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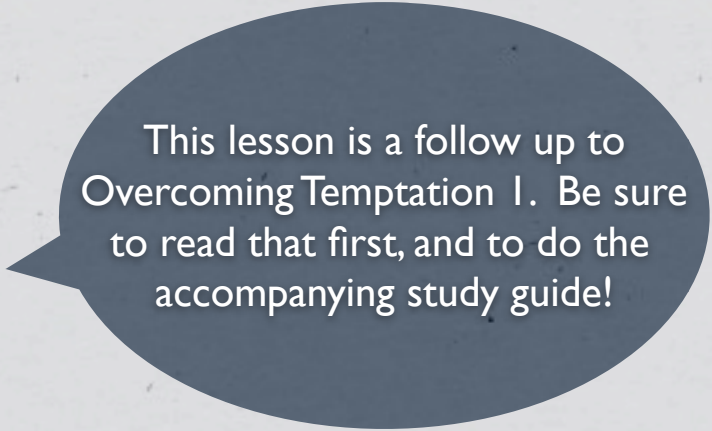
# OVERCOMING TEMPTATION



Part 2



# **Using your Authority & Knowing who you are in Christ.**



This lesson is a follow up to **Overcoming Temptation I**. Be sure to read that first, and to do the accompanying study guide!



**When Jesus was tempted, He used  
two tools to overcome the devil:  
The Word of God and His  
God-given authority.**

◆—————◆  
Here are two examples. Notice in both of them, Jesus quoted the Scripture to the devil. In the second, Jesus spoke directly to the devil and commanded him to leave.

And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written," "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Matthew 4,3-4

Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written," "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve." Matthew 4,10



# Use the Word of God!

Paul tells us that the Word of God is part of the armor God gives us to use in our battle against the devil. He calls it, "The Sword of the Spirit," Ephesians 6,17. Notice Jesus used the Word of God instead of:

- \* Reasoning with him.
- \* Feeling guilty that He was hungry.
- \* Playing with the temptation in His mind.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee, Psalm 119,11.  
(KJV)

"Bringing every thought into the obedience of Christ," 2 Corinthians 10,5

He simply spoke the Word of God to the devil.

# Use your Authority!

Along with the Word of God, Jesus also used His Authority against the devil. He commanded him to leave.

- \* He did not pray and ask God to deliver Him.
- \* He did not complain that He was being tempted.

- \* He spoke directly to the devil and commanded him to leave.

**"Be gone, Satan!"**



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# UNDERSTANDING YOUR AUTHORITY





# What the Bible says:

Revelation 12,10-11: The accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. 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.

Matthew 16,19: I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Luke 10,17-19 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.





# Similar to a Policeman



Our authority is similar to that of a policeman's. A policeman is a normal person on the inside. However, he is clothed with the authority his government gave him.

If the policeman has to stop a vehicle for instance, he or she does not use their own strength or go in their own name. Neither do they call the police station to get them to do the job. Instead, they use their delegated authority to stop the vehicle.





