

Power to Overcome the Devil

Scripture reading: 1 John 4:7-8

I Corinthians 13:1 says, “*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity (love), I am nothing.*” I cannot conceive why they translated this word “*charity*” because it really is love, “*agape.*” “*2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.*” In other words, God is saying to us that He is going to give us the gifts of the Spirit. But then, we have to grow in maturity, and the growth in maturity is love. Do you understand? You have to be able to love your wife when she is not pretty, even though we all love very pretty things. You know, we men look at our wives and say, “Boy, you are beautiful!” That’s our eyes. But then, sometimes, she gets broken down like any human being; she gets tired, and fussy. That’s the time you must love her. When she is hitting you, that’s the time you must love her.

I know something that changed a man’s whole life for the worse. He was with his wife and children; they had a little quarrel about something, the woman turned around, pulled back her fist, and slammed him right in his mouth. He lost control. If he had overcome that one, the rest of his life would be victory, but he didn’t overcome it. He slapped her down and they got a divorce.

What I am trying to say to you today is that “*God is love, and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. 8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love*” (1 John 4:7-8).

So, love, then, is something that overcomes the evil that is in us. In other words, the temper that is in you is no good. It is of the devil. It comes from your ancestors, and they want to minister death to you. The moment you resist that temper, and don’t say anything, you have won. When somebody slaps you and you do not repeat it, you don’t say anything, but burn, you have hit the devil and he will flee from you! He will come back again, but will be weaker. Every time you hit him and he comes back, he will be weaker.

Let me tell you something. When it comes to temper, God has given you the power over the temper! You have to use the force of your own will, because God has given you the power. You are not like the sinner who has no power. You have power to overcome the devil!

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Thought for today: Remember, you are not like the sinner who has no power. You have power to overcome the devil!