

*From Where I Sit . . .*

## **More Than Conquerors**

I read a fable once concerning a mouse which lived in the home of a magician. The mouse was in constant fear of cats. Taking pity on the mouse, the magician changed it into a cat, but immediately it developed a fear of dogs. Then the magician turned the mouse / cat into a dog, only to observe that it now feared lions. The magician mercifully turned the mouse / cat / dog into a lion, but in the form of a lion it trembled at the sight of hunters. Thereupon the magician bellowed, "Out upon you! Be a mouse again! You have only the heart of a mouse!"

Perhaps the magician learned what we all need to know -- Even if we have the "magic" to change the outer form (like cosmetic surgery does) if the heart isn't changed, one's true nature still comes through. There was still a mouse's heart in the lion. We can't help but remember the words of sacred Scripture: Prov. 23:7 "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Also Prov. 4:23, "For out of the heart are the issues of life."

One cannot become a lion in the Kingdom of Heaven if he maintains the heart of a mouse! The fainthearted, fearful, doubtful, and unbelieving are spoken of in Rev. 21:8 along with the abominable, idolaters, and liars, that they "shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone..." The writer of Hebrews (3:19) states that the reason Israel did not inherit the promised land sooner was for "unbelief"!

To become the kind of conqueror that Paul described in Romans 8:35-37, radical surgery must be performed -- a virtual heart transplant!! If we just had a genie or magician to blink us into a state of change!! But there are no magicians -- Only Christ can give us the heart of a lion!! He can equip us to be "more than conquerors through Him that loved us." (Rom. 8:37).

Yes, a conqueror must have a "heart" change (Romans 12:1-2). The lion was just a "mouse" at heart. Some professed Christians still have the sinners heart. Some still have a heart in love with the world, 1 Jno. 2:15b "...if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in Him." Some still have fearful and unbelieving hearts. Heb. 4:11 "Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."

There is no room for "Faint-Hearted Christians." Jesus never intended that we be fearful. 2 Tim 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear...."

However, for those of us who have a heart changing surgery by Jesus Christ: 2 Cor 4:16 "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." Christ wants us to be conquerors in His army! Overcomers of the world!! He has equipped us to become just that as Christians, and to overcome the sin that so easily besets us. "We are more than conquerors -- Overcomers in this life; We've been made victorious: through the blood of Jesus Christ.

..... Terry Broome

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