

# December 2001

## Spiritual Coffee

Last time I spoke on faith and its importance for any Christian to have and develop. During this time of year, just finishing up Christmas, getting together with family, and starting a new year, time can really pass by quickly. Before you know it you turn around and it's February, and it just seemed like yesterday that you were getting ready for Thanksgiving. With the time seemingly passing by so quickly, developing your faith now to withstand the whiles of the devil is so crucial.

John 16:33 NIV says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

So what exactly is this saying? You may look around the world and you don't necessarily see that. But if that is your thinking, you need to be asking yourself "Where is your faith?" Is your faith so strong that you don't let the worlds or your troubles get you down, because you know your Lord will supply your need through His riches and glory? Or are you easily moved by your mind, will, and emotions? If you have been in relation with God through prayer and reading his word you will know what things He has told you. In this verse Jesus is saying that He has overcome the world, through His plan of redemption. Also, He says "..that in me you may have peace." Through Him we will have peace, peace meaning nothing missing nothing broken. No sickness, no disease, no debt, no condemnation, no bondage kind of peace.

The Bible says to "..trust in the Lord with all your heart..." and through faith in God we will have that kind of peace. But, this verse also says "..in the world you will have trouble.." Just because you're a Christian doesn't mean trouble doesn't want anything to do with you. The Bible says that lack of knowledge will kill his people. So you need to realize that, yes, Christ has overcome the world and our faith should be in Him so that we may have peace, but you will have trouble in this world. But what does Jesus end this verse with, "..But take heart! I have overcome the world." Take heart, don't let the world or anyone get you down with their trouble. You have a great and awesome Father on your side and through Him we can have the nothing missing nothing broken peace in our lives. Now that's good news!

So as we end 2001 and enter into 2002 keep in mind where your trust and faith is, or should be in. All things are possible through Christ Jesus. So continue to feed your faith with the word of God so you can be so confident that you look trouble in the face and laugh because you know you are more than a conqueror and no weapon formed against you will prosper. Amen!