

Sermon Handout

Victory in Jesus

I John 5:1-6

I. Examining Love vv. 1-3

- a. Who is “born of God?” v. 1a
 - i. Ongoing belief in the Son v. 1a
 - ii. Believe that Jesus is the Christ *cf.* v. 6; Jn 20:31; Rom 10:9-11
 - iii. Contrary to those who deny the Christ I Jn 2:22-24; Jn 3:18
- b. The love test: loving God’s people vv. 1b-3
 - i. A constant theme: I Jn 1:7; 2:9-10; 3:11, 23; 4:7-8, 11-12, 20-21
 - ii. Test actions against the 10 Words
 - 1. Love God’s people v. 2 Basis: the 1st Great Commandment
 - 2. The 2d Commandment like the 1st Mt 22:37-40; Mk 12:29ff
 - iii. Loving God is keeping his commandments v. 3a
 - 1. Inward & outward (sin vs. crime) *e.g.* Mt 5:21-22 *et. al*
 - 2. Negative & positive Dt 5:17; Ps 82:3; Jas 1:25, 27
- c. God’s commandments are not a heavy burden
 - i. They are evidence of faith vv. 2-3a
 - ii. They flow from Christ’s victory v. 4

II. Overcoming the World vv. 4-5

- a. “Born of God” – links v. 1 with v. 4
 - “Overcoming” in St. John: Key reference: Jn 16:33
 - I Jn 2:13-14; 4:4; 5:4 (2x); 5:5
 - In Revelation 13x *see esp.* 12:11; 17:14; 21:7
- b. Our victory lies in our reliance on God in Christ v. 4b-5 *cf.* v. 1

III. Identifying the Son of God v. 6

- a. Jesus came by “water and blood” testified by the Spirit Mt 3:16-17
- b. Water: baptism in Jordan (Spirit present) Jn 1:29-34
 - Confirming his role as Savior v. 29
- c. Blood: The once for all sacrifice testified by the Spirit Rom 1:4
 - Confirming his role as Savior Col 1:14; Heb 10:10-12, 14-15a