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VICTORY OVER THE WORLD THROUGH FAITH

“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 KJV)

A man certainly does not overcome the world unless he gets above being engrossed and absorbed with its concerns. The man who gains the victory over the world must overcome not one form only of its pursuits, but every form—must overcome the world itself and all that it presents as an allurements to the human heart. **Overcoming the world implies overcoming the fear of the world...and a state of worldly anxiety.** The victory under consideration implies that we cease to be enslaved and in bondage to the world in any of its forms. There is a worldly spirit and there is also a heavenly spirit and one or the other exists in the heart of every man and controls his whole being. Those who are under the control of the world of course have not overcome the world.

No man overcomes the world till his heart is imbued with the spirit of heaven. “To me,” said Paul, “it is a small thing to be judged of men’s judgment.” So of every real Christian; his care is to secure the approbation of God; this is his chief concern, to commend himself to God and to his own conscience. **No man has overcome the world unless he has attained this state of mind.** Almost no feature of Christian character is more striking or more decisive than this—indifference to the opinions of the world. Men who are not thus dead to the world have not escaped its bondage. **The victorious Christian is in a state where he is no longer in bondage to man. He is bound only to serve God. AMEN.**

—C. G. Finney (1792 – 1875)

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 –

