

# Are You Strong Enough?

When it comes to fighting the battle against Satan and sin, are you strong enough? Do you have what it takes to outwit Satan and the temptations he sends you and will continue to send you every day? Do you know the Scripture well enough to do battle with the enemy and win?

I found out long ago that I was no match for Satan and gave up trying to fight him. It was a number of years later that I discovered that not only could I not be victorious against him but God didn't expect that of me. This blew me away because I'd been taught from a child that if I was good and didn't fall for Satan's temptations, I would be able to go to heaven when Jesus returned for His victorious people.

So, what was expected of me? Wasn't it just the victorious who would go to heaven - those who kept God's commandments? (1 John 5:2-4, Revelation 12:17, 14:12) Okay, but it's how they are victorious and how they keep the commandments.

**WE** can't keep God's Commandments at all. Please note the emphasis. **WE** are powerless to withstand Satan and the sooner we grasp this, the better off we'll be. So, how do we keep the commandments? First, we must acknowledge that we can't. We must admit that we are like little children (1 Kings 3:7, Matthew 18:3), powerless against the Devil in our own strength. **WE** can do nothing of ourselves. If we are going to have victory over sin, that victory will need to be given to us. We must believe that the God who began the work in us will also finish it. (Philippians 1:6) It is God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:57)

If something is a gift, what do we have to do to obtain it? Yes, simply take it. Jesus has provided everything for us to get the victory over the Enemy. All we have to do is surrender to God, acknowledge our powerlessness and utter weakness against sin, and ask God to fight our battles for us. And **He** will give us the victory! It's when I acknowledge my helpless condition and my complete dependence on God for everything that I become strong in Him. (2 Corinthians 12:10, Philippians 4:13) The only way that Christ will fill me, empower me to do His will, and supply my every need, is as I acknowledge my great need of everything that only He can supply. It is not I, but Christ in me, doing the good works (Galatians 2:20), leaving me with nothing to boast about, but rather, to offer praise for what He is doing in and through me. (Ephesians 2:8-10)

So, are you strong enough? If you are as a little child and totally dependent on Christ, you will be more than conquerors over the devil and his temptations. (Romans 8:37) We can never dwell on our helplessness and need too much. When we do this it will drive us to depend more and more fully on God, our only help and strength.