

1Jn 14 – **Disciples Have Faith, Love, & Victory - 1Jn 5:1-5**

Dave Shepardson, wordbymail.com

Hey – **do you remember** that great song (*it's a classic*)

“Dave & Pam. Sittin in a tree, K I S S I N G – first comes LOVE, then comes MARRIAGE, then comes BABY in the Baby Carriage”

OK – **IF you remember** this song
you'll be able to **follow** this Msg

Here's **how** it works – for **Every believer** in the Room

***First comes FAITH, then comes LOVE,
then comes VICTORY over the evil world - (Remember that)***

Let's **begin** today – by reading our text – from the **NLT**

1Jn 5:1-5 - NLT

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too.

2 We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments.

3 Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome.

4 For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith.

5 And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Let's Pray

Ok - remember **HOW** the **SONG** goes . . .

***First come FAITH, Then comes LOVE,
Then Comes VICTORY over the Evil World***

& so we start with **FAITH**

1Jn 5:1(A) - ESV

1 Everyone who believes (has faith) that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, . . .

Man – that’s **GOOD NEWS** – Isn’t it?

But here’s what we’ve got to **notice**

Christianity is not **WHAT** we believe
it’s **WHO** we believe

Christianity is not a **List of Moral Precepts** we cling to
it’s a **PERSON**

It’s Jesus – ***The Christ - The Messiah – The Anointed One***

& ***Everyone who Believes*** – Who puts their Faith
in Jesus – AS the Christ (Messiah) – ***HAS BEEN born of God***

Praise the Lord – Right ?

Us **putting our Faith** in Jesus – **AS** the Christ
Makes us **Children of God** – **Born of God**

That’s the FAITH

Now – **in the 2nd half** of Vs 1 – we see the **LOVE**

If you are a **CHILD of God** (*Born of God*)
Then you **LOVE** your **Heavenly Father**

& if you **LOVE** your **Heavenly Father**
You will **LOVE** your **HEAVENLY SIBLINGS**

1Jn 5:1(B) - ESV

. . . and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him

*If we Love the Father
we will Love WHOEVER has been born of Him*

NKJ uses the word "**Begotten**" here at the end of **V.1**
It makes people **think** John is talking about **Jesus** here

But **he's not** - he's talking about **ALL** Children of God

*. . . and everyone who loves the Father
loves whoever has been born of him*

Man – we just **can't get away** from this subject
Of Loving One Another – ***Can we?***

If we Love Our **Heavenly Father** [\[VIDEO\]](#)
We will Love **ALL** of our **Heavenly Siblings** (*other children of God*)

We **can't get away** from this subject
because God is trying to make a **very clear point**

What is the **very clear point** – God **been making** in 1John ??

If we Love Our Heavenly Father

We will Love ALL of our Heavenly Siblings

This THEME - of Loving One Another

Has been Incredibly PRIMARY - in 1John

This is our **SIXTH Msg** on the subject

With many more references – in Just 5 Ch's

& let's remember - **This Love** (*that we are to love One Another with*)
is the **OPPOSITE** of Self-Love

Self-Love can be an ***“exchange of needs”***

meaning : if you meet my needs - I'll meet your needs
that is actually self-love

But 1John is talking about God's Love - AGAPE love
which we've been defining as

“Sacrificing Self - for the Benefit of others - to the Glory of God”

the word **Agape** is a bit more **technical**
but **THAT** is what *it looks like*

So – **HOW** do we **KNOW**
if we are loving **with** God's Agape Love?

1Jn 5:2 – ESV → →

1Jn 5:2 - ESV

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

We can Know that we are **Loving** the children of God –
When we are **Loving God & Obeying** His commandments

Man – it's like – John has made this point **SO MANY TIMES**
That he **FLIPS** it backwards to make the **SAME POINT** again

HE **reverses the language** to make it sound different
but he's really **Making** the **SAME POINT**

MAYBE because it's **SUCH** a *critical point* for us to learn

How **many times** has John said . . .

IF we **Love God** & Are **Obeying** His commandments
THEN we **WILL BE** Loving One Another

Maybe He thinks we're getting numb to it
so he flips it around

& he says (Like it's a new truth)

If you are loving God's Children (*One Another*)
then you are Loving God & Obeying His Commandments

Do you see it?

Now – John's going to take that truth of ***Loving Others,***
BY Loving God & Keeping His Commandments

& he's going to **REVEAL** One *critical truth* about that

& then he's going to use that truth
to launch into his main point for our text today

This is a Pivotal Verse – so watch it carefully

Remember the song

*first comes FAITH – then comes LOVE
then comes VICTORY over the Evil World*

OK – we started with FAITH
& we're still in the LOVE stage

but this Vs actually lays the Foundation
for our VICTORY over the world

1Jn 5:3 - ESV

*3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.
And his commandments are not burdensome.*

John made reference in V. 2 - to
. . . Loving God AND Obeying His Commandments

& now he says
this IS the love of God, that we keep his commandments.

