

1 John

Chapter Five

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter 5

SUMMARY: 1-21

In this chapter John stresses the characteristic traits of those who believe that Jesus is God's Son. He discusses the confidence that we as believers should exemplify when putting our trust and faith in Jesus.

1. God's kingdom is about family. It's about doing life with other believers, loving one another and following His commands.
2. Part of loving Jesus is obedience. Obedience should be joyful and never a burden.
3. It is a given fact that God's children overcome the world. We don't have to live defeated on this planet.
4. We don't overcome by wishing. We overcome by faith. Faith is believing that Jesus is God's Son. That fact alone causes us to overcome.
5. God gave us three ways He confirmed Jesus' deity. Water: Jesus' baptism when He confirmed Him as SON. (Matthew 4) Blood: The cross and God's confirmation at the resurrection. (Read chapter 1 again that confirms it.) Spirit: Revealed at Jesus' baptism, led Him through His ministry, and confirmed His resurrection by dwelling in every believer.
6. The Spirit is termed the SPIRIT OF TRUTH. The Spirit is not a feeling. He is God. He is Truth.
7. If you don't believe in Jesus as God's Son you are calling God a liar.
8. The only way to have life is to have the Son.
9. Eternal life is a certain guarantee when you believe in the Son of God.
10. Because of Jesus you can approach God with confidence.
11. When you pray you should believe God hears you.
12. Sin and death are vitally connected. There is a sin that leads to death. It is the sin of rejection Jesus as God's Son. The sin of a believer can be confessed and forgiven. (See 1 John 1:9) But to reject God's Son is to call God a liar resulting in rejection of God and thus a sin that leads to death.
13. You cannot serve God and love God and live in habitual sin.
14. Two things you can be certain of. You are under the control of God and the world is under the control of the evil one. But if you are born of God, believing Jesus is God's Son, you are kept safe.
15. Satan can never bring eternal harm to God's children for we are IN HIM.
16. Idolatry is anything not born of God. Idols are the works of man's hands that take the place of God's power and love demonstrated in His Son.

REFLECTION

1. Why do you think John consistently drives home the point about loving God is to love others and obey His commands?
2. If it's a given fact we overcome the world why does it seem the ways of the world typically prevail over God's children?
3. How do you define God's Holy Spirit? Do you see His Spirit as being God? Why is it so easy to identify the Spirit of God with our emotions and feelings.
4. Why would denying Jesus be akin to calling God a liar.
5. How would you explain rejecting Christ is a sin that leads to death?

APPLICATION

1. Are you quick to obey? Is delayed obedience disobedience?
2. Are you confident in God? How do you display that confidence?
3. Why does believing in Jesus give you boldness and confidence when you pray?

