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The Three Battlegrounds by Francis Frangipane

Chapter 14 - Casting Down the Accuser of the Brethren (Part 4)

Casting Down the Accuser

As followers of Jesus Christ we are called to overcome the accuser of the brethren. How do we accomplish this holy task? In Revelation 12:11, we see how the victorious church overcomes the accuser of the brethren. Therefore, let us study this text and let it unlock our victory.

Revelation 12:11 NKJV

[11] And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

- ☐ “The blood of the Lamb.” The Lord Jesus shed His blood to establish a new covenant between God and man. That covenant required Christ to offer Himself as a blameless lamb to God for mankind’s sins, wherein God would put upon Him the sins of us all.

Our role in this covenant is to accept and believe in what God has done. We are to abandon self-righteousness and put our trust in Christ’s righteousness. As a result, we attain an imparted righteousness that is unencumbered by religious pride.

Indeed, the blood covenant ransoms us from the accusations of Satan, while it also convicts us of our tendency to accuse those who sinned against us. Thus, Christ’s shed blood delivers us from the realm of accusations and secures us in the life of God’s kingdom, for it requires we walk without pride and that we extend mercy to those who have sinned against us (see Matthew 6:12; 18:23-35; Romans 8:31-34).

- ☐ “The word of their testimony.” This includes testifying to others about the works of God, but it is also much more. “The testimony of Jesus,” Scripture says, “is the spirit of prophecy” (Revelation 19:10). *In other words, to truly overcome the voice of accusation we must live and think prophetically.*

We view each fellow disciple in Christ’s church not according to their fleshly weaknesses but according to the redemptive vision granted us by God’s transforming grace. Our testimony is a faith-declaration of God’s promise in Scripture: *we are new creatures, we*

have received the Holy Spirit and the God of heaven is establishing His kingdom in our midst (see Matthew 24:14; Daniel 2:44).

We overcome the accuser by maintaining faith for each other, even when our brother or sister stumbles or falls. The word of our testimony is that God is good. He is faithful and He will fulfill what He has promised concerning us.

- “They loved not our own lives, even unto death.” *We cannot love our soul life more than our spirit life.* Without doubt, our vision will be challenged. The devil will raise up people who will come against us; even friends may turn against us. Yet, we cannot react in the flesh.

We must maintain our love and faith, even when we face betrayal or injustice. Again, we cannot love our soul life more than our spirit life. Thus, we cannot overcome Satan and simultaneously harbor self-pity and sympathy for that which needs to be crucified within us. Our victory is consummated by our willingness to go even to death rather than betray our convictions of truth and love.

Paul said, “I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, in order that I may finish my course” (Acts 20:24). Those who walk in true spiritual maturity are unsympathetic toward their own wounds. They may hurt, but not withdraw. Yet, because they embrace Christ’s cross, they also walk in His kingdom in the resurrection power (see Philippians 3:10-11).

The accuser must be cast down first in our minds. We cannot tolerate faultfinding and accusations. We must possess the very heart of God toward our brethren. The Kingdom of God and the authority of His Christ will be seen in a people who are terminally committed to love-motivated prayer. For when they see a need, instead of becoming critical, they cast down the accuser of the brethren, and they pray!

The END of Part 2 - The Battleground of the Church