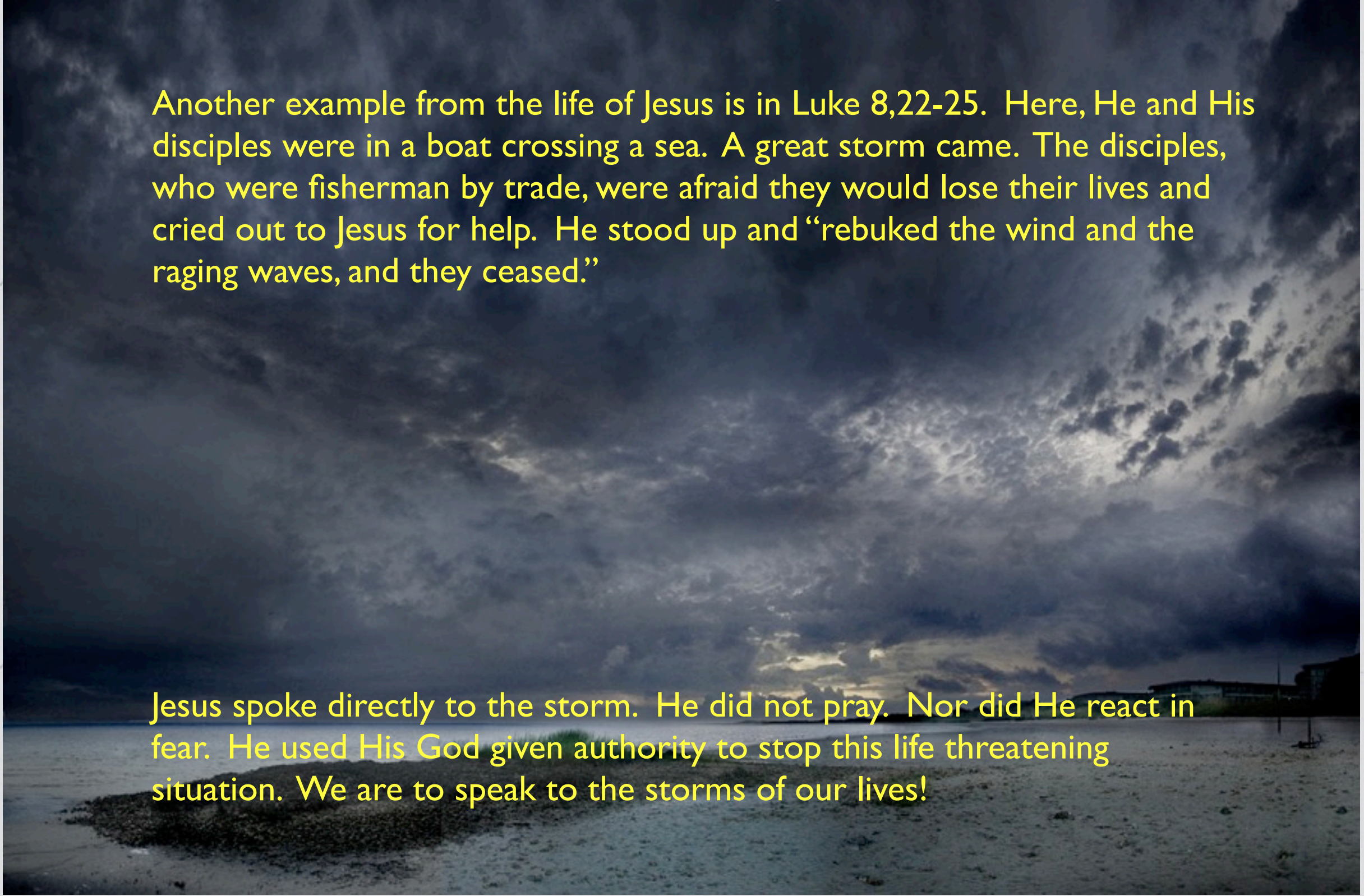
When you are being tempted, use the authority Jesus gave you! Yes, you are a normal person on the inside. But God has given you authority to resist the devil. He must go from you!

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you! James 4,7

To do this, speak directly to him or speak directly to the problem. Notice what Jesus said in Mark 11,23:

“Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.”





Another example from the life of Jesus is in Luke 8,22-25. Here, He and His disciples were in a boat crossing a sea. A great storm came. The disciples, who were fisherman by trade, were afraid they would lose their lives and cried out to Jesus for help. He stood up and “rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased.”

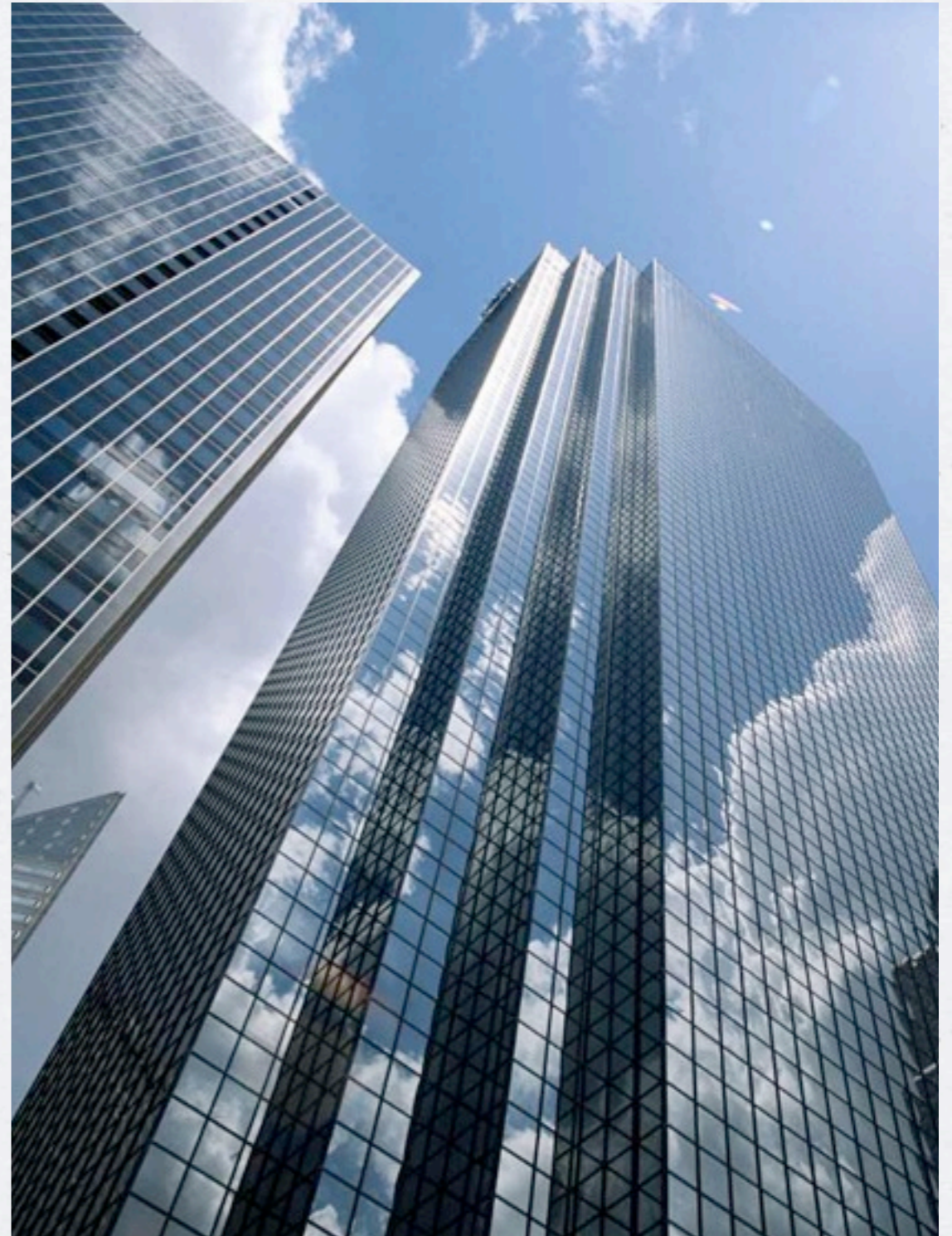
Jesus spoke directly to the storm. He did not pray. Nor did He react in fear. He used His God given authority to stop this life threatening situation. We are to speak to the storms of our lives!



