

/We will begin the seventh lecture on 1 John.

/Read 4:19-21. /We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

/Whoever loves God must love his brother. /Whoever received the love of God's Son /must first love God and love his brother as well. /He must know God and dwell in God's love, /and then that love will overflow to his brother.

/If one says he loves God but hates his brother, that is proof that he does not love God. /He is a liar. /If one loves another person, he will love that person's ears, eyes, nose, and all of him.

/Everything and everyone will appear beautiful through the eyes of love. /Everything and everyone will appear ugly if seen through the eyes of hate. /When God's love dwells in us, everything and everyone will appear loving.

/We must love churches and believers near us. /We must also love our neighbors. /We must love our enemies. /God loved us unconditionally when we were weak and were sinners.

/Therefore, we must repent for hating our brothers. /Jesus reproached the church of Ephesus for throwing away their first love, and Jesus would remove the lampstand from them if they did not repent. /Jesus meant that He would remove from them His work of life.

/John received revelation about love from the Lord. /Now we have received it. /This is not a choice but is mandatory, and it is the greatest law that we must keep. /We must work hard to love.

/Here it emphasizes that the love of God and the love of brothers is not separate but one. /Jesus spoke of the greatest law to the teachers of the law. /First, Jesus said to love God with all your heart, soul, and strength. /This is the first and greatest commandment. /Second, Jesus said to love your neighbors as yourself.

/The second commandment is a conduct of the Law and the Prophets. /Jesus did not tell us to only love God. /Jesus did not tell us to only love our neighbors. /Loving God and loving our neighbors is God's commandment.

/When we love our brothers, we love God. /Love for God and love for our brothers is one. /We are liars if we do not truly love our brothers and hate them, and it is evidence that we do not love God.

/Therefore, we must take the love that we received from God and apply it to our lives and

to our brothers.

/We will continue with chapter 5. /The title of chapter 5 is “Overcoming the World.” /We will look at the main parts. /First, believers are born of God. /Verses 1-3. /Second, who has overcome the world? /Verses 4-5.

/Third, there is testimony in believers. /Verses 6-13. /Fourth, praying and seeking. /Verses 14-17. /Fifth, anyone born of God does not continue to sin. /Verses 18-19. /Sixth, conviction. /Verses 20-21.

/This is a summary of chapter 5. /Chapter five is the conclusion of 1 John. /John proposes five things for believers /from chapters 1-4.

/These are the five proposals. /First, what is a true Christian like? /Second, a true Christian rejects the world and overcomes the world with faith.

/Third, who is Jesus Christ? /Fourth, how believers should boldly pray. /Fifth, conviction of the truth.

/Read 5:1. /Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.

/The born again believer has been born of God. /To be “born again” means that the dead spirit has been reborn through God’s Word and through the Holy Spirit. /What testifies to that fact that we have been born again? /First, we believe that Jesus is Christ.

/The dead spirit cannot know that Jesus is Christ nor believe it. /The spirit must be born again so that it would know and believe that Jesus is Christ and Savior. /The Holy Spirit must dwell in our spirits and work in us for us to believe. /1 Corinthians 12:3

/Second, we truly love God and truly love our brothers. /The basis for the born again spirit is love. /God is love, and love is in the spirits of believers. /We love him who first gave us love. /We must also love our brothers as ourselves.

/Verses 2-3. /This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

/It teaches us how to discern whether a believer loves God or does not. /What is it? /Whoever obeys God’s commands loves God. /Whoever does not keep God’s commands does not love God.

/What commands must we keep then? /We must first keep the Ten Commandments and other significant commands. /It is not difficult to keep God’s commands if we truly love God.

/When a grandmother carries her grandson on her back, she is able to manage with joy and love for the child. /Even the smallest deeds become burdensome when one is forced to do them. /It is the same when we obey God's Word.

/Things become easy when we truly love God. /This is because God's Word is God's world. /We can perform things more easily when we enter God's world of love because it is our world.

/A fish has it easy when it is in water, but it suffers when it is taken out of the water. /Those who do not love God face difficulties because they are forced to obey the words of man. /Serving others is easy and not difficult when done with love.

