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted. **5** Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth. **6** Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

The answer to the title of this article is; **THOSE WHO FULLY PUT THEIR FAITH IN THE LORD!**

There's Always A Springtime

After the winter comes the spring
To show us again that in everything
There's always a renewal divinely planned,
Flawlessly perfect, the work of God's hand.
And just like the seasons come and go
Where the flowers of spring lay buried in snow,
God sends to the heart its winter of sadness
springtime awakening of new hope and gladness.



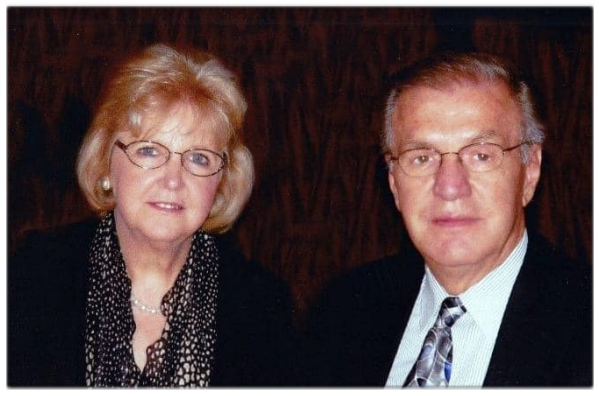
Who are you inviting to Church on Easter? Easter falls early this year on April 4, this would be a great time to invite your family, friends, neighbors or even strangers you meet, to attend with you.

Spread the love of Jesus to everyone you meet.

Please continue to check our Facebook pages and Website for updated information.

*Our Sincere Sympathy to the families of
Melinda Gardner- 12/12/2020- Retired Minister's Widow
Sybil Belcher- 1/15/2021- Wife of Pastor Bill Belcher- Hotchkiss Church of God
Raeford "Ray" Black- 2/21/2021- Pastor Petersburg Church of God*

Church News



Congratulations Pastor and Sister Bloomfield on your retirement. Mountain View Church of God Pastors for 47 years



Beckley Church of God received a donation of a new church van.



Crosspoint Church of God feeding 422 people in the Eastern Panhandle.



Princeton Church of God, being the hands and feet of Jesus Passing out salt to Semi trucks and cars stuck on the hill between Oakvale and Princeton.



Fountain of Life Worship Center, Foster, WV distributed 200 Food Boxes at a recent food giveaway.



Beckley Dream Center feeding the hungry both physically and spiritually, with 2 mobile distributions and one drive thru.

We would like to highlight your church on our Church News page. Let us know what is happening at your church, what your church is doing in the community to make a difference.

The Church of God State Office Staff are praying for each Pastor, Pastor's Wife, Minister and Lay member, and attender of our churches, that God will provide and keep you and your families safe during this time.

Mountaineer Ministries Prayer Requests:

(these requests come from the white envelope enclosed)

Our country; Our President and State Leaders; Military; Health Care Professionals; Health and Wellness; Finances; Jobs; Marriages; Family; The Church; God's hand of protection; Students, Teachers and Staff at Schools; A miracle healing for Joshua; Buying a new house; Back pain; My lost children; Lost husband; Children's protection; My marriage; God's will in our life; Homeless; For depression; God to move on my daughter's heart; Our home to be a home that honors God.

Mountaineer Ministries Praise Reports:

(these reports come from the white envelope enclosed)

My new car; God making a way for my family; Providing a home for our family; God healing my body after surgery; Getting out of Hospital; My Church; Caring brothers and sisters; God protecting use during the winter storms; A vaccine for Covid-19; My Pastor and First Lady; Help from Fishes and Loaves; God's hand of protection during a car crash.

Mark your Calendar

Please note that with the current Covid-19 situation these dates are tentative and subject to change.

April 5	State Office Closed
April 24	Jr. & Teen Talent (location to be announced)
May 31	State Office Closed
June 6-10	Camp Meeting
June 14-18	Teen Camp
June 21-25	Jr. Camp
June 28-July 1	Kids Camp