Do you know that EVERYTHING in Creation
OBEYS God . . . *except Man*

Thru-Out the Bible (*except for Lucifer*) we see
all of God's Creation Obeying Him – Except US

& the only way we will obey Him
is IF we Truly Love Him - & *I believe that's the point !*

& so V.3 says

this IS the love of God, that we keep his commandments . . .

Now - this is a good place to talk about

What SPECIFIC Commandments

Do you think John had in mind – IN THIS CONTEXT ??

Well – He’s been talking about LOVE - since CH 4:7

In the Previous 2 Vs’s in Ch 5 – He’s talking about
Loving God & Loving One Another . . .

So – What’s the chance John is thinking “specifically”
About The Greatest Commandment – in Mat Ch 22

Where the Pharisees asked Jesus

“What is the Greatest Commandment” – And Jesus answered

Mat 22:37-39 – LIVING BIBLE

***37 . . . Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.
38-39 This is the first and greatest commandment. The second
most important is similar: Love your neighbor as much as you
love yourself.***

The CONTEXT in 1John – *Especially in the section we’ve been in*
Is LOVING God Supremely – AND LOVING One Another

So – IF John had a Specific Commandment in Mind

It probably would’ve been
Loving God - & Loving One Another

1Jn 5:3 – one more time

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments
(loving God supremely, & loving one another). *& then, at the end*
And his commandments are not burdensome.

You were wondering if I was ever going to get to that – huh?

Now – **WHY** is Keeping God's commandments
NOT Burdensome ??

I've sure **seen** some people who **FELT**
like they were **Burdensome**

The reason God's commandments are **not burdensome**
is **BECAUSE OF** our **LOVE** *for* God

You know – **there are laws** (Commandments)
that **REQUIRE** mothers to take care of their **babies**

but **do you think**, for one minute,
that **my daughters**, (*who both have new babies*)

Do you think for one minute – they're **saying** – “*Man, these laws that require me to take care of my baby are SOOO Burdensome!*”

OF COURSE NOT !!

LOVE drives them to do - **what the law** says is good to do

& **that's** what John is **saying** here
He's talking about **our MOTIVATION** to Follow God

& **WHAT** makes the difference - -
is **WHY** were doing - **WHAT** we're doing

WHY we're doing – **WHAT** we're doing
is **what determines** if God's commands are **burdensome**

See – My daughters **Don't see** the **Requirement**
of **Caring** for the babies as **Burdensome**

BECAUSE they **LOVE** their babies

Their **motivation** is **LOVE** – so the requirement
to care for their babies – is **never Burdensome**

Now – that **doesn't** mean – **IT'S EASY !!**
It can be very difficult,

But **because** the **Motivation** is LOVE
It is **never a Burden**

A **young boy** was seen carrying another boy on his back
(*who obviously couldn't walk*)

& he seemed to be **struggling** quite a bit,

& so an **adult** came over to help - & he said son,
that boy on your back sure seems **heavy** to carry

& the **young boy** responded – **He's not heavy, he's my brother**

See - Love **MAKES** what we do - - **NOT** Burdensome

It may be difficult - but **WE DON'T** see it as a burden

because of the **LOVE** we have - for the one we're doing it *for*

SO - sometimes we **carry a brother**,
& sometimes we **care for a baby**

But if we're doing it **out of our Love for God**
It is **never** a **BURDEN**

In fact - **it becomes** instead – a **PRIVILEGE**

WHEN we are Loving Others
because of our Love for GOD

THEN - we are **Keeping His Commandments**
& they are **not a Burden** – *but instead, **become a Privilege***

Keeping God's **Commandments**
out of a **Growing Love** for Him

will **NEVER** be a Burden – & it always bring you **Joy**

So – let me ask you
what **DOES** make God's commandments **BURDENSOME?**

What is it that makes people think
that God's way is **difficult** – or **burdensome**?

Might it be – that we're **STRUGGLING** with something else ??

Might it be – that there's a **WAR OF MASTERS**
going on in our lives !!

Might it be The **Lust** of the **Flesh**
The **Lust** of the **Eyes** - &
The **Pride** of **life**

that **causes us to think**
that **God's Commandments** are **burdensome** ??

Back in **1Jn Ch 2**
we did a message called – **PICK ONE TO LOVE**

& we said very clearly – We must **EITHER**
Love the things of this world – OR - **Love God**

But we can only **PICK ONE (or the other) to Love**

& if we're **trying** to LOVE **BOTH**
We are in for a **very serious struggle**

& I promise you
If we are **PICKING** the **WRONG** One to Love

Then **Loving God** - & Keeping His **Commands**
Seems like an awful **BURDEN**

But it's actually **because**
you are in a **Serious Internal Struggle**

IF you are **Loving THIS WORLD**

Then the ways of this world will not be a **Burden** to you

IF you are **Loving GOD**

Then the ways of God will not be a **Burden** to you

John wrote it as a **WARNING** - back in **1Jn 2:15-17**

1Jn 2:15-17 - ESV

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (can't love both)

16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world.

