

Whoever is Born of God Overcomes the World

No one knows what the love of God is. They might see the trees and the flowers, and acknowledge the Creator, but they don't know what the love of God is.

For the love of God is this: that we obey His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. (1 Jn 5:3)

No one knows what the love of God is until they see a people who are obeying His commandments (Jn 17:21-23). No one can say, "I know Him," without obeying His commandments (1 Jn 2:4).

For whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world: our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Yahshua is the Son of God? (1 Jn 5:4-5)

Who is it who will "conquer the world"? We're going to conquer the world! Are you conquering the world? What does it mean to "conquer the world"? Your Bible might say, "overcomes the world." We have to overcome the things of the world, or the things of the world will destroy us.

And this is the victory that conquers the world: our faith. (1 Jn 5:4)

We're going to conquer the world. We *have* to conquer the world and the things of the world, or it will conquer us. We talked about that in Pulaski, Tennessee, while we were there. There was a wonderful new disciple there who shared her heart. It was so wonderful, and what a witness they are to the whole town. It's just amazing.

ha-êmeq — Their place is right on the main corner of town. And there's a huge glass window on the side of the room they gather in. When they stand in the gathering room, there is the main stop light with cars stopped this way and that way, and there we are in the gathering. Also there is a parking lot just outside, and someone was having a yard sale. So right outside the glass window, all these cars were pulling in, right next to the house, on Shabbat. We're in there, and people could see us, and everyone had their diadems on.

I think those diadems would be the most outstanding thing they would notice, aside from a group of people standing there. And when I heard Yônêq talking, I could just envision people saying, "So, why do you

wear those diadems?” And we could say, “Because we follow the “King of kings.” And they would say, “Oh, yes, ‘King of kings and Lord of lords’ ... I know about that. I know the King.” But then I would say, “We’re the kings it talks about, and He’s the King of the *kings*. We’ve got our diadems on, and we’re planning to conquer the world.” And people would say, “What? Whoa, what’s going on, here?”

But it truly is that scary, what we do when we put our diadems on. The kings rule — they rule over everything that would lead them astray. “The whole world lies under the power of the evil one.” We know that the evil one wrecked our lives before we came here, and he is still wrecking everyone’s lives out there, and he wants to come in here. So, we put our diadems on, and we say, “NO! He’s not going to do it! He’s not going to come in here!” At that moment, He becomes the King of the kings. Otherwise, He’s not the King of the kings; He’s just the King. But He wishes he had kings who would actually do something on the earth.

Alexander “the Great” was 16 years old when he contemplated conquering the world, and he set out to do it. It wasn’t just a casual thought, like, “*Oh, what should I do today? I think I’m going to conquer the world.*” He *set* himself at a very young age to conquer the world, and he *did* it — he conquered it for evil.

And what about us? It isn’t as if we’re just “messing around” here, with our diadems on. Alexander was planning to conquer the world, and so are we, but in a totally different light. Love is what is going to conquer the world. We’re “just” a band of world conquerors! When you realize that you’re part of a band of world conquerors, it changes your opinion of yourself. You’re not just wearing some rag on your head.

Shoer — Verse 5 says, “*Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Yahshua is the Son of God?*” If we conquer the things that would destroy us — the things of the world that try to creep in — then ultimately the Stone will roll down and smash the feet of the Statue. But in order to do that, we have to have faith in our Master Yahshua. “*He who believes*” needs to believe as Kepha believed, having revelation that Yahshua is able to save us, and if we completely put our trust in Him, He is able to do the miraculous, protecting us all the way to the end of the age. We don’t have to somehow defend ourselves and figure out how we’re going to conquer the world, because we’ll never be able to figure it out. We just have to love one another and believe in our Master Yahshua and overcome the things of the world that would so *easily* slither right in and start to destroy us. We can overcome those things by believing in our

Master Yahshua, and then we can make it to the end and we'll "conquer" the world, in that sense.

And I always loved that article called "The Unshakable Kingdom." It says, "These survivalist groups think that by stockpiling weapons and supplies, they can make it through the collapse of the present society and take over. But what they do not see is that, contrary to prophecy, they are trying to cut *themselves* out of the mountain *with* human hands." But we're *so much* not that way; we're just this little rag-tag bunch of disciples, and all we want to do is love. We're learning how to overcome the things that would take us to death. That is "the training camp" that is ultimately going to overthrow the present ruler of this age.