/Whoever loves God and obeys his commands will not have difficulties but have joy when obeying God. /When believers dwell with God and obey his commands, the Holy Spirit will strengthen us and help us.

/Jesus said, "For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." /Jesus also said at the Last Supper, "If you love me, you will obey what I command." /The resurrected Jesus said to Peter, "Do you truly love me?" and said, "Take care of my sheep."

/God did not give his loving children commandments so that they would be burdened by it. /God gave us commands for our happiness and lives. /We will be blessed when we keep God's commands, and we will live happily.

/Verses 4-5. /for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

/Whoever is reborn can overcome the world with faith. /How can we overcome the world? /1 John 4:4 says, /"The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." /We have power in our faith because there was victory in the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

/We believers have already overcome the world in Christ. /This world is controlled by the devil, and is filled with power and ideas that stand against God. /The born again believer can defeat the world because his spirit has become one with Christ.

/John 16:33 says, /"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." /Those who live with faith will be able to overcome the world because the Lord's power is with them.

/Faith in Jesus Christ is victory over sin and victory over the devil and the world. /We cannot defeat Satan with our own strength. /We can defeat Satan with the Lord's power because we have become one with Christ through faith.

/Our Jesus is Creator of the universe, is larger than this earth, and is God who is stronger

than Satan. /This Jesus dwells within us. /When we have Christ in us and He works in us, we can defeat the world.

/We can defeat the world when we live in unity with Christ. /We can overcome whatever temptations and hardships come at us. /Paul says in Philippians 4:13, /“I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”

/Jesus said in Mark 9:23, /“Everything is possible for him who believes.”

/Verses 6-8. /This is the one who came by water and blood-- Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

/There are three things that testify to believers. /Jesus Christ testified to three things that He is the Son of God and Christ. /Here, “water” symbolizes the Word of God. /Ephesians 5:26 /1 Peter 1:22

/Jesus perfectly kept God’s will, God’s Word, and he fulfilled the righteousness of God. /Next, “blood” signifies the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. /Hebrews 9:21, 22.

/We have been freed from sin through the shedding of the blood of Christ. /Third, “the Spirit” testifies. /1 Corinthians 2:10 /These three truths are one. /There is one faith of those who believe in the truth.

/The Holy Spirit saves our spirits through the righteousness and blood of Christ. /He clothes us believers with righteousness and cleanses us with the Word of God. /These three become one to accomplish our salvation. /These three are always one in the work of God.

/Verses 9-10. /We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son.

/There is a greater testimony about the Son of God. /Deuteronomy 19:15 says, “A matter must be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.” /God’s testimony is greater and authentic.

/As spoken of in the previous verse, water, blood, and the Spirit testify to the redemption of Jesus Christ. /The Bible is the greatest testimony about Christ. /There is testimony in those who believe in the Son of God.

/The testimony is our unchanging and firm faith. /This faith is not shaken by hardships and persecutions. /This faith courageously fights the good fight and holds on to its calling.

/There is great testimony in the faith of believers. /There is testimony of the living God. /
There is testimony about God's guidance. /There is testimony that God is life.

/We can testify about the blood of Christ through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
/Those who believe in the Son of God and the blood of Christ must always have hearts of
thanksgiving. /This is testimony about God that is seen through believers.

/God also hears our prayers because we testify that God's Word is our life. /We can also
feel God's protection because God pours out his grace so that we have peace in our
hearts. /God surely blesses those who fear God and obey God.

/We are living testimonies. /However, dead faith cannot testify to God. /This testimony is
seen only in those with living faith. /One must enter the grace of God and obey God's
Word to be restored of this testimony.

/The testimony continues to be seen in those who obey, but is not seen in those who do
not obey. /Only those who receive can know.

/When Jesus turned water into wine, only the servants who obeyed Him knew the secret. /
There is testimony in those who obey with faith, yet there is no testimony in those who
do not obey.

/Verses 11-12. /And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in
his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have
life.

