

**Today's Order of Worship**

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Billy Box

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery  
Servers - Bradley Box  
Josh Berryhill  
Blake Eddy

Closing Prayer: Ralph Burleson

Preparing the Lord's Supper Mary Eddy

**Weekly Service Times**

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am

Morning Worship 10:45 am

Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Visit Our Website**

[www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org)

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

David Key / Billy Box

Eddie Dickinson

Minister: Greg Lowery

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Brilliant Church of Christ

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# We Shall Overcome



*The  
Brilliant  
Beacon*



**Paul’s Prayer is Mine**

By Dan Jenkins

As you read the New Testament take time to notice how often Paul tells others he is praying for them. He not only prayed for them, but asked that they pray for him (1 Thess. 5:25). It is often in prayer that we see the soul of the one who is praying. This is so obvious in Paul’s prayer for the church at Colossae.

Read Colossians 1:9-11 and note the nine things he was praying would happen in the lives of those great Christians. He prayed that they might:

- (1) Be filled with the knowledge of His will
- (2) Have wisdom
- (3) Have understanding
- (4) Walk worthy of the Lord
- (5) Be pleasing to the Lord
- (6) Be fruitful in every good work
- (7) Be increasing in the knowledge of God
- (8) Be strengthened by His glorious power
- (9) Have patience, longsuffering, and joy

Read the list again and visualize what would happen when this prayer was answered!

As we enter this new year together, I want you to know that this is my prayer for you. My life has truly been blessed by the thirty-nine years we have labored together and believe the best days lie ahead of us. Success will not come without effort, but I think I know your hearts. May God help us to accomplish great things for His glory.

Paul’s prayer is my prayer. With hearts that are filled with knowledge that is always increasing, may we have wisdom and understanding as to how to apply this in our lives. May we together walk worthy of the sacrifices He made for us and please Him. May we be fruitful because God is working in our midst and strengthening us by His power. May we be steadfast, unwavering in devotion, and willing to suffer because of the joy set before us.

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Lannie & Glenda Key: be praying for both of them during this difficult time

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Sister} is in the nursing home in Guin, pray for her she has some ongoing health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Angie Ganey Gardner: fighting against breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Wayne Sherry (Arlen’s old boss): currently fighting cancer; pray that this cancer can be controlled and defeated

Guy Weeks: is undergoing cancer treatments, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Maddie Bishop (young girl South Haleyville) diagnosed with stage 4 Ewing sarcoma, please pray for her and her family and that treatments can defeat this cancer

Hayden Lackey: is currently taking meds to control his seizures, let us be praying that the meds will work

Billy Lee {Carolyn’s Brother} he is in renal failure, is at the nursing home in Guin, please be praying for him and the staff caring for him

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Timmy Weeks: is planning on having total shoulder replacement surgery, let us be praying that it will be done without any complications

Danny Berryhill: diagnosed with thickness of the heart, please be praying that doctors can successfully help him with this problem

Bill Berryhill: latest test showed that his PSA was lower, treatments seem to be working, continued prayers for this good progress

Mason Estes: he is need of a liver transplant; please be keeping him and his family in your prayers

Judy Barker (David Barker’s Mother): she had been diagnosed with bone and lung cancer; please keep her and her family in your prayers

Kristi White: diagnosed with cancer affecting her esophagus, stomach and other areas taking treatments at MD Anderson, please pray this cancer will be defeated

Austin Carter (Travis Garrison’s Nephew): scans found a mass on his thyroid, please be praying that this does not turn out to be a serious problem

Spence Berryhill: doctors fill confident that they were able to remove all of the Melanoma, let us thank God for the good news

Hugh Martin: he is dealing with a broken hip and some other ongoing health problems, please pray that he will get strong enough for surgery

Deborah Pollard: she is dealing with cancer, please be praying that this cancer is treatable and that it can be defeated

Van Roberts: has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer can be defeated

D.W. Jones (Mary’s brother): had hip replacement surgery, please pray that he has a good recovery

Will you take time today to reflect on your life and see what changes can be made to ensure that Paul’s words become a reality? Will you honestly look at where you are and plan the steps which must be taken to arrive at greater spiritual heights? Will you dream with me of the great things that God can do with us and through us in this church? Will you set aside time and pray for this church? Pray for me. Pray for the future and pray that He might work in us even more. I believe in prayer. As I pray for you, will you pray for me?

