

#### IV. THE **ENEMY** OF OBEDIENCE (2:15-17)

The enemy of obedience is the world and there are many good reasons why Christians should not love “the world”:

##### A. Because of what the world **is** (v 15a).

*“whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”*

II Corinthians 4:4

*“11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*

*12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”* Ephesians 6:11-12

##### B. Because of what the world **does** to us (vs 15b-16).

*“Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”* James 4:4

*“And do not be conformed to this world,...”* Romans 12:2a

*“for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica—...”*

II Timothy 4:10a

##### C. Because of **where** the world is going (v 17).

*“13 each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is.*

*14 If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward.*

*15 If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss;...”*

I Corinthians 3:13-15a

## OVERCOME ~ I JOHN

Overcome Hypocrisy

Pastor Steve Reynolds

### INTRODUCTION

A. God has called His children to overcome. We can and should live victorious over the difficulties in this world.

*“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.”*

I John 5:4

B. The book of I John is a game plan for victory. In this series you will discover how to overcome many difficulties in your life.

May 8	Overcome Sin
TODAY	Overcome Hypocrisy
May 22	Overcome Deception
May 29	Overcome Impurity
June 5	Overcome Division
June 12	Overcome False Teaching
June 19	Overcome Fear
June 26	Overcome Defeat

Come and hear these messages and develop a victorious game plan.

C. **TEXT:** I John 2:3-17 (Pew Bible/Pg.1196/New Test.)

## Overcome Hypocrisy And Experience Victory

## HOW TO OVERCOME HYPOCRISY

### I. THE EMPHASIS OF OBEDIENCE (2:3-6)

#### A. Obedience is crucial (v 3).

*“14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?”*

*15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,*

*16 and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?*

*17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*

*18 But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.*

*19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!*

*20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?”* James 2:14-20

#### B. Obedience is not partial (v 4).

*“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”* Joshua 1:8

#### C. Obedience is continual (vs 5-6).

*“But He said, “More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”* Luke 11:28

### II. THE EXAMPLE OF OBEDIENCE (2:7-11)

#### A. Love is commanded (vs 7-8).

*“12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

*13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”* John 15:12-13

#### B. Love is demonstrated (vs 9-10).

*“34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.*

*35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”* John 13:34-35

### III. THE EXPRESSIONS OF OBEDIENCE (2:12-14)

There are three levels of spiritual growth:

#### A. “Little Children” – Immature Christians.

They obey because they have to.

*“1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ.*

*2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;”* I Corinthians 3:1-2

#### B. “Young Men” – Mature Christians.

They obey because they need to.

*“16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.*

*17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”* Ephesians 6:16-17

#### C. “Fathers” – Very Mature Christians.

They obey because they want to.

*“16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*

*17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.*

*18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”* Romans 6:16-18