



Spirit, Water & Blood (I John 5:1-13)

Love, Obedience and Overcoming

“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. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we **love God and keep His commandments**. For **this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments**. And **His commandments are not burdensome**. For whatever is born of God **overcomes the world**. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—**our faith**. Who is he who overcomes the world, but **he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**” I John 5:1-5 NKJV**

I John 5:1-5

☑ *“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.” I John 5:1 NKJV*

☑ Question # 1

- ☑ What is it referring to when it says “loves Him who begot” vs. “loves him who is begotten by Him”?
- ☑ It is an interesting thing to consider, as the language of verse one makes the clear connection that if you truly love the Father, you would love the Son. The key here is that, as Christians, we learn that the only way to understand real love is to be filled with the Holy Spirit as “God is Love.” So, if you are not, then what you feel for the Father might be something, but by definition, it cannot be love. Consider many faithful Jews who acknowledge the Father but not His Son Y’shua. They clearly have faith in Yahweh, and deep reverence, but they do not, cannot love Him. They only could do so with the Holy Spirit which, by definition, they could only have if they had Y’shua as their Messiah! Hence, if you love the Father you would love the Son!

☑ *“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.” 1 John 5:2-3 NKJV*

☑ **Question # 2**

- ☑ Why are love and obedience equated to one another?

- ☑ Y'shua said in John 14:15, *"If you love Me, keep my commandments."* He also said in Matthew 11:30, *"My yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Again, we must go back to all we have learned about love in these past few weeks. God is love and you cannot receive love or give love without God, and the only way to the Father is through the Son (John 14:6). The math is quite simple; when you have the Son, you have the Father, and when you have the Son, you have the Holy Spirit. And when you have the Holy Spirit you have the power of God in you. You are empowered to be like the Son whose entire purpose was to do the will of His Father (John 6:38), which is therefore your purpose.

☑ Question # 3

- ☑ What commandments are we meant to obey?
- ☑ Y'shua did not come with his own set of commandments. As a point of fact, He taught us that He did not come with His own doctrine, but instead, the doctrine of His Father (John 7:16-18). And to be clear about the doctrine, He taught us that it was the doctrine of Moses, as He was very clear that it was Moses who first wrote about Him! *"Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who*

accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?'" John 5:45-47 NKJV

- ☑ He also was very clear that His mission was not to change one bit of the law, but rather to bring us to a complete understanding. Read Matthew 5:17-20. Keep in mind that the word “fulfill” means “to bring to it’s fullness, fully explain, or fully preach!”

☑ **Question # 4**

- ☑ Why are we taught so often that keeping God’s commands is impossible, when in fact the Word says it is not a burden?
- ☑ This is a very deep question to consider, with many historical implications. To keep it simple I will say this. Judaism has historically been equated with keeping Yahweh’s commands and the Church has deep roots in antisemitism. To separate the Church from its Hebrew roots was to separate it from any beliefs that the commandments of God from the Torah were relevant for Christians (for the most part). We can pick and choose through the ones that fit our denominational narrative but, by and large, keeping God commands

was impossible. How strange a belief when the scriptures teach that we can do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13) and we have the same power in us that raised Christ from the grave (Ephesians 1:17-23).

- ☑ Many times, this anti-law doctrine is extracted by misunderstand Paul's writings, extracting little sound bites and building a theology around them. Let me give you a classic example, and if you open your mind, you will see that what you are classically taught from this verse is the EXACT OPPOSITE of what Paul is saying. *"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.""* Galatians 3:10 NKJV

- ☑ **Works of Law means this:** you are NOT obeying the law. It was a term used back then for what we call today, legalism.
- ☑ Therefore, cursed are those who do not keep what is written in the law. Or in other words, cursed are those who practice legalism.

- ☑ There is so much more here, but if you really want to study this you can download Dr. Jeff's [Romans Commentary](#) and read about it in Romans 2 and 3.
- ☑ Also review this teaching: [Critical Roots Theory](#)

- ☑ *"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" I John 5:4-5 NKJV*
- ☑ **Question # 5**
 - ☑ What does it mean to be an overcomer?
 - ☑ Did you know that the name Israel means to "overcome with God"? (See Genesis 32:22-32) And you are indeed Israel, the overcomer. (See Ephesians 2:11-13) We learned in the last chapter that...*"You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."* I John 4:4 NKJV
 - ☑ *"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.**"* John 16:33 NKJV

- ☑ Again, let me strongly encourage you to study: [Critical Roots Theory](#)
- ☑ It comes down to this, live your life like you know and believe the end of the story—no matter what it looks like right now, we win! See [Self-Inflicted Wounds](#) teaching. Watch it until the end and you will see how the ultimate victory comes and what it looks like.
- ☑ The other thing I would recommend is that you read and study Romans 6. Embrace the reality that when you became born again, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED: Christ died, YOU died. Christ was buried, YOU were buried. Christ rose as a new creature, YOU rose as a new creature. You are NOT THE SAME as you were! You have overcome! You can read extensively on this topic in Dr. Jeff's [Romans Commentary](#).
- ☑ **Question # 6**
- ☑ Why is faith itself considered the victory?
- ☑ Faith is the victory quite simply because that is how you got on the winning team in the first place. It is by faith you have been saved, by grace—His power! (See Ephesians 2:8-9) And then you had His power transferred to you! (Again see Ephesians 1:17-22)—if that is not victory, then nothing is!

