

HOW LOVE AND FAITH CONQUER THE WORLD

Note to the speaker:

Help audience appreciate that the more we learn about Jehovah and the more we love him, the stronger our faith in his promises becomes. That abounding love and unwavering faith will equip us to conquer the world, as Jesus did

CHRIST JESUS CONQUERED THE WORLD (4 min.)

Near the end of his earthly ministry, Jesus declared: “I have conquered the world” (Joh 16:33)

He resisted the efforts of Satan the Devil, the god of this world, to ‘get a hold on him’ (Joh 14:30; 1Jo 5:19)

Jesus resisted the Devil’s temptations to seek material things, gain personal fame, and deny Jehovah’s Godship (Mt 4:4, 7, 10)

Hostile religious and political groups failed to entrap Jesus and interfere with his service to God (Mt 22:15, 16, 34, 46)

Unshakable faith and love for Jehovah enabled Jesus to hold fast his integrity and finish the work he was given to do (Joh 17:4)

Christ left a model for his disciples to follow (1Pe 2:21)

JESUS PREPARED HIS DISCIPLES FOR WORLD CONQUEST (7 min.)

Jesus warned his disciples that they too would face persecution for being “no part of the world” of mankind alienated from God (Joh 15:18-20; Mt 10:16-18)

He identified Satan as the chief opposer of Kingdom truth (Joh 8:44)

Christ taught his disciples to pray for protection from “the wicked one,” and he asked his Father to watch over them (Mt 6:9, 13; Joh 17:15, 16)

Jesus emphasized the importance of loving God and neighbor (Mt 22:37-39)

He demonstrated loving compassion in dealing with others (Mr 1:40, 41; Lu 8:43-48; *gt* 25, 46)

Christ strengthened the faith and love of his disciples with increased knowledge of Jehovah (Joh 17:3, 26)

Jehovah’s loving provisions caused their faith to grow and helped them to remain steadfast in zealously proclaiming the good news (Col 1:22, 23; 1Jo 4:10, 11)

By adhering closely to Jesus’ example, faithful disciples can be “completely victorious” (Ro 8:35-39; *w99* 5/1 7)

MODERN-DAY DISCIPLES ARE WORLD CONQUERORS (7 min.)

Jehovah’s servants today have gained victory over the world and its ways

By maintaining Christian neutrality (*w86* 1/1 27; *yb96* 88 pars. 1-3)

By overcoming direct opposition from family, neighbors, workmates, schoolmates, or apostates (*w87* 4/15 14-15 pars. 16-20)

By successfully fighting against the pervasive, disobedient, and prideful spirit of the world (Eph 2:2, 8; *rs* 390)

By avoiding selfish and valueless pursuits (2Ti 3:4; *w96* 12/15 19 pars. 17-18)

Focusing our attention on the triumph of our Exemplar and on other faithful Witnesses helps us to endure (Heb 12:1-3)

LOVE AND FAITH ENABLE US TO BE WORLD CONQUERORS (8 min.)

This ungodly world is still “lying in the power of the wicked one,” Satan (1Jo 5:19)

Hatred, violence, genocide, lying, jealousy, immorality, and sexually provocative remarks and dress reflect the Devil’s spirit (*lv* 50-53 pars. 1-6; 56-57 pars. 11-13)

People without faith and lacking knowledge of God’s love yield to the wicked influence of the Devil (*lv* 53-55 pars. 7-10)

Love for Jehovah and faith in his promises enable Christians to escape Satan’s “hold” (1Jo 5:3-5, 18)

Such love makes obeying God’s commands delightful, not burdensome (*lv* 11-13 pars. 13-16)

Faith conquers fear and intimidation that could lead to compromising our principles or undermining our reliance on Jehovah (*w81* 8/15 11-12)

As world conquerors, obedient to God, we enjoy a better life even now

Obeying the command to “cleanse ourselves of every defilement of flesh and spirit” frees us from such things as slavish addictions to tobacco, drugs, and pornography (2Co 7:1)

Heeding the admonition to attend meetings, we encourage one another to stand firm in the faith (Heb 10:24, 25)

Following Jesus’ instructions to preach, teach, and make disciples brings us true happiness, liberating us from Satan’s self-centered world (Mt 24:14; 28:19, 20; Ac 20:35)

CHRISTIAN CONQUERORS INHERIT ETERNAL BLESSINGS (4 min.)

Jesus Christ conquered the world and was awarded great authority “at God’s right hand” (1Pe 3:22)

He will soon complete his conquest and gain the victory at Armageddon (Re 6:2; 16:16)

Faithful anointed footstep followers inherit the heavenly Kingdom (Lu 12:32; 22:28-30)

The “other sheep” inherit a place in the earthly realm of the Kingdom (Joh 10:16; Mt 25:34)

By standing firm as world conquerors and by fearlessly preaching God’s Kingdom, we can help others to conquer the world and receive Jehovah’s eternal blessing (Re 12:11)

(Public talk by circuit overseer, starting September 2013. Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on)