



There's no checkmate against the Kingdom of Heaven

Many of you would know the term checkmate - *a winning position in chess in which you have put the other player's king under a direct attack from which it cannot escape (Cambridge dictionary meaning)*. Unlike the worldly game of chess, our King, Jesus Christ, cannot be defeated. There's no checkmate against Jesus Christ and His church.

Matthew 16:15-19

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. **And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Jesus has already won our freedom and victory on the cross by defeating death. Jesus' promise to us is that the gates of hell will not prevail against his church. We are his church, the temple of the living God.

1 Corinthians 3:16

Don't you realize that **all of you together are the temple of God** and that **the Spirit of God lives in you?**

2 Corinthians 6:16

What agreement has the temple of God with idols? **For we are the temple of the living God;** as God said,

"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

1 Corinthians 15:54-57

Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled:

"Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. **But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.**



Colossians 2:13-15

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He cancelled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, **he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.**

Revelation 1:18

I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, **I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.**

Those who live in the light, that is those who believe in and live for Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, do not belong to the world for we are all citizens of heaven and children of the Most High. Jesus tells us we are the light of the world. We do not walk in darkness but have the light of life. We are not defeated because Jesus has given us authority over ALL the power of the enemy.

Philippians 3:20-21

But **we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives.** And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

Matthew 5:14

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Luke 10:19

Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.**

The devil, who is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44), cannot overcome you because He who is in you (Holy Spirit) is greater than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes (Ephesians 6:11). Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you (James 4:7). These are not only God’s promises to his children but foundational truths of God’s Word we stand upon.

Speak God’s Word, the sword of the spirit and resist the devil by declaring God’s promises over you, your family and your nation. In Matthew 4 Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Jesus submitted to God and resisted the devil by standing on God’s truth “IT IS WRITTEN”.

- **IT IS WRITTEN** ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’
- **IT IS WRITTEN** ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’
- **IT IS WRITTEN** “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’ ”

After 3 temptations from the devil, verse 11 tells us, *Then **the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.***



Speak and declare God's Word over your life. Submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you.

- I am the head and not the tail.
The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom. **Deuteronomy 28:13**
- Greater is He who is in me (Holy Spirit) than he who is in the world.
But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because **the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.** **1 John 4:4**
- There are more for us than against us.
He said, "Do not be afraid, **for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.**" **2 Kings 6:16**

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, **for there is a greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.**" And the people gained confidence from what Hezekiah the king of Judah said. **2 Chronicles 32:7-8**
- I have not been given a spirit of fear, I have been given the Holy Spirit of power, love and a sound mind.
For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of **power and of love and of a sound mind.** **2 Timothy 1:7**

Use the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God and declare God's Word over you, your family and your nation for this is your weaponry - the armour of God!

Ephesians 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **Put on the full armour of God**, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and **the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

And **pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.** With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. **Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.**