The ONE TRUE CHURCH of GOD, part 8 quotes

1 Christ victoriously overcame every temptation that the Devil could entice Him to commit, and has already fought all the battles in this process of sanctification. What then does this truth mean for all of mankind?

"...how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, **except he first bind the strong man?** <u>and then he will spoil his house</u>." Matthew 12:29.

- Who represents the strong man?

Satan has been stronger than any human being since the fall, and thus represents this strong man.

- What represents the strong man's house?

His house would be his territory or domain of rule, which would be this fallen world and every thing in it - including human beings; all would be the rightful property, possessions and servants of Satan.

"Jesus answered them, Verily, I say unto you, **Whosoever committeth sin** is the servant of sin." John 8:34.

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey". Romans 6:16.

- What does it mean to enter into a strong man's house?

By Christ being born a human being and taking fallen human nature and sinful flesh upon Him, means that He entered into Satan's territory and domain - or his house.

- What does it mean to bind the strong man?

By Christ entering into conflict with, and in the rightful territory of, Satan and then overcoming every temptation and enticement towards sin, showed that Christ was victorious over Satan, and in being stronger than the Devil then Christ could bind him.

"...of whom a man is overcome, <u>of the same is he brought in bondage</u>." 2 Peter 2:19.

- What does it mean to spoil Satan's goods and his house?

Because Christ was stronger than the Devil and had bound him, then Christ began setting free all of Satan's property, possessions and servants - including fallen human beings, from being under the Devil's absolute control and power (see Isaiah 14:12, 17).

"When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils." Luke 11:21-22.

Satan desired humanity to remain bound and captive to him forever. But the love of God and Christ intervened.

"The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because **the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives,** <u>and the opening of the prison to them that are</u> <u>bound</u>". Isaiah 61:1.

"Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? But thus saith the LORD, **Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered:** <u>for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and</u> <u>I will save thy children</u>....and all flesh shall know that <u>I the LORD am thy Saviour and</u> <u>thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob</u>." Isaiah 49:24-26.

2 Christ actually took it fallen human nature and sinful flesh, so that He could set huminity free and become a merciful and faithful High Priest to those enduring the same pain and struggles which He experienced when contending with and overcoming sin and the Devil!

"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: <u>That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit</u>." Romans 8:3-4.

These verses reveal that because Christ was fully human, and overcame all sin with a fallen human nature and sinful flesh, then we can do the same - if we walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit!

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, <u>even as I also</u> <u>overcame</u>, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Revelation 3:21.

This inspired verse amazingly reveals that we are to overcome all temptation just as Christ overcame it, which therefore means that it is possible for us to overcome all these natural inward lusts and evil enticements - because Christ did! **3** Because Christ never chose to sin, but we have, then we of ourselves cannot possibly walk after the Spirit and overcome all temptation and sin without the help and aid of Christ to do so!

"Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But **put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ**, <u>and</u> <u>make not provision for the flesh</u>, to fulfil the lusts thereof." Romans 13:13-14.

These verses reveal that we must first put on Jesus Christ before we could ever avoid giving in to the lusts of the sinful flesh. Since Christ is both a God and a human at the same time, then if we sincerely ask for Christ's to aid us in overcoming any temptation, then His Divine power will enable us to deny and overcome the natural fleshly lusts and desires to sin in order to walk after the Spirit. But without the Divine help of the Godhood of Christ, it is impossible to overcome temptation.

"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and <u>these are</u> <u>contrary the one to the other</u>: **so that ye cannot do the things that ye would**." Galatians 5:17.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: **He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit:** <u>for without me ye can do nothing</u>." John 15:5.

"And he said, **The things which are impossible with men** are possible with God." Luke 18:27.

4 Will it be easy to deny sinful flesh and overcome in Christ Jesus?

"Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. <u>Be afflicted, and mourn, and</u> weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. <u>Humble</u> yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." James 4:5-10.

These verses clearly reveal that the victory over the lusts of our sinful flesh is not gained by the proud, but by those who are humble because we recognize our need of Divine help and draw nigh to God in faith to obtain His grace and power to resist the Devil. If we then submit our will to follow God, the Devil will be forced to flee from this combination of Divine and human power in us, and we will then become sanctified as we do God's will! Victory over sin is obtained by a combination of God's divine grace and power working in us and combined with our best efforts to actively resist and overcome sin.

"...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Philippians 2:12-13.

But this conflict and warfare in overcoming sin within us involves affliction, mourning, weeping and heaviness, - or in other words, suffering. Yet this suffering is proof that sin was successfully overcome within our hearts!

