

Overcoming the Accuser of the Brethren

⁷ Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸ but he was defeated and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world — he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. ¹⁰ And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. ¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.” (Revelation 12:7-11)

That’s the last battle in heaven, the spiritual battle that brings Satan to the earth. No longer can he remain before the throne accusing the brothers.

There are going to be a lot of accusations coming forth. The evil day hasn’t come yet. There are a lot of brothers and sisters who are going to be coming into the Body, and they’re going to feel sometimes hopeless, worthless, and all kinds of things are going to happen to them because of the accuser of the brethren. So that’s why we have to encourage one another daily. We have to prepare for that day, and be strengthened, and grow strong in order that the foundation stones can lead us all the way to the end.

Revelation 12 tells us how the accuser of the brethren accuses them night and day before God. But John said that they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb, and the word of their testimony, and because they didn’t love their lives even unto death.

The basis for overcoming in this spiritual warfare is always the name of our Master Yahshua, who is mighty and powerful, and His precious blood that He shed on our behalf.

Satan is a murderer from the beginning. He’s the deceiver who leads the world astray, who leads us astray. He entices and he attacks, but he specializes in accusing. That’s his specialty. There’s nothing worse than being accused. He’s certainly the accuser of the brethren, but it is here that our Master meets him as our High Priest and our

Advocate, our Mediator. Before His throne the evil one is recognized, and all his work, and so must every disciple recognize the work of the evil one. We have to be prepared for his accusations, or else his accusations are going to cause division and strife and hatred. He makes people feel worthless.

Every disciple must recognize the same thing that is recognized before the throne, that he is the accuser of the brethren. Day and night he accuses us, and his accusations are directed at our minds, our consciences, in which we feel the lack of strength. We feel weak to fight against him. His objective is to drive us into despair as to what possible use we could be to God after all these accusations we hear about ourselves. "What possible use could I be?" We sometimes find ourselves reproaching ourselves, crying, "I'm a hopeless failure. I can do nothing good for God." But it's all because we've allowed ourselves to accept the charges of the accuser. And we don't even answer. We say, "Ok, that's right. It's undeniable."

So if he can get us into this state, this mode of existence, he is indeed the victor. We have given the battle away instead of looking to our Master's victory. We accept his accusations and we stop there, left with no power to fight him. I imagine that's how the first church fell. To repeat endlessly, "I'm no good, I'm no good," is to just parrot the accusation of the evil one. This is not true humility.

It is good to confess our sins, but our sin should never be greater than His forgiveness, or larger than the work He accomplished for us. Satan knows there is no weapon more effective against the brethren than creating this doubt in our minds, which is certainly not the attitude of our Master, or the mind of Messiah.

So what's the remedy? Is it to say, "I'm no good"? Well, it could be, if we then take on His goodness after that. We can say, "No good thing dwells in me," and then take on our Master's goodness, for He did not die and go to death for nothing. He went there to put an end to every accusation, to put an end to the accuser of the brethren, as it says in Rev 12:10-11.

The blood of Messiah is our defense; the word of our testimony is our weapon — the victory of Messiah and the fact that He reigns, that His kingdom is near at hand as we put all of His enemies under His feet. He can't come back until we do that, and one of His greatest enemies is the accuser's accusations against us — that we're no good, of no account, we'll never amount to anything.

We've got to start listening to our Master, to the encouragement of our brothers and sisters. Col 1:13 — We've been transferred out of Satan's kingdom into the kingdom of our Master Yahshua, the kingdom of God and of His Messiah. All these facts are to be declared to the powers of darkness — not to men, but to the powers of darkness. The Son has the victory, and we stand in His victory over death and over the evil one.

In Rev 11:15 it says that the kingdom of this world is shortly to become the kingdom of our God and of His Messiah. Isn't that amazing? We have that privilege to be the sons of God here on earth and to encourage one another daily. So many thousands are going to be coming in, and we've got to be those living stones that are going to be able to encourage our brothers and love them — love them and forbear.

What does Eph 4:2-3 say? If we don't obey that, who are we anyway? Are we the people that Paul is talking about here, those that the Holy Spirit was writing about through Paul? He's talking about that one testimony of the Body of Messiah, that one baptism — forbearing with one another because we love one another. We forbear with one another in love. Are we forbearing? Or are people forbearing with us, and we don't forbear with others? "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." That's how we're going to put Satan to flight, and by using the name of our Master Yahshua. We stand in His victory, in His name.

Daog Anashim (Joseph Fisher) — You're describing how the evil one tries to break us down, and I was thinking how that is the tactic of the drill sergeants in the military. You come in and you may be an amazing person physically or mentally or anything, but they're going to make sure that you get a challenge that you can't accomplish. They keep pushing you until you

get to the point where you can't do it, and you're broken, and they're letting you know that you're nothing, that you're scum. And then when you finally just hit bottom and you can't go any further, then they start to build you up the way they want you. In the military it's usually through pride.

That's exactly what the evil one does. He's trying to break us down until we finally give in and say, "It's totally true; that's the way I am." And then he starts to influence us with accusations against our brothers, and we receive them so readily because we're already so worthless ourselves. And then we become proud, and then we appear like we're confident, but instead we're just way above everyone else, looking down on them. That's when we become accusers, just like the evil one.

Our Father wants us to be honest with ourselves and see our sin, see where we're really at — not that we'd be worthless, but just needy. Then we would just cry out for Him to rescue us, and we would take hold of our Master and be filled with Him rather than being filled with ourselves or the evil one or anything else, but that we'd be filled with grace and the strength to no longer be our lowly self, but be like our Master.

Amen. Let's just praise Him. Certainly, there's no one more worthy to be praised than our Master Yahshua. He sees all our works and He's the one who approves us. We're serving Him. We're not serving man. Let's have no worthless thought about ourselves. Put it all on our Master Yahshua. He's the victor, and our victory is in Him.

Chets Barur prayed: We thank You for exposing the tactics of the evil one. We don't want to be filled with that same spirit, accusing ourselves and accusing one another. We pray we could be faithful to encourage one another and forbear, and work for the good of one another like You do. When You bring a lot of people into the community, we pray that we could be those who love the truth, and have a firm foundation.