

## Attainable Victory

1 John 5:3-5

- I. To love God is to obey Him (1 John 5:3a).
- II. To obey God is truly doable (1 John 5:3b-4a).
- A. God's commands are not burdensome (5:3b).
- *Burdensome* – According to some, the Christian life is really hard and undesirable, but actually it's neither (Matthew 11:30).
- When Obeying God is not Burdensome**

  - ✓ When it flows from a desire for a close relationship with God (5:3)
  - ✓ When it is empowered by the new nature God gave us (5:4).
- B. We already have the capacity for spiritual
- victory as believers through our new nature from God (5:4a).
- *Born of God* – As believers, we have a new nature from God which enables us to overcome the old nature of self (2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:22-24).
  - *The World* = All our desires that don't come from God (1 John 2:15-17 –Temptations, distractions, addictions)
- C. The key to spiritual victory is to live by faith, (trusting in God's ability) just as we are saved by faith (5:4b).
- *Faith = Victory that overcomes the world* – We must depend continually on God's power to have spiritual victory (2 Corinthians 5:7 – walk by faith; Ephesians 6:16 – shield of faith; Galatians 2:20 – live by faith).
- III. To overcome the world is the exclusive privilege of believers in Christ (1 John 5:5).