



Study in the Book of I John

BIBLE STUDY 6

CHAPTER 5: LIVING AS AN OVERCOMER

SCRIPTURE LESSON: I JOHN 5:1-4

OBJECTIVE: Loving Jesus is the way to overcome in this world.

Introduction: Belief in God

Just about every person has some sort of belief in God. The Baptist and all other faiths claim to believe something about God. However, people's belief about God differs: The Buddhists, The Jews, The Hindus, and The Christian and the list goes on. With so many beliefs about God, the question ...is who is right? Whose belief about God is the correct belief? One day we will all know, but until that day, how do we make a determination whose beliefs and concepts of God are true.

Well John presents ways one can make a determination about which God is true.

LESSON IDEAS

Read I John 5:1-4

I. Whoever *Believes* that Jesus is the Christ vs. 1

John once again is talking about LOVE. He is also talking about faith. What John is saying is that true faith is embedded in ones love for God and for other people.

John has stated in previous chapters what is needed for LOVE:

Read I John 4:7 – The practice of righteousness. The practice of righteousness is of God.

Read I John 4:9 – If you are of God, you will not practice sin.

A. Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.



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We need a proper understanding of belief:

First, Faith is the noun or the subject or the content – Hebrews 11:1
Faith is the substance of things hoped for
Faith is the evidence of things not seen

One may say they have faith, and faith is necessary concerning all things God.

However, the question is, does one have the belief as it relates to their faith?

Second, Believing is the verb or the action – Hebrews 11:6, Romans 4:24

If one is to believe they must have an action or belief about the

Faith requires:

1. Intellectual capacity – James 2:19; John 2:23-24
2. Full body response – Romans 10:17

Both are needed to believe what you have faith about.

EXAMPLE: I John 5:1

Jesus Christ is the Messiah and he who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.

Faith tells me that Jesus is the Messiah, because I can read and discover that truth, I John 4:2, John 1:14, Matthew 1:21.

To say one believes that Jesus is the Messiah, is to act on the relationship through right behavior, I John 2:29. If one believes that Jesus is the Messiah, the one who came to save people of their sins, they will practice righteous behavior. They will not practice sin, because sin is not of God.

This requires both faith and belief.



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QUESTION: Do you truly believe that Jesus is the Messiah?

A. Whoever loves the Father, loves the child born of Him

Born of God means:

1. One is born of again – John 3:3-5
2. One is a new creature – 2 Cor. 5:17
3. One is a new man – Ephesians 4:24

Now, a person born of God loves God. They are compelled to love God, because they are overjoyed that they are new creatures. There is an overwhelming joy that God has saved them that floods their heart. It means that one is grateful that Jesus has saved them from their sins.

However, that love also means, one has love for another person for the same reasons, John 15:9, Galatians 2:20.

The one, who loves God, loves other believers because they both have spiritual births and are made new creatures. Both share:

1. The same God
2. The same Father
3. The same Adoption
4. The same Rebirth
5. The same Blood
6. The same Word

When you love God, you are a part of a family, of brothers and sisters in Christ.

II. Whoever Loves Obeys and Keeps God's Commandments vs. 2-3

Now, John is speaking to the obedience of God's children. A child of God, if they truly love God, they will keep His commandments.

A. We love the children of God

John is arguing once again for love. He is saying if you love the Father, you must love the Father's children.



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1. Keeping the commandments, means you love one another, John 13:34.
2. If you love God, you will keep His commandments.
3. Love for God and love for other people are interchangeable.

Proof of the love of God, is when one loves others. And when you love others it also proves you love God, I John 4:21.

In other words, loving God is emotional, but it is more so moral. Loving God is a moral conformity to the ways and the word of God.

QUESTION: Do you love God's children?

If you truly love God, you will not mistreat His children.

B. We keep His commandments

Now, John is saying to believers if you love God, you will obey Him by keeping His commandments. In other words, our obedience to God proves that we love Him and willing to do His will.

It also means, keeping His commandments is not burdensome. God's commandments are not burdensome. If one feels that God's commandments restrict them, they need to evaluate their love for God. God desires total allegiance to Him. Jesus Christ gives us joy so that we can have complete rest in Him.

READ: John 15:11

III. Whoever Loves Believes they are an Overcomer vs. 4-5

The Greek word for overcome is Nike.

The Webster definition of Nike is: the Greek goddess of victory



- A. Whoever is born of God overcomes the world
- B. Whoever has faith overcomes the world

Nike/Overcomer means victory

Therefore, believers are people who are already Overcomers, Romans 8:32.

Believers are people who are already winners. Before you get on the field to start and participate in something, you have already won.

How is a believer an Overcomer?:

1. The believer has faith in Jesus
2. The believer believes in Jesus
3. The believer believes that Jesus conquered victory at the Cross
4. The believers believes that because of Jesus' death on the Cross they have victory over sin

So because of faith in Jesus, like Nike says, Just Do It. Go ahead and do what you sense God is speaking to you about, because you are already Victorious.