"God is Greater Than …"

Part 1: Our Sin

1 John 4:4
You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them,
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 Timothy 1:15
Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

Sometimes the devil continues to remind us of our past sins. But the good news is:

1 John 3:8
The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

Rom 3:22-24

22 This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

What are sins?

Mark 7:20-22
20 He went on: "What comes out of a person is what defiles them. 21 For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, 22 adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

Gal 5:19-20
19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

Notice that sexually immorality is the first on both lists. This is a very common sin. These lists are not exhaustive. If we are honest, we can find our sin in these lists.

The Good News is:

John 3:16-17
For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Here is another reason Jesus came into the world – to save us!

Romans 10:9-10

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Psalm 103:10-12

10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.
11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Hebrews 8:16-18

"This is the covenant I will make with them
after that time, says the Lord.
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds."
17 Then he adds:

"Their sins and lawless acts
I will remember no more."
18 And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

This is quoted from Jeremiah 31:33-34

Altar call for new believers and those recommitting life to Christ.

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Part 2: Our Sickness and Disease

1 John 4:4
You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them,
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

Matthew 12:15b
A large crowd followed him, and he healed all who were ill.

Psalm 103:2-4
2 Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—
3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

There are so many examples of healing in the New Testament – both physical, mental, emotional, spiritual. Jesus healed the whole person. Sozo.

a. Blind – Mt 9:27-31; Mark 10:46-52 (blind Bartimaeus); Mark 8:23; John 9:1-6 (mud)
b. Deaf and mute – Mt 9:32-33; Mk 7:31-36; Mk 9:24-25
c. Lame – Mt 2:2-8; Mt 15:30-31
d. Lepers – Mt 11:5; Lk 5:12-13; Lk 17:11-19
e. Sicknesses – Mt 9:20-22 (woman with bleeding); Luke 7:21 (cured diseases)
f. Demonized – Mt 9:32-22; Lk 7:21; Mk 9:24-25; Mt 4:24; Mk 5:15; Lk 4:33
g. Raised people from the dead – Mt 9:18, 23-25; Lk 7:12, Jn 11 (Lazarus)

By Jesus' stripes we are healed.

> 1 Peter 2:24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; **"by his wounds you have been healed."**
>
> "have been healed" – it is **past tense** – it has already occurred!

Acts 5:16

16 Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.

Testimony of my healings.

Infection in my toe and diabetes**.**

6 surgeries in 7 years

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Part 3: Demons and Oppression

1 John 4:4

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them,
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

Mark 16:15-18

15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. 16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."

As Christians, we have authority to drive out demons.

Mark 5:1-18

[Jesus drives out a legion of demons.]

Matthew 17:18

Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment.

Sometimes demons are blocking a person's healing.

Isaiah 61:1-3

1 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

God exchanges the bad things in our lives with positive things.

Rev 12:11

11 They triumphed over him [the devil] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony;
they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Pray for freedom from addictions, habitual sins, traumas, …

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Part 4: Bad Relationships

1 John 4:4
You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them,
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

Share about traumas and their effect.

Matthew 6:14-15
14 For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

John 20:23
[Jesus speaking] "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Mt 18:21-22
21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"22 Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Romans 12:19
Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written:
"It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Isaiah 40:10
See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.

Recompense: an equivalent or a return for something done, suffered, or given

1 Corinthians 13:4-6
4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

Proverbs 17:9
Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

Proverbs 19:11
A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense.

When we hold on to offense, we are a prisoner to that anger, bitterness, resentment and wanting to revenge. When we forgive them, it releases the Lord to bring conviction in their spirits and we are set free. It is a choice, not an emotion.

Pray for those who need to forgive.

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Part 5: Our Choices

1 John 4:4

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them,
because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

Ps 139: 13-16

13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

God knows our hearts, what our actions will be. He is not surprised by our good or bad choices. He is able to redeem us from whatever mess we get ourselves into whether it is of our own making or someone else's.

1 John 3:20

If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Rev 12:10-11

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God, day and night, has been hurled down.

Rom 8:1-2

1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

2 Corinthians 7:10

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Pray for repentance and refreshing.

11/3/21
HAJ