17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Guys – **God's Word** is very clear

in order to **Love God** & **Keep His Commandments**
we must **OVERCOME** the Love of this world

So – **IF** that is a **Necessary Prerequisite** (& it is)

What is the chance

that Jesus has **ALREADY WON** that Victory ?

1Jn 5:4 – ESV → →

1Jn 5:4 - ESV

4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

The word “overcome” is used 3 times in 2 vs’s here

It means - One Who Conquers, is Victorious, Prevails

& Who is the one who Conquers,
who is Victorious, who Prevails ??

**The one who has been Born of God
Born Again thru Faith in Jesus Christ**

& notice (kinda cool) – The FIRST “Overcomes”

This word refers to - a battle IN PROGRESS
“We are overcoming”

But the SECOND “Has Overcome”

This word refers to - a FINISHED WORK
“Our ultimate Victory IS ASSURED (guaranteed) IN CHRIST”

Last week we read – in 1John 4:17
“As He is, so also are we in this world”

& That is a positional statement of our “standing” before God

When Jesus Christ died, we died with Him

When He was buried, we were buried with Him

When He rose victorious, we rose victorious with Him

Rom 6:4 – NLT

4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

That is our **POSITION** in Christ

& **when** we **WALK** in that standing - **by faith**,
we **WALK** in **HIS victory** over the World

HOWEVER – is it still possible

To like we have **NO VICTORY** over of this world?

Have you ever seen a **Christian** Living like that?

There was this **homeless guy** who'd grown up in extreme poverty
always wanderin around **begging for food** & spare change

& he'd **drive his friends crazy** saying that he was **related** to the
President of the U.S.

& they'd give him a hard time saying - **Right**, if your related to the
President, **why are you living** in the gutter with us

so one day he **decides** to prove it & he pulls out an **old rumped paper**
with the **President's signature** on it

& he said "**I never did learn to read**, but that's the President's
signature" right there

then one of his **homeless buddies** says – hey **stupid**, that letter says
you can move into the **White House** any time you want

& be **taken care of** by the **CIA** the rest of your life
What are you doing out here - **beggin crumbs** in the gutter ?

Listen, Pls – If you've been **born of God** (*Born Again*)

Jesus Christ has made you an **Overcomer!**
& given you VICTORY over this world

He has **defeated** every enemy
& you **SHARE** - in **His** victory

But you still have to **WALK in it** – *BY FAITH* – **every day**

& **IF** you will “**Walk every day**” in Your Love for God
Keeping His Commandments – *BECAUSE of your Love for Him*

I **promise** you – it will **NOT** be a **Burden**
It will be a **VICTORY**

So, when the **world** tempts you, by;

The **Lust** of the **Flesh**,
The **Lust** of the **Eyes**, &
The **Pride** of **Life** . . .

& then - **by FAITH** you say
I **CHOOSE** My Love for Jesus Christ

Out of my Love for Him - **I choose Him**, & **His ways**

& I **KNOW** by faith – that my **Loving God**,
& **Keeping His Commandments**

Makes me an **Overcomer**, a **Conqueror**, & one who **Prevails**

Because I AM a Child of God (v.1)

Because I Love God & Love His children (v.2)

Because Following Him is NOT a Burden – it's a Joy (v.3)

Because OF THAT – We can live

The Overcoming Victorious Life

Remember the song

*First comes FAITH, then comes LOVE,
then comes VICTORY over the Evil world*

The world wants to entice you

the devil wants to seduce you to destruction

But in Christ we already HAVE the victory . . .

But we still must choose to Trust Him by Faith,
& Walk in His Commandments every day

& the decisions we make IN FAITH
to Love God - & Obey His Commandments

That IS the Faith – that Overcomes this world

Let's read Vs's 4 & 5 together

1Jn 5:4-5 – ESV → →

1Jn 5:4-5 - ESV

4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

We have the **guaranteed** hope
of our **final victory** **IN CHRIST**

But **what about** today ??

Remember

***First comes FAITH, then comes LOVE,
then comes VICTORY over the Evil world***

Put your Faith in Jesus Christ

As your **Savior**, **Messiah**, **LORD**

Then **GROW** in your Love for Him

Get to **know Him** – more & more & more

The **more** we **know** Him - the **more** we **love** Him,

and the **more** we **love** Him

the **More VICTORIOUS** we become – over this world

The place to begin
is in the **quiet**, **personal place** of your life

You **MUST** Meet the God you Love **EVERY DAY**,
before you hit the **grind**

Begin your day with your Lord

Reading His Word, **meditating** on it,
& **worshiping** Him in **Prayer** and **Praise**

& You **WILL** experience
a **Growing** & **MATURING Love** for Him

When it begins to show
You'll know it - and **others** will know it

& **then** your life will be **marked**
by the **Confidence** & **Assurance** . . .

That you **HAVE** - - **Eternal Life** - & **Victory** over this world

Let's Pray