- ☑ **I love how Peter addresses us:** *“Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, **To those** who have obtained like precious faith with us **by** the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:”* II Peter 1:1 NKJV
- ☑ Is there any other way?

Yahweh's Witnesses

“This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by **water and blood**. And it is the **Spirit who bears witness**, because **the Spirit is truth**. For there are **three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit**; and **these three are one**. And there are **three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood**; and **these three agree as one**.”

I John 5:6-8 NKJV

I John 5:6-8

- ☑ *“This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.”* I John 5:6 NKJV
- ☑ **Question # 7**
 - ☑ What does it mean that Jesus came by water and blood?

- ☑ It is the water of Baptism that we see in Matthew 3:13-17, and the Blood of His crucifixion. When the soldier pierced His side while He hung on the cross, blood and water poured out on the earth. *“But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.”* John 19:34 NKJV

☑ Question # 8

- ☑ Describe and incident in the scriptures in which the Spirit bore witness regarding Y’shua.
- ☑ **At His Baptism:** *“When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, **and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.** And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, **“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**”* Matthew 3:16-17 NKJV
- ☑ **At His Transfiguration:** *“Now after six days Jesus took **Peter, James, and John** his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;” ... “While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying,*

“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Hear Him!” Matthew 17:1, 5 NKJV

☑ **Eyewitness:** *“For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, **but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.** For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: **“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”** And we heard this voice which **came from heaven** when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;”* II Peter 1:16-19 NKJV

☑ *“For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.”* I John 5:7-8 NKJV

☑ **Question # 9**

- ☑ How do the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit bear witness in Heaven?
- ☑ The heavenly perspective is this: The Divine Family speaks of the role of the Son. The Son is the Word.
- ☑ *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”* John 1:1-3 NKJV
- ☑ *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”* John 1:14 NKJV
- ☑ We also know that the Father and the Son are one (John 10:30-33).
- ☑ And we know that the Holy Spirit came to guide us into all truth (John 16:13).
- ☑ *“Do you not believe **that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?** The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. **Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me,** or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in*

you. **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name,** He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” John 14:10-11, 20, 26 NKJV

- ☑ “However, when He, **the Spirit of truth**, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, **for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine.** Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.” John 16:13-15 NKJV

☑ Question # 10

- ☑ How do the Spirit, the water, and the blood bear witness on earth?
- ☑ The Holy Spirit is in action and is by whom you are able to demonstrate power in the earth! “And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” Luke 24:48-49 NKJV
- ☑ And as we have already learned, the blood and water were literally poured out on the earth as a witness to

the world. *“But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.”* John 19:34

The Witness of God or the Witness of Men

“If we receive the **witness of men, the witness of God is greater**; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. **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**. And **this is the testimony**: that **God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son**. He who has the Son **has life**; he who does not have the Son of God **does not have life**. 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.” I John 5:9-13 NKJV

I John 5:9-13

☑ *“If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son.” I John 5:9 NKJV*

☑ **Question # 11**

- ☑ What is the difference between the witness of God and the witness of men?
- ☑ Words or power, words or transformation? It is one thing to talk about something, it's altogether different to be something. The witness of God in you literally makes you different and that is undeniable and powerful in a way that no self-help guru can match.
- ☑ *"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." I John 5:10 NKJV*
- ☑ **Question # 12**
- ☑ Why is not believing the testimony of Christ the same as calling God a liar?
- ☑ You see, the witness is not what you say, but who you are. The greatest problem in the Church today is that it is filled with so many people, including leaders, who talk about Jesus, but who don't actually have Jesus. They are lying, even to themselves. Their lives and who they are is the real witness, not their words and ministry. They proclaim His name while actively

violating His teachings. All liars are eventually exposed.

- ☑ *“And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.” I John 5:11-12 NKJV*

☑ **Question # 13**

- ☑ What does it mean to have life in the Son? (Think about here on earth and eternally.)
- ☑ Certainly we must understand the permanence of what took place when we were born again. We have a secured, guaranteed eternity with God. That is the true life. This life we live here on earth is a vapor (James 4:4).
- ☑ However, do not underestimate that the life you do live, the dash between the two dates on your headstone, is immeasurably better when you live it by faith in the Son of God—*“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20 NKJV*

☑ *“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.” 1 John 5:13 NKJV*

☑ **Question # 14**

☑ What does it mean to believe in the name? Why is the name so critical?

☑ The name is the testimony. Y’shua means Yahweh Saves! When we declare the Son WE ARE declaring the Father! But it is also a indicator of authority. All authority was given to the Son—*“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.” (Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV)—and He has placed that authority in our hands. **Go therefore...**“Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” Luke 10:19 NKJV*

NEXT WEEK

The Sin that Leads to Death (1 John 5:14-21)