

Jesus Overcame the World
(John 16:33)

Introduction:

1. In John 16:33 Jesus mentioned the things He had spoken to the apostles [His words recorded in ch.14-16].
2. Jesus revealed His purpose for saying these things [that the apostles might have peace in Him].
3. Even though the apostles would face tribulation in the world, they could "*be of good cheer.*"
4. The apostles could be of good cheer because Jesus had "overcome" [to conquer, to prevail, to gain the victory] the world.
 - a. By overcoming the world, Jesus had conquered the world, He had prevailed against the world, and He had gained the victory over the world.
 - b. The fact that Jesus overcame the world was a source of encouragement to the apostles -- it is also a source of encouragement to us.
5. Let us examine . . .

Discussion:

- I. SOME WAYS IN WHICH JESUS OVERCAME THE WORLD
 - A. Jesus overcame Satan's temptations after He was baptized (Mark 1:9-13).
 - B. Jesus overcame difficult experiences, including:
 1. the loss of:
 - a. a family member: John (Matthew 14:10-13)
 - b. a close friend: Lazarus (John 11:35-36)
 2. rejection by His disciples (John 6:66), His family (John 7:5), and His countrymen (John 8:59)
 3. betrayal (John 18:3-5)
 4. unjust treatment (John 19:1-3)
 5. being forsaken by His close friends (Matthew 26:56).
 - C. Jesus overcame resentment and retaliation (1 Peter 2:21-23).
 - D. The Bible shows how we can benefit from the example set by Jesus as He overcame the world (Hebrews 4:15-16; 12:1-3).
 - E. In addition to overcoming the world Himself, . . .
- II. JESUS WANTS HIS FOLLOWERS TO OVERCOME THE WORLD
 - A. According to 1 John 5:4-5, requirements for overcoming the world include:
 1. faith
 2. believing that Jesus is God's Son
 3. being born of God.
 - B. We learn from Romans 12:17-21 that the Lord's followers are to overcome evil with good.
 - C. In His messages to the 7 churches of Asia Jesus revealed the blessings in store for those who overcome.
 1. Revelation 2:7 (Ephesus)
 2. Revelation 2:11 (Smyrna)
 3. Revelation 2:17 (Pergamos)
 4. Revelation 2:26 (Thyatira)
 5. Revelation 3:5 (Sardis)
 6. Revelation 3:12 (Philadelphia)
 7. Revelation 3:21 (Laodicea)
 - D. Additional blessings are revealed in Revelation 21:7.

Conclusion:

1. In John 16:33 Jesus said that He had overcome the world.
2. Can you make the same statement?