

# Testify!

Revelation 12:10-12

**Central Idea:** God can use your testimony in so many ways to help others and you!

## Introduction

Today is a special day that I believe God can use to increase and build your faith that He can do anything! In a few short minutes, we are going to hear testimonies of what God has done and is doing in the lives of those sitting around you. But I want you to understand the importance of this moment as we hear or tell what God is doing. The Bible gives us precedent to testify about God's goodness. Let's look at Revelation 12:10-12.

## Text – Revelation 12:10-12

<sup>10</sup> And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. <sup>11</sup> And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

### I. Victory Through Jesus' Blood.

#### A. Jesus brought victory through His death.

- i. We are about to enter into the time of Easter where we celebrate God's victory over Satan and wickedness through Jesus' sacrifice. John reminds us of what Jesus did on the cross as he talks about the blood of Christ.
- ii. The devil accuses the brethren. That's what he loves to do. But we have a defense in Jesus. When Jesus went to the cross, He took the very worst of you and nailed it to the tree.
- iii. Satan wants to remind you of your former way of life, to remind you of every time that you stumble as you follow Christ. He wants you to think that you are alone and no one else is going through your trials.
- iv. But Jesus died so that you can be free of anything that binds! We forget that from time to time and allow the devil to try to pull one over on us. But our victory starts at the cross with Jesus' victory.
- v. Satan had brought Jesus to a place right where he wanted Him. He wanted Jesus dead, to kill the Son of God, and take over ownership of the world. But in having Jesus killed, Satan sealed his own fate.

- vi. So we come to a place in the story of redemption in which God is preparing for the final victory against the adversary and His kingdom is about to come to reign.
- vii. The saints in heaven and all others are rejoicing over God's victory and the consummation of human history, where Jesus takes His rightful place in the heavens.
- viii. **Application:** Jesus is always reigning. Even when you think that He's not in control, He still is. He may allow certain things for now, but the time is coming when He will no longer allow Satan to misuse his borrowed power.

B. We share in His victory through salvation.

- i. The scene in Revelation 12 is that the dragon, Satan, has been defeated in the heavenly battle. So he is kicked out of heaven, and find his way to the earth.
- ii. Upon arriving, Satan makes the lives of the saints a living Hell. He accuses and abuses the people of God. As Satan attacks the people of God, though he forgets three weapons that the saints have at their disposal.
- iii. The first is the death and resurrection of Jesus, which gives them salvation and eternal life. No matter what Satan brings against them, they belong to God, not to him.
- iv. Because Jesus had victory over sin and death on a cosmic and complete level, every believer who trusts in His sacrifice also shares in that victory over death through the resurrection that will come at the end.
- v. Second, they have their testimony. They can tell of the goodness of God and how God has saved and delivered and healed them from many situations and diseases.
- vi. No matter what you may be dealing with that looks like an insurmountable mountain of trial, because of what Jesus has done for you at the cross and His continued intervention in your life, you are always free!
- vii. The third is the rejoicing and great joy that comes with the freedom of Christ's victory in each of us. We cannot be destroyed. We stand as victors with Jesus!

II. Victory Through Your Testimony.

A. Everyone has a testimony to share.

- i. The word of your testimony is the spoken and demonstrated power of God in your life right now. It's one thing to affirm doctrines and to affirm the Bible's truth. It's another to live it!
- ii. When we stand up and give our testimony, the story of what God has done in our own lives and in our person, it shows His power is not just for other people but for us, not just back then but today.

- iii. Testimonies build faith to see God do even greater things. When we look back at the impossible made possible, the lost found, the blind able to see, the broken made whole and the sick made well, we can see God doing something now.
  - iv. If God could do the impossible back then, then He can do the impossible now. Testimonies put our problems as small before our great God, not our mountains too big for God to handle.
  - v. Testimonies give us reason to rejoice in God's power. We seen in verse 12 that the heavens, the saints, the angels, and everyone celebrates the victory of God and of His people. Testimonies are not meant to be heard with a quizzical ear. They are meant to be fuel to praise God!
  - vi. Testimonies remind us that God is always with us. Sometimes it's not until after we have looked back that we see God's hand even in the worst parts of our lives. Looking back and testifying shows that God was with us when we thought we were all alone.
  - vii. Testimonies glorify God and give Him praise. In verse 12, we see everyone rejoicing because of two things, first the victory of God over the dragon, Satan, in verse 10. Second, they are celebrating the victory on earth of God's people through their testimony! Your testimony puts God at the center of your story as the hero!
- B. Your testimony is a powerful weapon.
- i. Some people have a powerful testimony because God has brought them out of a lot of turmoil and sin. But others are like me, growing up in the church. Many people don't feel they have a testimony!
  - ii. But everyone has a story of how God has worked in their lives, and He is working today. It can be in the little things, the blessings God brings your way. It can be in the big things, like your salvation and how He's protected you from danger or provided in a powerful way.
  - iii. Nobody realizes the power of their testimony. It destroys the enemy to even hear you speak about God's goodness. It empowers you to trust Him for greater things, and it enlivens the faith in others who hear your testimony.
  - iv. With the words you speak about your own experiences with God, you show others ways that He has moved and blessed and healed and redeemed. They begin to see that God can do these great things, so the things they need are put into proper perspective.
  - v. Most of the time in the New Testament, a testimony can be a dangerous thing to the testifier. The word for testimony and witness is also the root of the word that we use in English as martyr.

- vi. A martyr is someone who gives their life for Christ, despite the persecution of others. They consider the power of their testimony greater than the dangers of this world.
- vii. The writer of Hebrews said about those who had faith that the world was not worthy of them. There are many who have given their lives for the gospel, and while we live in this free country, we must not be afraid to speak about God's goodness.
- viii. **Application:** Don't let Satan take your testimony from you. He can do that through tricking you into thinking you don't have a testimony, or that it's not worth telling. He can do that through making you wonder what others will think or just not speaking. When you don't speak your testimony, you can't overcome!

## Conclusion

Experiencing God's victory in our lives makes us aware of His power and presence. God is on the throne, and He has the power to take care of any situation you come up against as a believer. We can rely on God and lean on Him through the empowering of our faith. Like a muscle, our faith must be strengthened, and one of the ways to do that is to look back at what God has done, and relive the victory through testifying about His goodness. What has God done for you?

## Action Points

- For those who are saved, victory comes from salvation through Jesus Christ at the cross. His death and resurrection make us invincible to Satan's desire to destroy us.
- When we share our testimony, God can use it to show others His power and to remind us of His goodness in our lives.
- Everyone has a testimony that God can use to bring power to your faith and hope in Him. He can use it to change your life and the lives of others around you.
- When we rejoice with others who share their testimony, we do the work of Heaven and praise God for giving us the power to overcome through Christ!