

## 1<sup>ST</sup> JOHN 5:4-8 #18

1. BACK IN VERSE ONE JOHN MADE IT CLEAR HOW ONE IS BORN OF GOD... THAT WE BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST AND IS BORN OF GOD. THAT'S IT PLAIN AND SIMPLE.

2. NOW IN VERSES FOUR AND FIVE, HE GIVES A PRINCIPLE THAT IS SO SIMPLE AND SO POWERFUL. THAT IF WE ARE BORN OF GOD, WE WILL OVERCOME THE WORLD. BELIEVING ON HIM IS THE KEY TO BEING BORN AGAIN, AND IT IS THE KEY TO OVERCOMING WHATEVER THE WORLD CAN THROW AT US. THE WORD IS "FAITH" - AN ONGOING RELIANCE AND TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST.

3. WE OVERCOME BECAUSE WE ARE BORN OF GOD. HEBREWS 13:5 TELLS US THAT HE WILL NEVER LEAVE OR FORSAKE US! IN THE GREEK, THE WORD "FAITH OR BELIEVE" DOES NOT JUST MEAN TO BELIEVE, BUT TO TRUST, TO CONFIDE IN, AND TO COMMIT TO.

4. WE CAN OVER COME WHATEVER THE WORLD THROWS AT US. IN JOHN 16:33, JESUS SAID "IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TRIBULATION, BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER, I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD".

5. NOW IN VERSES SIX THROUGH EIGHT, JOHN REFUTES THE "GNOSTICS" (THEY'RE STILL AROUND) WHO DENIED THE INCARNATION OF JESUS. HE SAYS JESUS IS REAL, HE HAD FLESH, HE HAD BLOOD. THE MAIN MEANING OF FLESH AND BLOOD WAS THAT HE WAS AS HUMAN AS WE ARE, BUT WITHOUT SIN.

6. WATER (MANY THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS) MEANS HIS BAPTISM, NOT BECAUSE HE HAD SIN, BUT TO COMPLETELY IDENTIFY WITH US. BLOOD, THAT HE SHED ON THE CROSS, NOT SPILT. IT WAS A DELIBERATE ACT ON HIS PART. HE SAID, "NO ONE TAKES MY LIFE FROM ME, BUT I LAY IT DOWN WILLINGLY".

7. THE HOLY SPIRIT ALSO BEARS WITNESS TO THE TRUE PERSON OF JESUS. IN JOHN 15-16, JESUS SAID, "HE, THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL TESTIFY OF ME. HE WILL GLORIFY ME. HE WILL TAKE WHAT IS MINE AND DECLARE IT TO YOU".