

7 September 1995, Morning Minchah Sus, France

Overcoming the Snares Of the Evil One; Cowardice

John was writing to those whom he really loved. He knew they had started to wane. They only believed in their minds without really having the works of love. It was what we call *gnosticism*. Christianity is a form of *gnosticism*. 1 Jn 2:14.

Rev 21:7 — shall inherit all these things, like in verse 3, the very dwelling place of God. Verse 4 — the old condition, the former order of things has passed away.

Psalm 8 — The Son of God will rule over all of creation. Redeemed humanity by the blood of the Lamb of God will be the exact representation of God in the flesh. Jn 14:9 — Yahshua told Philip that He was the exact representation of the Father.

Gal 3:27 — Yahshua is a Body to be entered in at baptism. We come into Him, and He comes into us. We are one spirit.

Rev 21 — Verse 8 is connected to verse 7 through the word *but*. The gospel sets people free from all the clever devices the evil one has to keep people under his rulership. 1 Jn 5:19 — The good news sets people free from the dominion of Satan and brings them over in the kingdom of Yahshua. Rev 21:7 — He who is victorious over Satan, over all of his devices with which he ensnares people.

2 Pet 1:3-4 — He has called us to His own excellency. We are to be as excellent as He is. We are to be the excellent representation of Him so that He could be exulted and glorified through human nature. Human nature is fallen, but now He is restoring us. How great is divine nature?

Verse 4 — We have to escape from the moral decay that is in the world. Why do people want to go to college? To escape having to work by the sweat of their brow.

Rom 2:8-9 — For those who are self-seeking, self-willed, given to lust, responsive to wickedness, there will be tribulation. Wickedness is not coming under the persuasion of the Spirit of God. Verses 9-11.

Rev 21:7 — He who overcomes these things by which Satan keeps the whole world under his power... Verse 8 — a coward is not an overcomer.

*Ignoble* — unbelief keeps you in that ignoble state of never becoming like God, but becoming like the god of this world. Our soul is being enabled to express the image of God.

*Coward* — cravenly, lacking in courage. Is God a coward? God didn't create us to be *ignoble*. He created us to be *noble*. There is something that God can't do. He can't make man any better than He did in the beginning in his unfallen state. Psalm 8 — He made man a little lower than God so that He could dwell in man and be represented by him. You can't see God, but you can see man.

Rev 21:8 — There is nothing more contemptible than being a coward. There is even something noble in the nations for a person to go to war and protect his country against a tyrant. It's a noble thing in the nations for a person to die for another person. *Cravenly* means lacking in courage. The remnant of Jacob is going to be like a lion in the midst of a forest — Mic 5:7-8. You don't mess around with a lion. Lions were made to have dominion. All animals know not to mess around with lions.

That's how God made man, but we are afraid of a roach or a rat. We jump back when we see a snake. Are you afraid of a little creeping thing? Are you being trained to be like that?

We have to have dominion over other kinds of creeping things — things that creep into our lives.

Rev 21:27 — Nothing that defiles other people will enter the Holy City. Only those who have been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb, only those whose names are in the Lamb's book of life. The Word of God goes on and on. It's amazing. You could talk about it for eternity.

Are you cowardly submissive, afraid to speak what you think our Father is putting in your heart? Rev 21:8 — They won't have a second life, but a second death. Verse 9 — that's who we are. What did the Lamb's wife look like? Verses 10-12 — The bride of Messiah are twelve tribes, twelve gates. The twelve gates are twelve entry places to come into the Holy City. You have to make that entry into the Holy City in this age or in the next age. There is no more entry in the eternal age. For us we have to make it in this age; for the people in the next age, they have to make it in the next age (to enter into the Holy City).

We are the ones to invite people into that Holy City. We are so thankful for our salvation that we are not ashamed to tell all the others that we have opportunity to talk to about our Master. We already have overcome Satan in his schemes to keep us from believing, now we need to overcome him in the things that could keep us from the kingdom. 1 Jn 5:4.