

Part 3: Overcoming Temptation



"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." Romans 8v37

Compare Churches

Pergamum	Thyatira
Lived in Satan's territory	Lived in Satan's territory
Resisted and lived right with God	Great witness – Love, faith, deeds
Faced martyrdom without fear	Became more devoted
Gave space to Balaam's teachings	Allowed Jezebel to teach - pollute
Food to idols & sexual immorality	Food to idols & sexual immorality
Challenged to repent	Jezebel to repent
	Jezebel's children to be destroyed

Teachings of Balaam

- Story from Numbers 22 to 24
- Enticed (tempted) by Balak to curse the Israelites
- Asked God what to do and was told
- Met with Balak on three occasions and intrusted him to build altars for idolatry. (Nu. 24v1-2) – spiritual immorality (mixing God with idols)
- Instead of leading Balak to God of Israel

Teachings of Jezebel

- Evil wife of King Ahab (King of Israel)
- Ahab married her and introduced all her gods alongside the Lord God – spiritual immorality
- Jezebel institutionalized worship of these idols;
 turned God's priests to become priests to Baal
- Patroness of idolatry (1 Kings 18v19) spiritual immorality

What are temptations?

- Balaam was tempted and led Balak astray
- Jezebel tempted the priests of God to idolatry (trials & temptations)
- Lord Jesus faced both trials & temptations but without sin
- Other examples Judas, Ananias & wife
- God tempts nobody James 1v13-15

Overcoming temptation

- They come from desires or from the enemy (1Ti 6v6-14)
- Evaluate your values and desires are they in God?
 Change them if needed.
- Spiritual training fasting and other self denials
- Man shall not live by bread alone (God's word)
- Pray regularly to be led away from them 1 Co. 10v13
- Stay with godly teaching avoid Jezebels & Balaams

What does it mean?

"Victory is not surrendering to Satan's attacks even if it means losing our lives as long as we gain eternity"



OVERCOMER

he overcame so we can overcome