

**21S10** Part 8 study of 1 John 5:1-5

Hello everyone. Thank you for joining me today at the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get comfortable, get your coffee or tea or water and settle in for our talk.

I hope everyone is doing well.

Today we are continuing our study of 1<sup>st</sup> John. Some say 1 John 5:1-5 can be summarized as Eternal Life Now. I think it is better to summarize this section of 1<sup>st</sup> John as “Obedient Faith” which results in Eternal Life Now.

Remember before we start reading the bible we need to remember the background of 1<sup>st</sup> John. The author is the Apostle John. Most scholars believe it was written in AD85-90. The main themes in 1st John are,

- True Teaching, True Living and True Loving
- Encourage Christian who are being persecuted (who/why it was written to and what was happening in History). Christians were being persecuted by the Romans, by the Jews and pretty much very other group.
- We can Trust “who Jesus is”
- Jesus is both man & God - ignore false teachers who deny
- Correct the wrong ideas about Jesus
- Correct idea about what is good and evil which lead to the lack of morality in the church

Today we are going to study 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:1-5.

But before we get started I want to ask you a couple questions. Do you think there are a lot of pretenders in church – people with insincere faith?

What distinguishes true, saving faith from insincere faith?

Well I want you to ponder these questions as we read 1 John 5:1-5. I’m reading from the NKJV. *<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?.*

John says, “God’s commands are not burdensome” (v.3 NKJV). Some other translations put it this way “God’s commands are not too hard for us”. Do you agree with this statement?

I’ve seen many Christians who act like doing what God’s asks us to do is overwhelming and difficult. Yet Jesus tells us, *<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* in Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV). Jesus promises to give us rest, to lighten our load but how. By following Him and doing as He has commanded us as followers. *“my burden is light.”*

When we do things the way Jesus wants us to do, life is easier. He is the creator of everything. He knows what works best. He knows what's best for us.

John goes on to tell us in verse 4 that we have conquered the world. The New Living Translation puts it this way, "*we achieve this victory through our faith*". So if we have conquered the world, why are Christians treated so poorly by the world.?

Well we are not promised to have it easy. In fact Jesus promised us that anyone who chooses Him the world will hate because the world hated Him ( Matthew 11:22 and Luke 21:17). So, how can John claim we have conquered the world? Jesus. Jesus has victory over the world and through Him we also. Victory does not mean to problems, only that no matter the problem we can handle it. We have faith in what Jesus did and does for us. What the world does and say simply no longer matters.

So, What gives us the power to "win against the world"? Our Faith in Jesus.

Does "faith" mean we believe things that aren't true? Absolutely Not. It means we rely on the promise of someone or something in this case, the promise of Jesus.

When do we have the power to win against the world? when we put our trust in Jesus' promise to save us – to give us the "forever kind of life" with God.

Does "faith in Jesus" depend on You being strong? Or Jesus being strong? Who has to be the strong one for us to beat the lies of the world?

How is obedience tied to victorious living? Loving God Means Obeying His commands. What commands?, you might ask. Love God and love your neighbors. Live the way Jesus taught

Be very careful. Things are almost never what they seem. That infant in the fly -infested stable – is actually the Creator of everything. And when he grows up, this carpenter-turned-rabbi will say, "want to be great? Serve others as a servant. Want abundance? Sure, give up everything. Do people hate you? Love them." That is the kingdom of Christ! It's backwards and upside down from our way of thinking. We forgive those who hurt us; we rejoice in suffering; we have peace in the face of death, because not even the deepest, darkest evil of man at Golgotha on Friday afternoon can stop the victory of the empty tomb on Sunday morning. My Friend, victory over this world is not a foolish dream. Christians have victory because we serve a risen Savior and King.

I recommend reading the following passages about discernment in your personal study this week,

- Psalm 44:5
- Luke 10:19
- John 16:33
- Romans 8:35-37
- 1 Corinthians 15:24
- Revelation 3:21; 6:2; 17:14

Next week we will be studying 1 John 5:6-13 True Living

**Let's Pray.**

**Father God, thank you for victory. No matter what we are dealing with we have victory. We have victory in you over everything because we know as your children what we see and feel is not everything. This world is but a whisper, You are eternal. I will trust in you Lord because You are the only one worthy of my trust. I will love you Lord because You are the only one worthy of my love. I will follow your commands because You are the only one who knows what is best for me.**

**Use me Lord for your will, to show others that You alone are worthy. Many may ask Why be a Christian? I say to them, I follow the only one who is worthy. My Lord, My Savior, My Friend.**

**I pray this in your name, Jesus Amen**

Thank you for joining me for Students at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please select like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me at [kip@punla.org](mailto:kip@punla.org). I appreciate your feedback.

Until next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.