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**“The Testimony of God”
(1Jn 5:1-5)**

Truth Matters Church, Inc.

2 **Overview of our passage**

Theme: God testifies that Jesus is the Son of God

☞ 1Jn 5:1-12

Doctrine: God’s testimony is true and is to be trusted. Man’s testimony is false and is to be rejected.

Application: Believe in the testimony God revealed in Scripture regardless of what man or the world might say about faith and religion

3 **Scripture Reading**

1 John 5:1-12 (NASB)

1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6 This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. 10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. 11 And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

4 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:1**

1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.

☞ “Whoever believes may be rendered “all who believes”

☞ In the confession: Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God

☞ Those who are united in this confession: is born of God

☞ Those who are not united in this confession: is not born of God

☞ “whoever loves the Father” may be rendered “whoever loves God” will also love God the Son

☞ The Father/Son/Holy Spirit is a package deal

- ☞ The triune God is the only living and True God
- ☞ All other religions who do not accept or believe in the trinitarian God is not of God, but of Satan

5 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:2**

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

- ☞ "By this" is tied to latter part of v. 2 "when we love God and observe His commandments"
- ☞ 'know' is 'ginōskō' more intimate and relational knowledge
- ☞ 'observe' is 'poieō' which means to commit, practice, to demonstrate adherence
- ☞ "His commandments"

☞ OT:

- ☞ Love God with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength
- ☞ Love your neighbor as your self

☞ NT:

- ☞ Love one another (believers) as Jesus loved us

6 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:2**

2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments.

- ☞ As believers our ambition is to love and obey God
- ☞ God commands us to love Him, love our neighbor, and love believers
- ☞ When we pursue our love for God, we will come into fellowship and love other believers!

7 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:3**

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

- ☞ "For this" referring to the "love of God"
- ☞ John gives us a biblical definition of what it means to love God
- ☞ It's one thing to say someone loves God, it's another thing to show (through ones actions) that one loves God
- ☞ We covered this in principal in our study "In Deed and Truth"
 - ☞ Actions speak louder than words
- ☞ True love for God is in the "keeping" of His commandments
 - ☞ We covered this when we went covered chapter 2, verses 3-4
 - ☞ "keep" means to watch over, guard, observe
 - ☞ True love for God is desiring to obey His precepts and commands
 - ☞ A great example of this is in the Parable of the Sheep and Goats Judgment
- ☞ "His commandments are not burdensome" [more on this]

8 **"His commandments are not burdensome"**

- ☞ This struck me for sometimes it feels like obeying God's Word is difficult, and therefore, His commandments are burdensome
- ☞ However, Scripture says that keeping His commandments are not burdensome... so how can we reconcile this?
- ☞ It really boils down to our lack of faith
- ☞ If we rely 100% in our faith in Christ
 - ☞ Then although we do not love God perfectly we are still accepted by God on behalf of Christ's atonement
 - ☞ If we rely on faith alone, including our rely on faith in our efforts to obey God's commandments, then it's not burdensome, because Christ carried the burden for us!... Jesus spoke on this in Matthew chapter 11...

9 **"His commandments are not burdensome"**

Matthew 11:28-30

28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Case in Point:

- ☞ If we live in full faith in the work of Christ, then our efforts to keep and obey His commandments are not burdensome, because Jesus fulfilled what the commandments require and have given us a share of His righteousness!
- ☞ Anything short of full faith will feel like keeping and observing His commandments is not a joy, but a burden (this is not God's will)

10 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:4**

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

- ☞ "For whatever" may be rendered "For whoever"
- ☞ "is born of God overcomes the world"
 - ☞ True born again believers will overcome the world
- ☞ "this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith" [more on this]

11 **"this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith"**

- ☞ "this" is referring to "faith"
- ☞ How will born again believers overcome this world?
 - ☞ We covered this in past studies
 - ☞ What is the key to our victory over sin, the world, Satan?
- ☞ John answers it in this verse, "our faith"!
- ☞ John also reiterates it in a couple of places in Revelation...

12 **"this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith"**

Revelation 3:20-21 (letter to Laodicean church)

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. 21 He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

☞ How do we overcome sin, the world, death? – Faith in the One who overcame sin, the world and death.... Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

☞ Jesus shares His victory with us through faith! We can even sit on His throne!

Revelation 12:11-12 (during the 7th trumpet after Satan was cast out of heaven)

11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death. 12 For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

☞ "the word of their testimony" can be rendered "the Word of God's testimony"

☞ The elect believers here during the reign of Antichrist will overcome him and prevail through faith in the Son of God!

☞

13 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:4**

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Back to v. 4

☞ "For whatever" may be rendered "For whoever"

☞ "is born of God overcomes the world"

☞ True born again believers will overcome the world

☞ "this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith"

☞ And this verse could very well be prophetic concerning reign of Antichrist when he rules the entire world!

☞ And this prophecy flows smoothly into v. 5....

14 **Exposit: 1Jn 5:5**

5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

☞ Although the one who overcomes the world applies to believers

☞ Prophetically it directly applies to the elect here during Antichrist's rule and reign

☞ The way to overcome sin/the world/Satan/Antichrist (and the spirit of antichrist) is through faith in the victory Christ obtained for us!

☞ TRUTH REFLECTION: what keeps people from being saved is their view on who Jesus Christ is