NOTES FOR THIS COMING WEEK: 5/25-26/2020

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 1 JOHN 4:20 – 5:5

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7 PM MONDAY NIGHT & 7 AM TUESDAY MORNING ONLINE BIBLE STUDY MEETINGS:

WE WILL CONTINUE IN CHAPTER FOUR, VERSE 20 OF THE EPISTLE OF FIRST JOHN!

I'll open the meeting a bit early, to give you a little extra time to get online, join the meeting and check out your mic and sound.

Type in the https:// for the meeting you want to attend: If you have any trouble with logging in on the website – download the Zoom.us app from the internet, sign in, hit join meeting and enter the meeting number 817880051 form Monday night; 444504400 for Tuesday morning.

7 PM MONDAY NIGHT MEETINGS:

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/817880051 for **Monday night 7pm** meeting # **817880051**; hit join, then when asked, give your name. The need for a password has been removed!

7 AM TUESDAY MORNING MEETINGS:

(https://us04web.zoom.us/j/444504400 for **Tuesday morn 7am** meeting # **444504400**; hit join, when asked, give your name. The need for a password has been removed!

FOR PHONE: (please do not use more than one device at a time, such as your computer and your phone, as the feedback between the two devices causes echoing noises, which are disturbing.)

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7 pm Mon Meeting ID: 817 880 051 7 am Tues Meeting ID: 444504400

Find your local number: https://us04web.zoom.us/u/fb2a3NvOy1

OPENING PRAYER

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: <u>1 JOHN 4:20 – 5:5</u>

The Obedience by Faith - vs. 4:20-5:5

- The relationship between loving God and loving one another (Much about love used 9 times in today's study)
- Being Born Again Believing that Jesus is the Christ
- Keeping God's Commandments By Loving God and Loving His Children
- All Who Have Been Born Again Have Overcome the World
- The Overcomers of the World Have Believed That Jesus is the Son of God.

Overcomers:

1Jn 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

1Jn 5:5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

CALL UPON THE LORD - Elevation Worship

We need no other hiding place. Our hope is safe within Your name. This we know, this we know. You promise never to forsake. What You began You will sustain. This we know, this we know.

I will call upon the Lord for He alone is strong enough to save. Rise, your shackles are no more for Jesus Christ has broken every chain.

All of the heavens and the earth announce the fullness of Your worth. This we know, this we know. The enemy will have to flee as we declare Your victory. This we know, this we know.

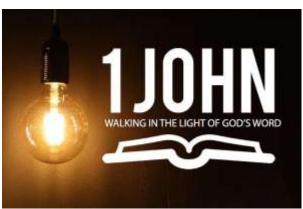
I will call upon the Lord for He alone is strong enough to save. Rise, your shackles are no more for Jesus Christ has broken every chain. [x2]

Jesus' name will break every stronghold. Freedom is ours when we call His name. Jesus' name above every other. All hail the power of Jesus' name. [x2] All hail the power of Jesus' name.

I will call upon the Lord for He alone is strong enough to save. Rise, your shackles are no more for Jesus Christ has broken every chain. [x2]

THE EPISTLE OF 1 JOHN

- FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD
- First John has been called the "Holy of Holies" of the New Testament. It takes the believer, the child of God, across the threshold into the fellowship of our Father's house!
- A comparison or division of First John has been made that the Book of Romans deals with how we come out of the house of bondage; Ephesians is how we enter the banquet house; Hebrews is how we approach the throne of grace, but First John is how we approach His Divine Presence!
- God has put a desire for relationship in every one of us, a desire He intended to be met with relationships with other people, but most of all, to be met by a relationship with Him.
- In this remarkable letter, John tells us the truth about relationships and shows us how to have relationships that are real, for both now and eternity. The purpose of the Epistle is to bring you into relationship with God.
- It is the "family" epistle! It's not addressed to any person, city or church. The church is a body of believers in the position where we are blessed, having been given that position when we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Believing on Christ brings us into the family of God.
- In the family we have a relationship which can be broken by sin, but it is restored when "we confess our sins." Then "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)



- Written around 90 A.D. John was the last living apostle, who at that time was the apostle who hadn't been martyred for Christ. John was a living eyewitness!
- The heresy of Gnosticism was gaining a foothold in the Church when John wrote this letter. The Gnostics believed that all material was evil and therefore that Jesus was not in a living body like ours but was a phantom when He lived on the Earth and didn't have a body of flesh.
- John sought to correct the heresy by emphasizing the deity of Jesus Christ in his writings as one who was with Jesus, walking with Him and observing Him during His public ministry. We will see this testimony of the living Christ in this epistle.
- Phrases and Words frequently used in 1 John: $he\ who 30x$; $we\ know 16x$; $if\ we 10x$; $by\ this\ we\ know 8x$; if $we\ say 3x$
- Words: God 57x; know(known) 37x; love 36x; sin/s/ed/ing 27x; Sonof God 23x; if 21x; commandment 14x; life 13x; have written 13x; Jesus 11x; believe 10x; Holy Spirit 7x; overcome/s 6x; light 5x.

