

Prepare Him Room
“Overcoming Opposition”
12-14-08

God’s revelation is always accompanied by opposition that must be overcome.

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

Opposition will either derail you from God’s plans, or cause you to find new dimensions of Christ’s power working in you.

“Opposition” translated: Confrontation, conflict, struggle, fight, adversary, opponent.

Hebrews 12:2-4 *“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”*

Truth About Opposition:

There is an opposite force to a good and loving God.

Gen. 2

This opposition (led by Satan) is directed towards God’s children. *We become evil’s target.*

Jn. 10:10; 1 Pet. 5:8

Evil opposition has been defeated by Jesus at the cross.

Col. 2:15

Christ’s power within us enables us to overcome and to develop character (perseverance, patience, etc.)

Rom. 8:36; James 1:2-4

Newton’s Third Law

For every action (or force) there is a reaction (or opposing force) of equal strength but opposite direction.

Matthew 1:18-25 – Opposition to the revelation in Christmas

Mary faced opposition: Luke 2

Obeying God’s revelation often leads to the disapproval and misunderstanding of others.

Joseph faced opposition: Matt. 1

Obeying God’s revelation can mean great sacrifice.

What opposition are you facing?

Application: What do we do?

1. Expect opposition to God’s revelation
 - a. Jesus: *In this world you will have trouble.*
2. Expect victory – Jesus: *But take heart I have overcome.*
 - a. Paul: Romans 8:36 In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
3. Submit to the power of Christ with you to overcome the opposition to God’s will.