

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Name some fruits of faith—evidence that our faith is a *true* faith.
2. Why is faith in Christ most important?
3. How is faith the victory that overcometh the world?
4. Are there any limitations for receiving the gift of eternal life? Discuss.

SUMMARY:

A real evidence of victory in our lives can only be shown when faith performs its work. Faith in God is not real faith until its fruit is shown in a love for God: a love for His people and an obedience to His teaching and His commands. A professed faith that does not give these evidences in practical living is just a “lip” faith and will never lead to eternal life.

The new birth that results from true faith leads into a Christ-like faith, a life of uprightness, holiness, meekness and humility. With these come the witness of God’s Spirit in our hearts and the assurance of the fulfillment of God’s promises.

NOTES:

[SoF:7] We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.
[SoF:8] We believe that a saving faith results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit and the Word of God, without which there is no salvation.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #2

July 8, 2018

Third Quarter

FAITH [SoF:7,8]

LESSON TEXT: *1 John 5:1-15*

LESSON SETTING: Probably written from Ephesus to the church at large.

TIME: Approximately 100 A.D.

I. VICTORY THROUGH FAITH. 1 John 5:1-15

- A. Evidence of Victory
 - 1. Love for God (vs. 1) Psalm 116:1-2; 1 John 4:19
 - 2. Love for God’s People (vs. 2) 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:14
 - 3. Commandments Kept (vs. 3) Matthew 19:17; Revelation 14:12
- B. Power for Victory
 - 1. Victory Over the World (vs. 4-5) Revelation 2:17; 3:5
 - 2. Victory by Faith (vs. 4-5) Ephesians 6:16; Hebrews 11:6

II. THE WITNESS OF FAITH. 1 John 5:6-10

- A. The Witness of the Spirit
 - 1. Witness for Christ (vs. 6)
 - 2. Witness for Believers (vs. 10) Romans 8:16; 1 John 3:24

III. ASSURANCE THROUGH FAITH. 1 John 5:11-15

- A. Life Eternal (vs. 11-13) John 5:24; Jude 21
- B. Prayers Heard (vs. 14) Isaiah 65:24; John 15:7
- C. Prayers Answered (vs. 15) Matthew 18:19; Mark 11:24

GOLDEN TEXT: *FOR WHATSOEVER IS BORN OF GOD OVERCOMETH THE WORLD: AND THIS IS THE VICTORY THAT OVERCOMETH THE WORLD, EVEN OUR FAITH.* 1 John 5:4

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 2 Corinthians 4:1-18; 5:1-10

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 42:1-11; John 14:1-3;
Titus 2:11-15

QUARTERLY THEME: Marks of a Christian

TOPIC: HOPE

INTRODUCTION:

“For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.” (Romans 8:24-25)

What is it that instills the faith in Christ, the love for God, the will to do His will, the strength to obey Him, the endurance to suffer for Him? Is it not the hope within us for eternal life, the hope of being forever in His presence? It is a living hope, it is alive, filling our complete being, assuring us that the Holy Spirit is with us in this life and then to be followed by eternal life. The Holy Spirit is given us as an “earnest” or down payment for the everlasting life. This is our living hope in a living Christ.

It is all consummated in the “blessed hope,” the return of Christ for His own. Should we not wait patiently and work faithfully for the fulfilling of this wonderful hope?

CENTRAL TRUTH: Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world, and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 1 John 5:4

GOLDEN TEXT: *BE OF GOOD COURAGE, AND HE SHALL STRENGTHEN YOUR HEART, ALL YE THAT HOPE IN THE LORD.*

Psalm 31:24

David had experienced God's help many times in his life. Now he was in trouble, spent with grief, his strength failing (vs. 9-10). Because God had been his “refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1) he could begin the 31st Psalm with trust in the Lord and end it in courage and hope.

In like manner, Paul considered the afflictions that are suffered in the flesh a small price to pay for the hope of eternal glory.

Set my hope on solid ground;
Strengthen it in every trial;
May it flourish and abound,
And in danger shun denial:
Let it see past heaven's portal
And find rest in things immortal.

Z.H. 78:7

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF July 9 – 15

M. Hope Brings Encouragement. Psalm 42:1-11
T. Hope Brings Endurance. Romans 8:16-25
W. *Hope Brings Light. 2 Corinthians 4:1-6
T. *Hope Brings Victory. 2 Corinthians 4:7-12
F. *Hope Brings Renewal. 2 Corinthians 4:13-18
S. *Hope Brings Confidence. 2 Corinthians 5:1-10
S. Hope Brings Consecration. Titus 2:11-15

Visit www.accfoundation.org for this and other Bible class lessons