<u>1 JOHN 3:4 – 4:19</u>

Review:

The Word of Life: 1Jn 1:1-3

Walking in the Light: 1Jn 1:4-10 Christ Our Advocate: 1Jn 2:1-6

The New Commandment: 1Jn 2:7-14 Do Not Love the World: 1Jn 2:15-17

Warning Concerning Antichrists: 1Jn 2:18-19

Deceptions of the Last Hour: 1Jn 2:20-23

Let Truth Abide in You - 1Jn 2:24-27

The Children of God – What Manner of Love - 1Jn 2:28-29 – 3:1-3

Sin and the Child of God - 1Jn 3:4 - 3:9

The Imperative of Love - 1Jn 3:10 - 15

The Outworking of Love - 1Jn 3:16 - 23

The Spirit of Truth & the Spirit of Error (Test the Spirits) - $1Jn \ 3:24 - 4:6$

Knowing God Through Love - 1Jn 4:7 - 11

Seeing God Through Love – 1 John 4:12 – 16

The Consummation of Love – 1 John 5:17-19

(Last week' study) - The Consummation Through Love vs. 17 - 19

1Jn 4:17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness (not arrogancy) in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. Perfect love casts out all fear. Being saturated in His love, there are no fears, in this life or in the coming judgment, that He doesn't overcome!

1In 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect (not yet come to maturity) in love. If we are constantly living in fear we haven't been made perfect in love.

1In 4:19 We love Him because (a response word) *He first loved us.* We love Him because He first loved us! To know and to understand God's love for us. It strikes a responsive chord in my heart to realize that someone loves me that much! It causes my heart to respond and I love Him because He first loved me.

Obedience By Faith vs. 4:20-5:13

1Jn 4:20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God? (1Jn 2:4) He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

whom he has not seen? (1Jn 4:12) No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

- Talk, without action, is cheap and really meaningless and without value. God's love, however, if it is truly present in our lives, cannot help but to make its presence known.
- If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar: By this most important standard, Jesus said the world could measure our status as disciples by the measure of our love for one another. (Joh 13:35) By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.
- for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God? whom he has not seen? It is often easier for someone to proclaim their love for God, because of a private relationship with an invisible God. John rightly insists that our claim of loving God is false if we do not also love our brother, and that this love must be seen.

• how can he love God? The fruit of the Spirit is love!

1Jn 4:21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also. (Mat 5:43-44) "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' [44] But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, (Mat 22:37) Jesus said to him, 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'

- This commandment must be obeyed. You are not dedicated to the Lord unless you demonstrate it in your life and in your service. Loving our fellow believers is not optional. It is a commandment.
- It's impossible on our own to *love* our *brother also* but with God's love as our resource, that really is no problem.
- He who loves God must love his brother also: We can also learn how to love God by loving people. One might say, "I want to love God more; I want to grow in my love for Him. But how can I love a God who is invisible?" God would say to us, "Learn to love Me, Whom you cannot see, by loving My children, whom you can see.

Introduction to *Chapter 5:* In chapter five, we actually enter into the third section of the book. The first section John reveals **God as light**. In the second section, John reveals **God as love.** And in this last section of the book, we are introduced to **God as life.** God is light, God is love and God is life.

Overcoming the World - vs. 5:1-5

1Jn 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ (1Jn 2:22) Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. (1Jn 4:2) By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, (1Jn 4:15) Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

- God is life, and that life comes through being born of God. "Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ (God's Messiah) "—this is the method, this is how one is born again. John makes it very clear here and in the opening of his Gospel that you become a child of God through simple faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Joh 1:12) But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:
- This means that when you trust Christ, you trust who He is, as well as what He did. What He did has no value if He is not who He said He was. The

- virgin birth is essential. Who is this that died for the sins of the world? It was not an ordinary man who could not even die to obtain his own salvation. *Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God*,." It is faith which produces the New Birth.
- Once you have been born again, how do you know that you have been born again? When you trust the Lord Jesus Christ, you are born again, and God becomes your heavenly Father. He is God the Father, and He becomes your heavenly Father. If He is your heavenly Father and you are begotten of Him, then you will love Him.

is born (out) of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. (Joh 1:13) who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