Obtained at: [www.churchofchristarticles.com](http://www.churchofchristarticles.com)

**Overcoming Persistent Temptations**

Robert Rawson

For some, the obsession with certain forms of temptation occurs over and over again. Jesus taught us to “Watch and pray that we enter not into temptation” (Matthew 26:41). It is so good to be a constant person of prayer. This is the very first thing to do when faced with temptations that persistently influence us.

Remember the daily reminders of the Israelites (Deuteronomy 4:9). They were to be reminded by notes that were placed in strategic places so that as they awoke in the morning or as they walked in the path to work in the fields the reminders would be read. Having reminders will help us to overcome daily. This moves us to the third point.

Let us overcome temptations one day at a time – even sometimes, one hour at a time. By pointing our lives to the more spiritual thoughts, entering into prayer times and having steady reminders of the Lord around us, we can limit the effect of temptation.

Obtained at: [www.gospelgazette.com](http://www.gospelgazette.com)

**Overcoming**

By D. Gene West

Every one of us is painfully aware that there are many obstacles to be overcome in our lives. Some of these are great and take a huge amount of effort on our part, and some are simple and easily overcome. Some of the obstacles, trials, tribulations that we must overcome are of a physical nature, and we often seek the help of physicians or others to help us take care of these. Some are emotional and mental, and sometimes we have to seek the help of professionals in overcoming these also. But for the Christian there are spiritual obstacles to overcome such as various kinds of temptations of the flesh, or the resurgence of poor attitudes, or something of the sort.

In all probability spiritual obstacles are the most difficult for us to overcome, as a matter of fact, there are many of these that we cannot overcome on our own, and so it is necessary for us to call upon God in prayer, and he gives us the spiritual strength to overcome these problems and negative situations in life.

In the great and inspiring Book of Revelation, we have a number of statements made about those who overcome. It should be noted that the people to whom the book was written were going to be suffering some agonizing persecution at the hands of the enemies of Christ, and they needed to be encouraged regarding overcoming and remaining faithful in their service to the Lord. So, our Lord, through the blessed apostle John gave a series of promises that would be granted to those who overcame such things as persecutions, false teaching, sin in their lives and other spiritual problems that were about to beset some of the Christians in the churches to whom the Lord spoke. We think that it may be helpful as well as inspirational if we look at some of these.

In the second chapter of the Book, Christ through John spoke to the church at Ephesus and told those Christians that he had something against them. The first thing that he mentioned was the fact that they had left (forsaken) their first love. What all may have been involved in their forsaking their first love we cannot dogmatically say, but the Lord urged them to repent and do the first works, or else he was going to come to them quickly and remove their lampstand from its place. The removing of the lampstand was a figurative way of saying that they would be punished for forsaking their first love. The command for them to repent was God's way of assuring that they would overcome the sin of leaving their first love. Then to encourage them to repent and stand firm, the

Lord said, "To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." The promise of eternal life was the Lord's way of encouraging these people to repent. Certainly when one thinks of eternity, and what it would mean to be separated from God for an eternity, one would urgently feel the need to repent of whatever may be amiss in his/her life. One way we overcome spiritually is to repent of that which is out of harmony with the will of God.

Next the Lord wrote to the church at Smyrna. He complimented this troubled church for standing firm against the false teachers of the day. The people in this church were going to undergo some severe persecution and they would need to hold on to the position of being faithful to Christ. The Lord promised them if they would be faithful even though they were put to death, he would give them a crown of life, and then he said, "He who overcomes shall not be hurt of the second death." The overcoming for this group of Christians was to remain faithful to Christ in spite of the persecution that was coming their way, and they were promised that they would not be destroyed in the lake of fire which is the second death mentioned later on in the book.

Next, the Lord wrote to the church at Pergamos, and they too were suffering, and would suffer, for the cause of Christ, as a matter of fact, Antipas had already been put to death for being a Christian. But this church had some problems, among which were such sins of the flesh as fornication and eating foods as acts of worship to idols and holding the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. This church was commanded to repent or they would be judged by the Word of God, but if they did repent, and by repenting overcame the evil among them, Christ would give "To him who overcomes...some of the hidden manna to eat." Manna is what sustained Israel in the wilderness, and the manna of the aid of God is what sustains us as we journey through the wilderness, and if with the help of God we overcome our obstacles we will receive that which will take us to the promised land.

We can see from these three simple examples from Revelation Two that overcoming is something we are to do, and when we do overcome, with the help and strength of God, we will be appropriately rewarded by the God of heaven because "He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." "Keep on overcoming, it is worth it!

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