

Wired for the Fire

My Dear Faithful Friend,

When one listens to the news or picks up a newspaper it appears that Revelations 12:12 is being fulfilled in our very midst. This verse declares, *“Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.”*

This fury and fire are further described as Satan teams up with the beast that *“Opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander His name and His dwelling place and those who live in heaven. He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast – all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world. He who has an ear, let him hear. If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity he will go. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with sword he will be killed. This calls for patience, endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints”* (Rev. 13:6-10).

It would be so easy to let the fires of fear consume us in the midst of the present trials and tribulations. That is why we must never forget we have been wired for the fire through the resurrection power of Jesus Christ. Jesus tells us in Revelation 2:10, *“Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*

In the furnace of the coronavirus pandemic, where hundreds of thousands have died, we can't afford to give up. *“Because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete not lacking anything”* (James 1:3, 4).

Since we have been wired for the fire with the sword of the Spirit and the shield of faith we now have the power to quench every fiery dart of the evil one (see Eph. 6: 16, 17). As the children of the resurrected Christ we are more than conquerors through Jesus Christ who strengthens us. In Ephesians 6:10-12 we are told, *“Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers of the dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”*



We are involved in a fiery spiritual battle in which we are called to be victors not victims. In 1 Timothy 1:18, 19 we are told to *“Fight the good fight, holding on to the faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have ship-wrecked their faith.”* Fighting the good fight is as the Lord told Zerubbabel in Zech. 4:6, *“Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord Almighty.”*

Satan has been defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and now we are wired for the fire. *“God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross”* (Col. 2:13-15).

I have found in the daily fires I encounter that these words are true. Satan will try to defeat me with depression, anxiety, and frustration and at times even hopelessness. How I must remember that I am wired for the fire. This means that victory is not through my own might or power but by the Spirit of God. This is illustrated in Revelations 12:10, 11 where it says, *“Now have come the salvation and the power and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night has been hurled down. They overcome him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony.”*

We are wired for the fire and as a result victorious over Satan. This has happened as a result of the death of Jesus Christ which in Rev. 12 is referred to as the blood of the lamb and the word of our testimony. This word of our testimony is the personal application of the *“blood of the lamb”* to the *“door post”* of our hearts. In order to understand this, we need to study the Passover in Exodus 12:13 where God told the children of Israel, *“The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.”*

As Satan attacks by throwing the fires of trials and tribulations at us day and night we must resist him. He will try to defeat us by making us believe that the situation is hopeless and things will never change. That is why we must every moment submit ourselves to God and believe that we have been wired for victory in the fire. James 4:7, 8 declares, *“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double minded.”* This washing and purifying is done by believing the fact that, *“The blood of Jesus, His (God’s) son, purifies us from all”* (1 John 1:7).

When the devil tries to throw us in the fire of temptation, we must do what Jesus did when He was tempted and declare, *“Away from me, Satan! For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only!”* (Matt. 4:10).

When Jesus declared this, *“The devil left Him, and angels came and attended to Him”* (Matt 4:11). Remember, *“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it”* (1 Cor. 10:13).

Satan wants to destroy you through his fire both now and for all eternity. That is why 1 Peter 5:8 warns you to *“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”*

I remember one night some forty-eight years ago at our first headquarters on Park Ave, I was praising the Lord on the second floor with one of the staff. We were talking about the great things the Lord was doing when suddenly we heard this voice come out of nowhere. It questioned, **“did He?”** It was the audible voice of doubt by the evil one. When both of us heard this we together commanded Satan to leave in the name of Jesus.

On numerous occasions I have encountered people, who forgetting they have been wired for the fire let Satan get a toehold, then a foothold and finally a strong hold in their lives. Scripture tells us we must resist Satan and *“not give the devil a foothold. For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds”* (2 Cor. 10:3, 4).

We are wired for the fire with divine power to demolish strongholds. *“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God”* (I John 5:4,5). The only way you can beat the devil is by *“Believing that Jesus is the Son of God,”* and that he has wired you for victory over every fire you are thrown into.

Determine in your heart this day that no matter what fires you are going through you will be an overcomer. Remember Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Daniel 3), who knew they were wired for the fire. When they were thrown into the fiery furnace they were not alone for Christ was right there in the fire with them. Now as you find yourself in the midst of the fires of trials, tribulations and COVID-19 remember you are not alone. You have been wired for the fire and as a result, you are more than a conqueror through Christ who strengthens you (Romans 8:37).



Promise after promise is given to the overcomer in Rev. 2 and 3. In spite of these words of promise, it is so easy to get tired out, worn out and burned out as we battle the devil, the world and our sinful flesh day after day. That is why it is so critical that we keep our daily appointments with God. As we do this, He will show us how we are wired for the fire as we talk to God in prayer, read and meditate on the Scriptures and behold the wonders of His creation.

As we read and meditate upon the Scriptures, we must never forget that God watches over His word to perform it. *“For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power—making it active, operative, energizing and effective, it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and (the immortal) spirit, and of joints and marrow (that is, of the deepest parts of our nature) exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart”* (Heb.4:12 AMP).

Instead of just giving up when we face the fires of physical, mental and spiritual needs, we need to know and pray the Scriptures, which declare, “*And my God will meet all your need according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*” (Phil.4:19)

When David found himself in trouble at Ziglag, we read “*David encouraged himself in the Lord His God*” (1 Sam. 30:6). Then David, knowing he had been wired for the fire encouraged his men and went on to be victorious. At this trying hour let us not give up. “*He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it*” (Rev. 2:17).

During COVID-19 and the other fires Satan is throwing at us, we must never forget that we have been wired to be victorious. Now we must move deeper into the things of God as we receive the hidden manna of God’s spiritual truth and the bread of life that Jesus Christ provides in a new and powerful way. Then we will realize what it is to possess the “*white stone with a new name written on it*”. This symbolizes what it means to be an overcomer, who through faith lives the victorious life each day.

Those believing they are wired for the fire are doers of the word and not hearers only (James 1:22). They are on the front lines helping the poor, the fatherless, widowed, hurting and homeless. They are overcomers who are able to declare, “*Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So, we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal*” (2 Cor. 4:16-18).

Don’t give up my brothers and sisters in the midst of the pandemic. Hang on, trusting God as He declares, “*Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you*” (Hebrews 13:5).

Live as an overcomer who is wired for the fire, believing what Christ has declared, “*It is done. I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be My son*” (Rev. 21:6, 7).

We are overcomers, wired for the fire, not as a result of our own efforts and righteousness, but by trusting Jesus who has declared, “*I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart, I have overcome the world*” (John 16:33).

Yours in Christ,


Larry Rice

