

- I. Introduction: Weaving Together the Threads of Doctrine, Obedience, and Love
- II. The Birthmark of Faith that Jesus is the Christ (5:1a; 2:23)
- III. The Birthmark of Love for God and All His Children (5:1b; 4:7-8, 20-21)
- IV. The Birthmark of Obedience (5:2-3; John 6:29; Deu 10:12-13)
  - A. His Commandments Are Not Burdensome (5:3b; Matt 23:4, 23; 11:28-30; 16:24-26)
- V. By Faith We Overcome the World (5:4-5; 2:13-14; 4:4; John 16:33; Rom 8:35-39; Heb 11)

“Faith is the Victory”

Author: John Henry Yates

1 Encamped along the hills of light,  
Ye Christian soldiers, rise  
And press the battle ere the night  
Shall veil the glowing skies.  
Against the foe in vales below  
Let all our strength be hurled;  
Faith is the victory, we know,  
That overcomes the world.

Chorus:

Faith is the victory! (Faith is the victory!)  
Faith is the victory! (Faith is the victory!)  
Oh, glorious victory  
That overcomes the world.

2 His banner over us is love,  
Our sword the Word of God;  
We tread the road the saints above  
With shouts of triumph trod.  
By faith they, like a whirlwind's breath,  
Swept on o'er ev'ry field;  
The faith by which they conquered death  
Is still our shining shield. [Chorus]

3 To him who overcomes the foe  
White raiment shall be giv'n;  
Before the angels he shall know  
His name confessed in heav'n.  
Then onward from the hills of light,  
Our hearts with love aflame;  
We'll vanquish all the hosts of night  
In Jesus' conq'ring name. [Chorus]

## Reflection and Application Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. What are the birthmarks of the Christian? How are they woven together?
2. What does it mean to say that God's commandments are not burdensome?
3. What does it mean to overcome the world? How do believers do this?