

Overcoming the World

Scripture Text: John 16:33

About the Text:

- 1) Jesus overcame the world through his death.
- 2) Paul says that he “. . .gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father” (Gal.1:4).
- 3) John sums up the power of the world in 1 John 2:15-17
- 4) Overcoming the world means overcoming the sin which is in it.
- 5) Can we overcome the world as did Jesus?

We can overcome the world because . . .

I. GOD GIVES US THE POWER

1. God is in us and he gives us the power to overcome—1 John 4:4-6
2. God’s power is in His Word.
 - 1) Romans 1:16
 - 2) Hebrews 4:12
 - 3) So, we overcome by a knowledge of God’s word—2 Timothy 3:16,17
3. Power exists nowhere else in the world!

II. FAITH GIVES US THE VICTORY

1. Faith is the victory—1 John 5:4, 5 (Our Morning Lesson)
2. The manifestation of our faith—being born of God – a requirement for salvation
 - 1) John 3:3-5
 - 2) 1 Peter 1:23
 - 3) 1 Peter 1:3
 - 4) 1 Peter 3:21
3. The object of our faith—Jesus Christ – He is the one that has made everything possible.
 - 1) Peters confession—Matthew 16:15, 16
 - 2) John’s persuasion—John 20:30, 31
 - 3) People that obey other people today are sadly obeying emptiness.

III. THE WORLD SHOWS US THE ALTERNATIVE

1. In life, there are few places in which you can see the alternative of your choice before you make it. Most times, you have to make that decision “in the dark.”
2. Satan is the one who controls the world—1 John 5:19 “we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in the evil one” (ASV).
3. And there is nothing that is good about Satan-
 - 1) He is the father of lies—John 8:44
 - 2) He is an adversary and devourer – 1 Peter 5:8
 - 3) He is a deceiver—2 Corinthians 11:14
3. It is possible for the world to overcome us if we are not careful—2 Peter 2:19-22 – some of the scariest verses in Scripture.
 - 1) Backsliding is an option.
 - 2) A good foundation is key! (Mt. 7:24-27, Parable of Soils, Etc.)

IV. THE RESULTS OF OVERCOMING GIVE US THE MOTIVATION

1. Rev.2:7 – eat of the tree of life
2. Rev.2:11 – not hurt of second death
3. Rev.3:5 – not blot out of the book of life, confessed before the Father & angels
4. Rev.3:21 – sit with the Father
5. Rev.21:7 – inherit all things, personal relationship
6. We can have confidence!
 - 1) John 16:33 – Jesus has said He has already overcome the World.
 - 2) How? He defeated Satan when He died on the cross for our sins, fulfilling the 1st Messianic prophecy in Gen. 3:15.
 - 3) Confidence
 - a) Imagine you are the best basketball player in the world and you are about to play the worst player in the world. You would go into the game with the mindset that you have already won!
 - b) Jeopardy!
 - 1) Favorite gameshow
 - 2) I sometimes take off work early to watch it.
 - 3) Imagine Final Jeopardy!

aa) You have \$32,000, the person to your left has \$1,400, and the final person has \$600.

bb) You are going into the last round with the thought that you don't even have to answer the last question or wager any money because there is no possible way for you to lose.

4) We can have that level of confidence only if we are in Christ.

5) The world cannot offer any sense of confidence near the level found in Christ Jesus.

6) Why not be on His team as opposed to the losing team? YOU have the choice tonight!

Do we . . .

- 1) Desire these wonderful blessings?
- 2) Despise the awfulness of the world?
- 3) Desire to be victorious through faithful living?
- 4) Desire God's power in our lives?

If so, then we can overcome

- 1) By God's Power
- 2) By our victorious faith
- 3) By rejecting the alternative
- 4) By allowing the results of victory to motivate us.

Invitation