This Is How We Overcome

"Who is it that overcomes the world?
Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God." (1 John 5:5)

To overcome is a word that challenges every human on this earth while facing troubles and trials in life. We have fear every time we face problems. It causes us to think anxious thoughts. It costs our time and effort trying to solve it in an easy way. At the end of time we rejoice when we overcome a hard time. But if we fail, we are angered, depressed and frustrated.

We watch in the boxing arena two persons boxing each other. One of them may fall but after a few counts he rises up again to continue the fight until finally one of them wins the game and receives the prize. In this life we are the same. We are living in the boxing arena. We are on one side and the world is fighting against us on the other side. The world represents all the pleasures and gaining material things like gold, money and possessions – the temptations that cause us to fall into sins like adultery, homosexuality, gambling, alcohol drinking, drug addictions, etc. In addition, against us are the attacks of Satan that causes us to fight with one another and cause us anxiety, depression, over thinking and a lot of emotional troubles by the lies that he and his angels are throwing to us.

In the boxing arena we face trials of pain, sickness and poverty. We are exposed to oppression and injustice and some other accidental things that happen around us and cause us to suffer. Therefore the question is how we overcome the world? All what we mentioned above we are expose to and we need to face, and definitely we want to overcome. But can an ordinary man face all the above? Can a man born by the flesh overcome all the trials of this life?

Overcomer 1: Harriet, a married woman and a mother of two children, is a dedicated Christian. She loves the Lord Jesus who died on the cross to save her and rose from death to be her Lord. She is a good wife to her husband and a dedicated mother to her children. One day she fell sick. She had bleeding for about a month. She consulted doctors and she received medicines but no good result. During that time, her husband and all the brothers and sisters in the church, they knelt down at the feet of Jesus praying and asking for her healing, but still in spite of that bleeding continued. She was admitted to the hospital, undergone clean up operation and the bleeding finally stopped. The Lord Jesus allowed the trial to continue on for many days but during all those time Harriet was happy and joyful. She preserved and stood firm in her faith and hope in Christ Jesus. While she was on bed she never complained. She had good relationship with the nurses and the doctors, knowing that Jesus can and He will heal her through His grace upon them who are treating her. She also courageously spoke about her faith to her fellow patients in the ward.

Believing in Jesus does not only give us new life, but He gives us as well the assurance of eternal life. Many religions promise good life but cannot give any evidence or assurance of eternal life. But with Jesus, we have the assurance that we will go to heaven and we will live with Him and forever. For Jesus is the way and the truth and the life and no one can go to the Father in heaven except through Him. "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life." (1 John 5:11-12)

Harriet was able to face sickness and to keep herself tidy during her suffering because she knew what Jesus had promised her. She knew her destiny. She knew that she has a place in heaven and a room is prepared for her to spend eternity with God; and this is the very good reason and excellent motivation for her to endure trial and finally to overcome.

Believing in Jesus as God's Son creates in us a new inner man, who is formed by the Spirit of God, that enables us to stand firm against persecution, injustice or abuse and so we can overcome sickness, poverty, famine, troubles and hardship. "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed." (2 Corinthians 4:7-9) For, "In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." (Romans 8:37) We overcome as we believe and trust Jesus Christ our Lord and God. We overcome the world because by the blood of Jesus we can stand firm and say confidently no to sin, no to addiction, no for smoking, no for drinking, no for adultery, pornography, etc. The blood of Jesus washed us from sin and the Holy Spirit transforms us into a new creation. We overcome while we have self-control and wish to live a life away from sin. We have Jesus so we can stand firm and refuse the temptation of Satan that tries to persuade us to go and sin against God.

Overcomer 2: Ramish, a 40-year-old tailor, married and a father of one girl, is a heavy drinker. One night he met his old friend whom Jesus had already healed and delivered from alcohol addiction. Ramish was attracted to the great changes that Jesus made in the life of his old friend. He heard the good news about God's love through Jesus Christ, and that same night Ramish gave his life to the Lord. His friend and other brothers and sisters in the Lord continuously prayed and fellowshipped with him and since that night he stopped drinking and decided to follow Jesus all his life.

My dear and beloved: Life on earth is hard, and the world has no mercy and will continue to press on you trying to crush you. In order to live, you need to know how to overcome. To overcome you need to believe in Jesus, God's Son who came to the world to save you and to give you eternal life. Follow Him and obey His word as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: "Father God, I thank You for You sent your Son Jesus to save me from sin and death. Today I give my life to You. Jesus, You are my Savior and be my Lord. In You, I will overcome. I renounce the life of sin and decide to follow your ways, until you take me to heaven with You. Help me, Lord, to preserve to do your will in my life. This is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen."