

Be Not Overcome with Evil

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“Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:21). Lord willing, by the time you are reading this, I will be conducting my Gospel Meeting in Pantego, NC. The topic that I chose for that Gospel Meeting is “Overcome Evil with Good.” It is absolute fact that there is a lot of evil that must be overcome in this world. “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places” (Eph. 6:12).

But how can we overcome such evil? How MUST we overcome such evil? The Bible says that we have to overcome it with good! You may be familiar with the phrase, “Garbage in, garbage out.” It is a fact that if my mind is constantly dwelling on garbage, then garbage is what is going to come out in my life. Therefore, “finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Php. 4:8).

If I am currently struggling with sin, I have a whole lot of garbage that needs taking out! Not only that, but I need to replace the void with things that are good! If I am dealing with sin, if my life is devoted to it, and then I suddenly cast it off, what am I going to replace those things with so that my affections can be pure? (“Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” — Col. 3:2). The answer is that I must replace the garbage with things that are good!

The sermons that I have prepared for my Gospel Meeting are as follows: “Overcoming Pride,” “Overcoming Indifference,” “Overcoming Obstacles,” “Overcoming Immorality,” and “Overcoming Error.” In each of these lessons, we must realize that there are GOOD things that must replace the BAD things. Something PURE must replace the garbage!

In overcoming pride, I must replace pride with humility (Prov. 15:32-33). In overcoming indifference, I must replace indifference with zeal (Rev. 3:19). In overcoming obstacles (whether they be external or self-inflicted), I must replace those things with dependence on God to help me get through those difficulties (Psalm 46). In overcoming immorality, I must replace that immorality with things that are good (Php. 4:8). In overcoming error, I must replace the error with the Truth which is found in God’s Word (John 17:17).

Will it be easy to overcome these evils with good? No it will not. It will be a daily struggle. But if we love God, if we want to please Him, if we keep the right focus and the right priorities, we can do it, and the Lord will be with us in our obedience (Mat. 28:20)!

With love, Chase