Havah bat Zerubbabel — I'm thankful ha-êmeq said, "We're a band of world conquerors." When she said that, I thought, "Oh, I just don't feel like that." I'm thankful for that song, "There is Something Very Wonderful." It says, "the changing of our lives into the image of our *King*." Our Master Yahshua is the King of kings. That's the hope that I have. How am I going to conquer the world? It's through "the changing of our lives." Right now, I couldn't, but if I give myself, then He can change me into His image, and I want to change, so that I can have what it takes to run the course.

Alexander the Great died at age 31. It would have been better for him if he'd never been born. I don't know why they call him "the Great." We were taught that he was a GREAT man, but he was a mass murderer.

ha-êmeq — Just like Hitler "the Great" — once they conquered, they'd be known as "Great."

Gad — Really, those men were making their *own* name great, but we are making our Father's name great.

Obeying His Commandments

There has to be a context to obey His commandments. If there is no context, no environment, you can't obey His commands. It's impossible. You can read them, and memorize them, but that is all you can do, because there is no place where you *can* obey them. Whoever loves Him will keep His commandments (1 Jn 5:2-3). You can't love Him unless you're baptized *into* a community where you *can* keep His commandments. That is where we are tested, so that we can love ALL the commandments.

All the commandments have to and can be carried out within the framework of the Body of Messiah, and nowhere else. You can't even pretend that you're in fellowship with Him if you're not part of His Body. We're in a place now where we *can* love Him. You actually *will* love if you obey Him. It's according to your *will*.

Even in the Community, we are judged by every word that proceeds out of our mouth. Everything we say will be judged — every word. Community is the place where we “turn the other cheek,” isn't it? Instead of someone “getting your goat,” you can turn the other cheek. That's amazing, isn't it? If someone slaps you on one side, then you turn around and let him slap you on the other. Have you ever turned your cheek after one slap? Or have you ever “slapped” someone?

Raphael Lamb — It's really a serious thing to plan to be a conqueror, because it's not just, “If we don't make it, then we fail, and oh, well...” Either we are going to be the conquerors, or we're going to be conquered by the one who doesn't want to be conquered — the evil one. And he is actually on the throne of the earth (1 Jn 5:19), and has been for a long time. Yahshua came and did His part, but He's been waiting for the other part — for a long time.

The context was created in the first Edah; but they got conquered. We heard this week that we have to pay closer attention to the things *we've* already heard. I've been thinking about all the things we've heard that I haven't really taken in. Somehow, I'm still conquered by certain things that I've already heard how to conquer. Those things have to be set aside in view of the Race; otherwise I won't be able to run.

What we're up against isn't a light thing. There isn't room to just think, “Well, I can keep this for now; I'll let go of it later.” If I have that attitude, there won't ever be a time when I'm prepared. That is why I'm thankful for salvation, because if we're really in salvation, it exposes the things we need to set aside — if we're active participants in this life. We will see what isn't going toward the goal of conquering.

It is such a deception to think that if you're not going anywhere, you can just not go anywhere. My brother Peratz [who is in the world] said, “I feel stagnant.” I told him, “You're not stagnant, you're going in the other direction; you're under the control of the evil one.” He said, “Well, I don't *feel* like I'm in a bad place.” And I said, “Your body is not, but your soul is.

Maybe if something tragic happened to your body, you might make the connection, but are you going to wait until that happens? Maybe there won't be a second chance. When are you going to understand that your life is under the power of the evil one?"

We saw a snake this morning slithering across the road. It looked at us, and then it kept going and went under the leaves and it was gone. We all stepped back, wondering, "Where is it? What is it doing?" It didn't just go under the leaves, but down under the ground. You just wanted to step back. That is what it's like to be conquered. Something slithers in. We can be like that, letting something in, and people wonder, "Oh, I don't know what's going on with him." I don't want to be conquered by the evil one. I want to be conquered by our Master Yahshua and His love so that His Kingdom can come.

Some people have left everything. Have I left everything? Do I really want His Kingdom to come that much, or am I just "here for the ride"? I know we won't make it if we're just here for the ride. Our Master Yahshua set His mind on something, and didn't stop until it was completed. He knew what His Father's will was for His life, and He didn't stop short.

Yônêq — He set His face like flint.