

Book of Revelation, part 16

The Overcomer at Ephesus

I. The overcomer in each of seven churches.

1. Each one born out from God (1 Jn. 5:4; 3:9; Tit. 3:5).
2. Overcomes, is victor over the world (1 Jn. 5:5; Jn. 16:33).
3. Is chosen out from the world (Jn. 15:18-19).
4. Every “Christian” organization, even if it is collectively made up of unsaved, has the potential of having a believer in it.
5. It behooves us not “to paint with too broad a brush” (Mt. 13:24-30).

II. The Tree of Life.

1. Known existent from Gen. 2:9 to Rev. 22:14, 19).
2. Sustains physical life (Gen. 3:22-23).
3. The human spirit requires a brain to think, function.
4. The human soul requires a body to perceive senses.
5. Only Christ currently has a body not subject to mortality (1 Tim. 6:16).
6. The intermediate body, “never unclothed by a body (2 Cor. 5:3).
 - 1) **Earthly tent-house** (2 Cor. 5:1).
 - 2) A **building** not crafted by hands in the heavens (2 Cor. 5:1).
 - 3) A **dwelling out from** the heaven (1 Cor. 15:51-52; 1 Thes. 4:16-17).

III. Paradise

1. When Jesus’ body died, His human soul and spirit went to Paradise (Lu. 23:43).
2. This place is also called upper Sheol and upper Hades and Abraham’s bosom, is at the center of the earth (Ps. 16:10; Acts 2:27 cf. Duet. 32:22; Lu. 16:19-31).
3. At one of Christ’s ascensions, He took Paradise from the center of the earth to the edge of the Third Heaven (Eph. 4:8; Ps. 68:18; 2 Cor. 12:2, 4),

IV. Overcomers, New Testament saints are a different location from the Tree of Life and this implies that angels will bring the fruit to them in the Third Heaven.

1. Awareness in Heaven.
2. Activity.
3. Cognition.