/The testimony is that we have been given eternal life. /God granted eternal life to
believers. /John 5:24. /Eternal life is new life that is united with Jesus Christ. /The life of
the spirit that we received does not sin, and it does not die.

/This is life that grows in Jesus Christ. /God gave us this promise. /The distinction
between people of the world and us is that we have eternal life while people of the world
have eternal punishment.

/Here, we prepare for God's eternal kingdom, /and the hearts of the people of the world
are stolen by worldly desires. /Jesus Himself is Life. /There is no life apart from Jesus.

/Here it emphasizes again the truth that eternal life is found only in Jesus Christ. /Thus,
Christians are those who love and have Jesus Christ in their hearts. /There can only be
life when the vine and the branches come together.

/However, even believers can become like people of the world if they abandon Christ.
/There is eternal life in Christians who believe in Jesus. /What is eternal life? /It is to go
to heaven and live with God forever.

/It is also to grow in spirit in God's Word. /When the living spirit continues to live in God's Word and in the Holy Spirit, the spirit will grow to Christ. /When our lives experience works, our spirits grow as well.

/Dead faith cannot experience works. /One who is hypocritical when he does God's works cannot find true works in him. /When there are no works of life, there is dead faith. /Revelation 3:1 rebukes the church of Sardis saying, "You have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead."

/Verse 13. /I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

/Paul reminds his audience of why he wrote this letter. /It is to declare that we believers in this world have already gained eternal life. /We can live forever in heaven.

/However, there are many believers who do not yet know that they have eternal life, and thus, Paul wrote this letter that they would know. /If we do not know that we have eternal life, we cannot live spiritually.

/If we cannot live spiritually, our lives cannot grow. /Therefore, we believers must believe that we have eternal life, and we must live in confidence. /We must grow up into Christ. /Ephesians 4:15.

/Then how can our spirits grow? /1 Peter 2:1-5 speaks of three ways. /First, we must get rid of all sin. /Second, we must crave and obey God's Word of truth. /Third, we must go before Jesus and carry out the holy priesthood.

/Those who are spiritually mature are admired by others and God is pleased with them. /They will also enjoy glory and power in heaven.

/On the other hand, those whose spirits have not grown, /will have worked in vain on this earth and in heaven.

/Verse 14. /This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

/Believers will gain what they ask for when they pray according to God's will. /This verse gives us courage and confidence to all who pray to God. /God does not hear all our prayers, but hears prayers that we pray according to God's will.

/God will not hear our prayers if we pray with greed. /Jesus prayed, "Yet not my will, but yours be done." /James 4:3 says, "When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

/If God gives to a believer what he asks with greed, that person will eventually fail. /The will of God will not have been done.

/In the same way, if a child desires to play with a sharp knife, his parent will not grant the child his wishes. /Therefore, when believers pray, they must seek God's will and pray according to it.

/We can find God's will through the Bible. /We can find God's will through God's providence and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. /We can also find God's will through the conscience of our faith.

/We can find God's will through God's kingdom and righteousness. /Our God gives abundantly to those who first seek his kingdom and righteousness. /Matthew 6:33.

/Verse 15. /And if we know that he hears us-- whatever we ask-- we know that we have what we asked of him.

/God will answer prayers that are prayed in accordance to his will. /God will solve problems, no matter how difficult, when it is prayed according to God's will. /However, God will not answer prayers, no matter how many times it is prayed, if it goes against God's will.

/We believers must know that we have privileges of prayer. /Our God did not only give us the gift of salvation and eternal life, but also the privilege of prayer. /We must believe that God will answer our prayers and we must go before God.

/Verses 16-17. /If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death.

/There is sin that leads to death and sin that does not lead to death. /Believers receive eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ, and they walk down the road of life. /However, there are times when we make mistakes and become weak, and hence, sin.

/Forgiveness of man's sins is completely in the hands of God. /However, when we see a brother sin, we must pray for him. /God will hear those prayers.

/“Sin that does not lead to death” refer to sins committed by reborn believers. /Believers feel guilt in their conscience when they commit sins. /They also regret and feel remorse for their sins.

