

Which Battle?

**PS 68:18 When you ascended on high,
you led captives in your train;
you received gifts from men,
even from the rebellious--
that you, O LORD God, might dwell there.**

Many Christians fail in their spiritual battles because they simply choose the wrong battle to fight. We can quote, "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." But turn it into this, "I can do all things in my strength by trying harder, and call it Christ's strength." We can quote, "Greater is he that is in us, than he that is in the world." But end up believing, "Greater is me if I white-knuckle it and pray enough, than he that is in the world." and wonder why we fail.

God doesn't buckle under temptation, and the lights are not dimming in heaven to provide us with enough power to live in victory. God tells us (1 Timothy 6:12) to "Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses." Notice that God tells us to fight the good fight of faith, not flesh. In fact, the Bible says, "Our battle is not against flesh and blood." In 1 John 5:4 this bold promise is made, "for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."

Faith in what? Does it ever say faith in your ability? Faith that overcomes simply believes in the God who gave us everything we need for life and godliness at the cross. When the temptation comes, don't look to the outside, look to the Jesus Christ who is inside of you. If you by faith take hold of Jesus in that moment of temptation, you will find that he's already whooped that sin you've been trying to walk in victory over for years.