

Faith and victory over the world



1 John 5:1-5

Introduction

- ▶ No victory in store for some summer athletes
- ▶ We cannot cheat in the race
- ▶ Faith is in a titanic struggle with the world
- ▶ James affirms this in 4:4



Introduction

- ▶ Victory has already been won!
- ▶ Faith and victory go hand in hand
- ▶ In what sense is John using the word “world?”
- ▶ Dimensions of spiritual battle that John mentions...to help us overcome the world!



LOVING FELLOWSHIP

- ▶ **“Everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him”(5:1)**
- ▶ This is like A to B to C kind of logical thinking
- ▶ Pictured as family
- ▶ Tom’s presentation
- ▶ How much we need one another
- ▶ Never meant to be lived alone



CERTAINTY OF THAT LOVE

- ▶ **“ By this we know that we love the children of God” (5:2a)**
- ▶ **“We know” is crucial in being born again.**
- ▶ **Interesting what” we know” according to John**





OBEYING “LIGHT”

COMMANDMENTS

- ▶ His commandments are not “burdensome”
- ▶ Living for Jesus is living “lightly”
- ▶ “**Burdensome**” adds to the problems of the world
- ▶ We do no one a favor by creating back-breaking requirements to put on the shoulders of people already hurting!

TRANSFORMATIONAL BELIEF



- ▶ Our faith is the victory.
- ▶ Interesting affirmation here
- ▶ New way of conceiving the transformational power of belief
- ▶ Embodiment of victory
- ▶ We live victoriously because our faith IS victory!

HAVING BEEN BORN OF GOD

- ▶ **“Everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world”(5:4).**
- ▶ **“Having been born”**
- ▶ **He has given us resources**
- ▶ **We have a different way of seeing**
- ▶ **We have a different set of values**
- ▶ **We bear His characteristics**





Conclusion

- ▶ **These 5 things help us overcome the world: loving fellowship, certainty of that love, obeying “light” commandments, having been born of God, and transformational belief!**



Conclusion

- ▶ This lesson is vital because of how Christian relationships help us with this spiritual battle.
- ▶ Affirmation in every conceivable assembly: we have overcome the world because of Jesus!

Conclusion

- ▶ Challenge: in my own life, where am I tempted to give in to the world's values, offerings, and cheap imitations?
- ▶ We encourage one another to live in the world, but not be of the world!

