



NEW COVENANT CHURCH

RELEASE

The **GREAT**ER **ONE** Within

You are of God, little children, and have overcome them,
because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world

1 John 4:4

PASTOR BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min.

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You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them.

Real World Application

- Affirmative Action was not about elevating unqualified Black people over qualified White people.
- It is about selecting from a pool of diverse **qualified** people.
- It is about **AFFIRMING** the value of people, especially marginalized people and taking **ACTION** in support of them.
- It is about creating opportunities

In her dissent to the majority opinion rejecting Affirmative Action, **Justice Ketanji Brown-Jackson** wrote in part,

With let-them-eat-cake obliviousness, today, the majority pulls the ripcord and announces 'colorblindness for all' by legal fiat. But deeming race irrelevant in law does not make it so in life.

And having so detached itself from this country's actual past and present experiences, the court has now been lured into interfering with the crucial work that UNC and other institutions of higher learning are doing to solve America's real-world problems.

No one benefits from ignorance. Although formal race linked legal barriers are gone, race still matters to the lived experiences of all Americans in innumerable ways, and today's ruling makes things worse, not better.

“The intensity and duration of the attack [on Affirmative Action] is sad confirmation that many Americans remain unwilling to reckon with the barbarity of our racial history.”

~ New York Times

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/29/opinion/supreme-court-affirmative-action.html>

The concept of **affirming** others and taking positive **actions** on their behalf is scriptural:

"Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared..." (Nehemiah 8:10)

Mark 12:31, *Love your neighbor as yourself.*

Galatians 6:2, *Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ.*

Proverbs 3:27, *Don't withhold good from someone who deserves it, when it is in your power to do so*

Philippians 2:4, *Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.*

Luke 3:10-11, *The crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' He answered, 'Whoever has two shirts must share with the one who has none, and whoever has food must do the same.'*

1 John 3:17, *But if someone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but refuses to help — how can the love of God dwell in a person like that?*

Acts 20:35, *In everything I have shown you that, by working hard, we must help the weak. In this way we remember the Lord Jesus' words: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*

So in this environment we must remind ourselves that the **GREATER ONE lives within us.**

We trust God and we also look for Him to work in our circumstances, rearrange circumstances, remove ungodly people, and bring whatever is needed to make a difference.

This is what is meant by the word **“RELEASE.”**

RELEASE Defined

To set free from restraint, confinement, or servitude.

To relieve from something that confines, burdens, or oppresses

Philemon 1:6

That the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus

Be clear about what is in you in Christ.

Let it out, release it!

Knowing that Jesus lives within your heart by the Holy Spirit is one of the greatest realities of your life! God wants you to have faith in Him and confidence in what He has given you.

The “Greater One” within is your source of strength, hope, and ability to live a victorious life.

The greater one within you is your **new creation nature** in Christ. He is the “greater” one who is greater and more powerful than the world!

Realizing “every good thing” inside of you is a key to effective faith.

The person whose source is God will welcome the truth; the man whose source is the world will reject it.

(William Barclay Commentary)

The Apostle Paul understood that the Greater One was released within him:

Philippians 4:12, I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Three perspectives to release the greater one within you:

1. Confidence in God.
2. A strong sense of purpose.
3. A made up mind.

You can have confidence without arrogance

Arrogance: Having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's own importance or abilities.

Behaving as if you are better or more important than other people, *"I can do all things...."*

Confidence: Belief in one's God-given ability to succeed. *"I can do all things **through Christ** who strengthens me."*

Arrogance undermines confidence because it is not based on God's ability, but in our ability alone.

Self-righteousness is arrogance.

Arrogance does not unleash the giant. **It unleashes a little guy with a big head.**