**We Shall Overcome**

(Exodus 12:13 KJV)

 *"The blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you"*

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e Shall Overcome is a song that was born in slavery. It was a time when the people of color were enslaved and worked all day with no salary, no say, no freedom, no fairness, no choice and no chance—but the people of oppression could sang and there was a message in the singing that betwixt the minds for the task masters. The more they suffered, yet the more they sang to relieve the hurt, to fight the cruelty and to declare that they were human beings."

It wasn't easy to live during these cruel and segregated time. It wasn't easy when white people shut out African Americans from good jobs and good pay, schools and libraries and neighborhoods, restaurants and hotels and bathrooms. In fact, even white churches, even at one time, maybe this particular church was segregated depriving blacks of the equal rights. But some black Americans and some white Americans did believe they could overcome the unfairness, hate, and violence and mounted together to make a difference. They started to protest and they brought the church song, "We Shall Overcome," to the streets. And as they were marching and working together both black and whites, they sang, "We Shall Overcome. We will overcome some day—deep in my heart I do believe, we shall overcome someday!"

As they continuously lead and song this song in the hedges, highways and byways—the song begin to reach the ears of city people, country people, followers and leaders including Martin Luther King, Jr. the historical preacher who carried that song in his heart as he traveled and worked for justice for African Americans. The words changed the hearts of many, but the spirit stayed the same with the majority who believed that blacks were nothing less than property."But they continued to sang that we shall overcome some day". In fact, school students sang the song at lunch counters and in jails. And now we're not afraid of singing it today.

The Freedom Singers sang it; as they toured 40 states in 9 months! They sang, we are not alone today. In Washington, DC, hundreds of thousands of people—young and old, black and white – sang, we’ll walk hand in hand someday.

Moreover, it seemed as if America was making a difference slowly things were changing and the law were being passed. But sadly the race hatred stayed strong, even stronger than laws. And finally President Lyndon Johnson gave a speech on Monday, March 15th 1965, whom his ancestors once held slaves in Texas and Georgia.President Lyndon Johnson looked out at the millions of people watching him on television . He spoke of equal rights, human rights, and voting rights for African Americans and he said we must overcome the crippling legacy of bigotry and injustice.

I believe although I wasn't there—that the people of God made it because of His grace and mercy. I believe that the people of God made it despite the wounds inflected by discrimination and segregation that God heard the cry of the people and covered them with his precious blood and gave them life and peace in knowing that whatever their facing—just like the Israelites—that they shall overcome because He covered them with His blood.

There are numerous places in scripture which illustrate the Gospel truth about the necessity of the blood for salvation as this text. In the text Israel was about to be delivered from the oxymoron's of Egypt 400 years bondage—from years of depression and oppression. And the last plateau of the plagues of death of the firstborn was on the horizon—and the Israelites could escape the judgment of the plague if you heeded the message about the blood. The systematic divine instructions instituted by God included that in order for the first born to live one must make a commitment by slaying a lamb—which symbolized the foreshadowing of Jesus Christ—and applying the blood on the door posts which was a type and shadow of Calvary's Cross.

1. **The Prominence Of The Blood**

(Exodus 12:13 KJV)

 *"****The blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are****; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you"*