5 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now **the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force**." Matthew 11:12.

Where is the kingdom of heaven found which is to be violently taken by force which causeth suffering?

"And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, <u>The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither</u> shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, **the kingdom of God is within you**." Luke 17:20-21.

This means that the kingdom of God is found within you, and therefore the violence connected with it are not literal and physical, but is spiritual. So then what does it spiritually mean to exert violence and take the kingdom of heaven by force?

Every time Satan draws from the inner storehouse of your sinful flesh some natural lustful desire in your heart and then entices you to sin, you have a choice to make. If you have fled to Christ for His Divine grace and power and choose to resist it, then you must exert all the will power and strength you have to avoid giving in and sinning. As the lustful enticement grows in intensity and violently struggles for supremacy within your heart, then you are forced to exert even greater violence to fight against it and deny it, until it is finally overcome, which will result in various levels of internal suffering. But if successfully defeated, you will have advanced one step closer to salvation in the kingdom of God, and in the end eternal life.

6 Only those who are willing to exert all the will power to subdue all sin, meeting its violent efforts with an even greater violence to defeat it, will gain the kingdom of heaven.

"Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, <u>Strive to enter</u> in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." Luke 13:23-24.

The Greek word for "strive" used here is "agonizomai", and this word translates and means "to struggle, to compete for a prize, to contend with an adversary, to fight, labor fervently, strive" (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, word #75). Who is the adversary that humanity is to contend with? The Devil!

"Be sober, be vigilant; because <u>your adversary the devil</u>, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: <u>Whom resist stedfast in the faith</u>, knowing that <u>the same afflictions</u> are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." 1 Peter 5:8-9.

Only those who fight, laboring fervently, struggling and striving with every ounce of their will power in contending with the Devil and resisting sin - no matter how much suffering and affliction they have to endure, will enter into the kingdom and gain the prize of eternal life, and all because Christ personally showed them how!

That is why the kingdom of heaven is found within your heart, and only those who are in Christ Jesus and who exercise all the spiritual violence necessary to defeat the enemy within will obtain the kingdom of heaven by the force of their will, regardless of how much internal suffering they had to endure.

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him". Romans 6:1-8.

Victory over sin can only take place within us through Christ, which then reveals that Christ had to first personally crucify the body of sin in sinful flesh before He could then be able to help and aid us in doing the same!

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, <u>but Christ liveth in me</u>: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me....And they that are Christ's <u>have crucified the flesh with the</u> <u>affections and lusts</u>. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Galatians 2:20, 5:24-25. **7** There is no way for any fallen human being to be crucified with Christ unless Christ had first crucified sin in His flesh! This course was necessary to save humanity from sin. The only other way would be to save humanity in their sins, but this would make the law of God of none-effect! So did Christ come to save humanity in or from their sins?

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS: for he shall save** his people <u>from their sins</u>." Matthew 1:21.

Christ came to save fallen humanity from their sins, not in their sins, and the only way He could accomplish that was for Him to partake of the fallen nature and sinful flesh of mankind. This means that the only way for any human being to be saved from their sins is to flee to Jesus Christ for His Divine power to help and aid them in overcoming, which would make Jesus their personal Saviour in gaining with them the victory over all sin!

8 To believe that Jesus had an unfallen nature and thus He will save you in your sins, completely removes the urgency and necessity of fleeing to Jesus for His Divine power to help and aid you in overcoming sin. This means that if you believe or teach that Jesus did not come in the sinful flesh of mankind, that you going directly against Christ's efforts to save His people from their sins, and are also effectively robbing others from having a personal relationship with Jesus, which will result in the loss of their salvation! This would then make you a deceiver and an antichrist!

To believe or teach that no one can overcome all sin today, is the same as saying that Christ will save you in your sins, which is the same as saying that Christ came in the unfallen nature of mankind, which is the same as saying that Christ did not come in the flesh, and this is what makes you an antichrist and not a follower of God. But to believe or teach that anyone can overcome all sin through Jesus Christ, is the same as saying that Christ will save you from all your sins, which is the same as saying that Christ came in the fallen nature and sinful flesh of mankind, and this is what makes you a true follower of Jesus Christ and a child of God, and not an antichrist!

Will you believe and teach the pure Gospel message of salvation that Jesus is a personal Saviour who will save you from your sins because He knows from experience what you are going through in every time of temptation? Or will you believe and teach a deceiving and antichristian message of destruction that Jesus does not personally know what you are going through when tempted, and thus He will save you in your sins? <u>The</u> choice is yours!