- But it doesn't stop there—you are also going to love the one who is begotten of Him. You are going to love one another of God's little children. John has said this before. We love God and should love all those who are begotten of Him. He that believes that Jesus is the (his personal) Messiah, and confides in Him for the remission of sins, is begotten of God; and they who are pardoned and begotten of God love Him in return for His love, and love all those who are His children. (*1Jn 3:11*) For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. The Lord Jesus said, (*Joh 13:35*) By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
- This expression, "born of God," is most important! Are you born of God? Have you been born again? You are born again when you trust the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, and the proof of it is that you love God. You love your Father—He begot you—and you are going to love His other children because they are your brothers and sisters. The one who is born again will love others who are born again.
- This Epistle of First John tells us how you can have the assurance of your salvation. All the way through, John has been giving us evidences that we are a child of God.
- (1Jn 2:29) If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him. A child of God will practice righteousness in his life. It is to be the practice of your life. You will slip and fall sometimes, but righteousness will be the practice of your life if you are His child.
- (1Jn 3:9) Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. A child of God will not practice sin. He will not live in it, revel in it, or make it his life. The life—style of a sinner is sin; he lives in sin all the time, and you don't

- expect him to do differently. We all lived in sin until we came to Christ.
- (1Jn 4:7) Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. A child of God will love other Christians. This is another test that will give assurance to you that you are born of God: Do you love other Christians?
- (1Jn 5:4) For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. A child of God will overcome the world.
- (1Jn 5:18) We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.
- Two of the evidences, two of the birthmarks of a child of God are given right here in this chapter; *does not* continue in *sin* and *the wicked one does not touch him.*
- John is going to emphasize certain tests of true sonship—love, obedience, and truth. No one can quarrel with these words. Love, obedience, and truth are marks of the child of God.

IJn 5:2 By this we know (last of these 8 "by this we know" tests) that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep (regard) His commandments. (Joh 15:10) If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. What are His commandments? (Joh 13:34) A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. (IJn 3:23) And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. (IJn 4:21) And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

- These are the commandments for believers today. In response to the awesome, unlimited love of God, every child of God wants to keep these commandments as the practice of his life. This is something that he desires to do, something that he longs to do.
- You can say I love God but if you don't keep His commandments, then your words are inconsistent with your life, with your actions. And it's important that they line up together.
- Our *love* of *the children of God* is a proof that we love God. Our love to God is the cause why we love His children, and our keeping the commandments of God is the proof that we love Him.

- John is actually repeating himself and that is for emphasis. You say that you love God, your love for God is manifested in your love for the brethren, your love for each other.
- How am I doing with this test--loving God, being obedient, and loving one another?

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of (for) God, that we keep (repeating of obedience) His commandments. (Joh 14:15) "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

And His commandments are not burdensome (heavy). (Mat 11:30) "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (Mat 23:4) For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

- Some people may think so. Every commandment that God give us is for our benefit! You may think that it is very difficult and almost impossible that God has commanded you to love one another. That's true without Him, but that's because God's love is not yet perfected in you. How important it is! This is the heart, this is it. If you don't have love for the brethren, then you really have no proof or assurance that you're a child of God.
- John is saying that the child of God, out of love for Him, wants to keep His commandments. It is something that he wants to practice; it is not difficult for him to do these things at all. The little girl who was carrying a big, heavy baby was asked by a concerned woman, "Little girl, isn't that baby too heavy for you?" The child replied, "He's not heavy. He's my brother." It makes all the difference in the world, you see, when he's your brother.
- "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and His commandments are not burdensome." The point is that they impose no burden on us because we are keeping them through love.

1Jn 5:4 For whatever is (everyone) *born* (born again) *of God overcomes* (used three times in vs. 4 & 5) *the world.* (*Joh 16:33*) *These things I have spoken to you, that in Me, you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.*"

- We're talking about this new birth, being born again! "Whatever (whoever, everyone) is been born of God,"
- All along the way in this epistle we are being given "Birthmarks of a Christian, self-tests to see how we are doing and what we should be doing! We are to: Walk in the light! When we sin, we are to confess our sin! Be righteous as He walks in righteousness! We are to love one another! Help others in need, if we have the ability to meet that need! Mark all false

- teachers! And here we are to be overcomers! Just think of these birthmarks! How wonderful! How awesome is our God!
- We don't have to walk in any defeat in the world. We are victors, because of our faith! We have overcome because of what Jesus has done for us!

And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. (1Jn 2:13) I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, Because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father.