/Thus, we must pray for them, that God would give them the spirit of repentance so that they would repent. /When believers sin, their communication with God is blocked. /They experienced spiritual darkness. /The spiritual works in them are cut off.

/When believers do not repent, God takes disciplinary action. /2 Samuel 7:14 /It says that God would discipline believers with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men.

/God does not discipline those who are not his sons.

/Those who are disciplined by God will receive blessings. /Discipline is proof that God loves us. /Jesus prayed for us that our faith would not fail. Luke 22:32.

/When we see the flaws of our brothers, /we must first pray for them instead of criticizing them. /It is not right to let our brothers be when they sin. /True love is to pray earnestly to God when we see the flaws of our brothers.

/When we pray for forgiveness of our brothers' sins, God's guidance and grace will be upon them. /It is an act of true love to pray for believers.

/Therefore, we believers must pray not only for ourselves, but also for our neighbors, that they would live holy lives. /We must pray according to God's will and receive answers to our prayers.

/Also, there is "sin that leads to death. /This refers to the sins of the unchosen, who do not believe. /There is no way to receive forgiveness of sins for those who do not believe in Jesus. /The wages of sin is death.

/Man was born with original sin, and he was sentenced to death as punishment for even the smallest sin. /His would not have life on earth, and would spend eternity in hell.

/However, whoever does not believe in Jesus, yet repents and believes in the gospel, he will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life. /Then his sin will not lead to death.

/Therefore, "sin that leads to death" is sin in knowing God's works, but refusing to believe and accept it in his heart. /This is the sin of interference with the Holy Spirit.

/Matthew 12:31-32. /This is to sin intentionally. /Hebrews 10:26-27. /Sin that leads to death, sin of interference with the Holy Spirit, and intentional sins are all sins that will not receive salvation.

/Verses 18-19. /We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

/Those "born of God" does not continue to sin. /Here, "anyone born of God" refers to the born again spirit, and the born again spirit does not sin. /Our born again spirits have been born through God's Word and the Holy Spirit.

/The born again believer **does sin**. However, the spirit within the born again believer **does not sin**. /This is because the spirit has become one with Christ, and the Holy Spirit and Christ protect the spirit of the believer.

/Then what sins? /The "fleshly perishable (old self)" within the believer sins. /The born

again spirit is a new self, and it loves God and follows after God's Word.

/However, the old self desires to sin, and it chases after the sinfulness of the flesh. /The old self and the new self within us are at constant battle with each other. /This is the inner struggle of believers.

/Verses 20-21. /We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true-- even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

/Here, it teaches that Jesus gave us understanding and we must keep ourselves from idols. /We have fallen and we did not know who God was. /We cannot restore forgotten knowledge about God on our own.

/Jesus Christ alone can give us true understanding. /John 17:3 says, /eternal life is to know "the only true God, and Jesus Christ." /Jesus broke down the wall that stood between God and man, and He taught us who God is through His death of the cross and His resurrection.

/Jesus Christ came in the flesh to this earth, and man saw God with his eyes. /John 1:18. /Those who are saved received perception from the Lord, and know the true God through their experiences.

/Believers grow in knowledge about God through such knowledge in Christ, and they grow mature in their faith. /We believers must take true perception and stay away from idols. /What are idols that exist today?

/Anything that is put in the seat of God is an idol. /Again, anything that we are controlled by, /chase after, and love more than God are all spiritual idols. /The Bible speaks of various kinds of spiritual idols. /Greed is an idol. /Colossians 3:5.

/Stubbornness is an idol. /1 Samuel 15:23. /Jealousy is an idol. /Ezekiel 8:3. /The self is an idol. /Ezekiel 14:3. /Other than these, nations, money, children, or pleasures are all idols. /The Israelites were ruined as a result of idolatry, and they were taken captive in Babylon.

/Today, we believers must get rid of idols, and we must love God only. /When we serve God alone, we can protect ourselves, we will have spiritual communication with the Lord, and we will become more and more like Christ each day.

/Here we will conclude the seventh lecture on 1 John. /Thank you.