# Knowing who you are in Christ

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The second key in overcoming temptation is knowing who you are in Jesus. Two pieces of our armor deal directly with this: The helmet of salvation and the breastplate of righteousness.





# The Helmet of Salvation

The helmet part of our armor naturally protects our thought life from the lies of the devil.

The Word for “salvation” in the Greek is “sozo” and has a wide range of applications. It not only means freedom from our sins, but also healing from sickness, deliverance out of trouble, and freedom from demonic activity.

To equip oneself with the helmet of salvation means to understand and hold onto the salvation that Jesus provided for us.



Why is  
this  
important?!





This is important because the devil will attempt to take advantage of the Christians who do not know God's Word, stealing from them the very things that Jesus purchased for us.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly, John 10,10

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, Hosea 4,6.

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, 1 Peter 5,8-9

We can see that it is important not just to love Jesus! We must also learn about who we are in Christ and what He has done for us. When the devil attempts to steal these things from us, we can resist him with the truth.



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# **THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**

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# The Breastplate of Righteousness

The breastplate covers our hearts. A Christian soon learns that his righteousness, his right standing with God, comes from God. It is a gift that cannot be earned.

“You are in Christ Jesus, who became to us...righteousness,” 1 Corinthians 1,30.

Therefore, since we have been justified (declared righteous) by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5,1.





The devil is called, the “accuser of the brethren,” who accuses us day and night. What does he accuse us of?



- \* Bad thoughts that originate with him.
- \* Past deeds that may or may not have been forgiven.
- \* Malicious words from others.
- \* Weaknesses that we are trying to overcome.



# The Breastplate of Righteousness

A Christian is always in a process of growth and change. Not one Christian is born again perfect!

Just like our natural children! They grow and make many mistakes along the way.

For by one single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified, Hebrews 10,14.

When we make mistakes, we are to confess them. The Bible says, that He cleanses us from all unrighteousness, 1 John 1,9

And He still provides us with His righteousness, which is perfect!



Use the righteousness that God has given you, and not your own!

Since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, Hebrews 10,19.



A Christian will never have the right to stand before God based upon our goodness. We are clean only through the blood of Jesus.

The devil accuses us because of our mistakes, and we all make them. However, Jesus' blood washes us from this guilt. He still declares us justified or righteous.

When a Christian understands where His righteousness comes from, and that he does not have to rely on his own, he can stand in confidence against the accusations of the devil.

**Justified  
means: "Just as if  
I'd never  
sinned!"**



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# YOU ARE RIGHTEOUS!

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Isaiah 54,17	Every tongue that judges us, we will condemn. Our righteousness comes from Him!
Romans 8,1	There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus.
I John 1,9	The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all unrighteousness.
Romans 5,1	Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God.
Hebrews 10,22	Draw near with a heart of faith, having been freed from an evil conscience.
Titus 3,5	Not by works of righteousness has He saved us.



# Complete in Him!

The Bible says simply, that we are complete in Him! Colossians 2,10

Walk in the victory Jesus has given you! Use the Word of God and your authority when the devil tempts you! And thank God for the wonderful victory He has given us!

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!  
1 Corinthians 15,57





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