- The Bible tells about those who are overcomers of the world and about those who are overcome by the world.
- In Revelation chapters two and three, Jesus is addressing the churches. He has a special promise to those in the church who are overcomers.
- To the Church in Ephesus (loveless church) (Rev 2:7) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."
- To the Church in Smyrna (persecuted church) (Rev 2:11) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."
- To the Church in Pergamum (compromising church) (Rev 2:17) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it." '
- To the Church in Thyatira (corrupt church) (Rev 2:26) And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations
- To the Church in Sardis (dead church) (Rev 3:5) He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.
- To the Church in Philadelphia (faithful church) (Rev 3:12) He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.
- To the Church in Laodicea (lukewarm church) (Rev 3:21) To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

- The world is attractive, it is very alluring. All that is of the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, the pride of life are very alluring. But whoever is born of God overcomes the world, the temptation, the allurement of the world.
- And what is *the victory*? What is the place of *victory*? It is *our faith* that gives us *victory* over the world!
- What is it that overcomes the world? It is our faith. It is faith that saves us, and it is faith that keeps us. We are saved by faith; we walk by faith. We are born children of God by faith in Jesus Christ, and faith is the only way in which you and I will be able to overcome this world around us.
- When you really trust Christ, it is not a question of your own power, but you are kept by the power of God through faith. We have faith, belief in Christ for salvation in the future and faith in Christ for salvation from the world here and now.

1Jn 5:5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that **Jesus is the Son of God?** (1Co 15:57) But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1In 5:1) 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. (Psa 2:7) "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. (Isa 9:6) For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Mat 16:15-17) He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" [16] Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." [17] Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. (Mat 26:63-64) But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest (Caiaphas, in response to charge by false witness) answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!" [64] Jesus said to him, "It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven."

- This love that He has given us will not compromise Christ Jesus! The Bible has defined Him. Heaven has defined Him. He is who He is! It is not our place to re-define Him. It is our place to accept Him, who and what He is!
- Who is he ... Who can pretend to have obtained a victory over the world, except he who believes in the Savior? All else are worldly, governed by worldly aims and principles. It is true that a man may gain a victory over one

- worldly passion; but unless he has faith in the Son of God, the spirit of the world will reign supreme in his soul in some form.
- He that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God? That He is the promised Messiah, that He came by a supernatural generation; and, although truly man, came not by man, but by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary. The person who believes this has the privilege of receiving and applying the benefits of the incarnation and passion of Jesus Christ, and receives the blessings which the Jews cannot have, because they presently do not believe the Divine mission of Christ. He is divine!

Closing Prayer:

- Father, we thank You for Your witness, testifying of Your Son, Jesus the Christ.
- We thank You for the instruction that we've been given in this epistle. Lord, we thank You:
- for the effect of this epistle upon our lives.
- The <u>fullness of joy discovering and knowing who we are and what we are in Christ.</u>
- We thank You, Father, for the freedom and the power over sin through the indwelling Spirit and the word of God.
- We thank You, Father, for the assurance that we are Your children.
- The witness of the Spirit in our heart.
- Your witness, Father, to us that we pass from death to life.
- We thank You, Lord, for the joy and the blessings of this journey. The things that we have learned that have drawn us closer to You.
- That have given us greater understanding of You.
- That have given us greater understanding of Your purpose and Your plan for our lives.
- Help us, Lord, to be faithful and to be obedient. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

SUMMARY- Benefits/Application:

Obedience By Faith - Chapter 4:20- Chapter 5:5

• We cannot say I love God and hate our brother. He who does not love those he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

- God's commandment to us is that he who loves God must love his brother also!
- Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born again. As such with love God, who begot and those begotten our believing brothers and sisters.
- How do we know when we love God's children? It's when we love God and keep His commandments.
- The love of God enables us to keep his non-burdensome commandments.
- Whoever is born of God has overcome the world through our believing faith in Jesus, the Son of God.

Self-examination Questions:

- What does my love for others, whom I have seen, speak with regard to how much do I love God, whom I have not seen?
- Does my life demonstrate that I not only say I love God and I love my brother, but that I actually do love them both and my life is manifesting God through my life?
- We're told that whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God and all who love Him will also love those He has saved. How does the level of my love for other believers reflect my belief in Jesus and how much I love Him?
- Am I really an overcomer? How can I know?

Suggestions for the Coming Week:

To Maximize Your growth by the study of His Word and drawing yourself closer to Him.

Be a Berean! Act 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

- Read the entire Epistle of 1 John each day (takes 15 min to read the 105 verses in the 5 chapters)
- Study carefully <u>Chapter 5:10 13</u> with the idea of how to answer a person's question of can they be fully assured whether they are saved or not.

- <u>1Jn 5:10</u> He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.
- <u>1Jn 5:11</u> And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.
- <u>1Jn 5:12</u> He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.
- That You May Know
- <u>1Jn 5:13</u> These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.
- Notes and audio of previous studies are on www.ptwente.com
- If you're not getting weekly email regarding the meetings and want to receive, please email me so you can be added!
- Phil Twente 714 425 9221 ptwente@gmail.com