

Are you an Overcomer?

1 John 5:1-5

Introduction:

First John 5:1-5 depicts the victorious life. The Bible uses many terms to describe those who have entered into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. For instance, we are called Christians. We are also called the children of God (John 1:12), children of light (Eph. 5:8), , and children of obedience (1 Pet. 1:14). But there is another title in the New Testament that may be as exciting as any other, and it is the title over comers. That is the title John uses in 1 John 5:4 Are you an over comer? Do you have the ability to over come this world? Let us see what the scripture says.

Scripture:

1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? (1 John 5:1-5, NKJV)

Key Points:

1. Believing in Christ
2. Joyful obedience
3. Victory

Outline:

1. Believing in Christ
 - a. Put your trust in HIM.
 - i. 6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)
 - b. Become a child of God by receiving Christ.
 - i. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: (John 1:12)
 - ii. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. (Revelation 3:20)
2. Joyful obedience.
 - a. What is joyful obedience?
 - i. Joyful obedience is obeying God out of love not fear or necessity.
 - ii. The secret to joyful obedience is love:
 - (1) Love for God.
 - (2) Love for our brothers and sisters.

- iii. As we continue to be obedient our love for Christ grows.
 - (1) As our love grows our attitude towards the Bible changes.
 - (a) We no longer find the commandments within burdensome.
 - (b) We then read the Bible as a love letter and not a text book.

Believing in Christ and joyful obedience leads us to victory. Victory over this world of sin and inequity.

3. Victory

- a. Victory comes from faith and our faith grows as we grow in love.
- b. We were born of God so that makes us over comers of the world.
 - i. 6 For I will not trust in my bow, Nor shall my sword save me.7 But You have saved us from our enemies, And have put to shame those who hated us. 8 In God we boast all day long, And praise Your name forever. (Psalm 44:6-8, NKJV)
 - (1) The things of this world will not bring victory only Christ can bring victory.
 - ii. 19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Luke 10:19, NKJV)
 - (1) Christ gives us the power to conquer our enemies and the world, so that we may give him the victory over it all.
 - (2) This reminds me of an old hymn that we rarely hear anymore called “Faith Is the Victory.”

Conclusion:

Are you ready to claim the promise to be an over comer of the world? God never intended for the Christian to be defeated by the evils of this world. “2 Don’t become like the people of this world. Instead, change the way you think. Then you will always be able to determine what God really wants—what is good, pleasing, and perfect. “ (GWT, God’s Word Translation.) Are you ready to separate yourselves?