**The overcomer’s promises, in the following respect, would, thus, relate to Christians alone. Further, these promises are worded after a fashion that clearly reveals that Christians can go in either of two directions relative to the promises. They can either *overcome* and realize the promises or they can *be overcome* [by the world, the flesh, and/or the Devil] and *fail to realize the promises*.**

**To Him Who Overcomes  
By Arlen Chitwood of** [**Lamp Broadcast**](http://lampbroadcast.org/)

The manner in which most interpret the seven overcomer’s promises, one to each of the seven churches in [Revelation 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+2&t=NKJV); [3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+3&t=NKJV), centers on these promises relating to one’s eternal salvation. Most *erroneously* interpret these promises as either

(1) a call to unsaved individuals within the seven churches to be saved and realize these different promises, or

(2) as statements to saved individuals in these churches, showing that they will realize these different promises simply on the basis of the fact that they have been saved. And [1 John 5:1-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1John+5.1-5&t=NKJV) forms verses usually referenced in an effort to substantiate the second part of the preceding.

This line of *erroneous* teaching emanates mainly from man’s failure to see anything in Scripture except salvation by grace, *i.e*., saved-unsaved issues. Practically everything is made to relate to this one subject. And this type of teaching, brought over into the seven epistles in [Revelation 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+2&t=NKJV); [3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+3&t=NKJV), results in not only the Church often being viewed from an *incorrect* perspective (usually seeing the Church comprised of both saved and unsaved individuals) but it also leaves little room for the overcomer’s promises to be viewed from a *correct* perspective.

However, contrariwise, within the New Testament usage of the word “Church,” as it is used relating to the *one new man “in Christ,”* there is no such thing as a Church comprised of both saved and unsaved individuals. A person is either within or without the Church, depending on his saved or unsaved state. He is either a Jew, a Gentile (both without the Church), or a Christian (within the Church [[1 Corinthians 10:32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+10.32&t=NKJV)]).

Nor can unsaved individuals be thought of as *professors* instead of *possessors* and find themselves within the Church after the manner in which the word “Church” is used in the New Testament. Scripture knows *nothing* about *professors* as opposed to *possessors*. Scripture knows only *possessors* (the saved) and *non-possessors* (the unsaved).

The overcomer’s promises, in the preceding respect, would, thus, relate to Christians alone. Further, these promises are worded after a fashion that clearly reveals that Christians can go in either of two directions relative to the promises. They can either *overcome* and realize the promises or they can *be overcome* [by the world, the flesh, and/or the Devil] and *fail to realize the promises*.

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[The Judgment Seat of Christ](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#The%20Judgment%20Seat%20of%20Christ)