

The following devotional was so powerful that I want you to read it in its entirety – it is from Rick Renner, a missionary to Russia and his 'Sparkling Gems' collection:

Never Forget That You Are More Than a Conqueror!

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
—Romans 8:37

How do you see yourself? As a champion who wins nearly every fight? Or as a loser — someone who struggles along, never seeming to conquer a single problem? How you perceive yourself is very important because it will ultimately affect the way other people see you.

Have you ever met someone who had a bad self-image or who always seemed to carry an air of inferiority around with him? It isn't hard to discern this attitude in people. They feel so badly about themselves that they exude their negative perception of themselves and their sense of insecurity. On the other hand, if you've ever met individuals who are self-confident and self-assured, you know that it's easy to recognize their confidence. Why? Because a confident person exudes confidence.

It is simply a fact that you will inevitably project what you feel about yourself to others. So this question about how you see yourself is very important. If you see yourself as a champion who wins every fight, that is exactly how others will see you. But if you see yourself as someone who struggles and wrestles with a bad self-image — that is precisely how others will perceive you.

So let's turn to Romans 8:37 to see what the Word of God has to say about us. In this verse, Paul declares that "we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." I want to especially draw your attention to the phrase "more than conquerors." It comes from the Greek word *hupernikos*, a compound of the words *huper* and *nikos*. By joining the words *huper* and *nikos* together into one word, Paul is making one fabulous, jammed-packed, power-filled statement about you and me!

The words "more than" are derived from the Greek word *huper*, which literally means over, above, and beyond. It depicts something that is way beyond measure. It carries the idea of superiority — something that is utmost, paramount, foremost, first-rate, first-class, and top-notch; greater, higher, and better than; superior to; preeminent, dominant, and incomparable; more than a match for; unsurpassed, unequaled, and unrivaled by any person or thing.

Now Paul uses this same word to denote what kind of conquerors we are in Jesus Christ. We are *huper-conquerors*! Paul uses this word *huper* to dramatize our victory.

This is what Paul meant to get across in Romans 8:37:

"We are greater conquerors, superior conquerors, higher and better conquerors!"

"We are more than a match for any foe!"

"We are utmost conquerors, paramount conquerors, top-notch conquerors, unsurpassed conquerors, unequaled and unrivaled conquerors!"

But we must continue to the next part of the verse, where Paul calls us "conquerors." The word "conqueror" is from the Greek word nikos. The word nikos describes an overcomer; a conqueror, champion, victor, or master. It is the picture of an overwhelming, prevailing force. However, the word nikos alone wasn't strong enough to make Paul's point, so he joined the words huper and nikos together to make his point even stronger!

When you put these two words together, they form the word hupernikos, which declares that in Jesus Christ, you are an overwhelming conqueror, a paramount victor, or an enormous overcomer. This word is so power-packed that one could interpret it as a phenomenal, walloping, conquering force!

That's precisely who you are in Jesus Christ! So stop looking at yourself as a struggling loser. Regardless of your past experiences, you must begin to look at yourself through God's eyes and in the light of Romans 8:37. This verse declares that you are always the winner and never a loser! And when you begin to see yourself the way God sees you, it will change the way others see you too.

Resolve right now to see yourself the way the Word of God does — as a walloping and conquering force! You are more than a match for any adversary or foe that would come against you today!
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Now I ask you - have you ever see yourself like that???? I think most of us would live a very different life as Christians if we began to see ourselves through God's eyes, no matter what our current circumstances. I recently heard this quote that caused me to begin to meditate on life from another perspective; "Every failure, loss or tragedy in the life of a Christian is temporary but every victory is eternal." If Joseph or David had evaluated God or himself based on his circumstances during those testing years, do you think they would have become mighty men of God or would the enemy have talked them into disbelief, defeat and the aborting of their destinies??? In Psalm 105:17-19KJV, it says 'the Word of God tried Joseph' (i.e. tested his character) until it came to pass.

This may be where you are right now, if so hold on to Rom 8:37 – like the saying goes 'it ain't over till the fat lady sings!' Let God be the One who sings your life story!