

Our Overcoming Spirit I John 3:23-4:6

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“This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. **24** The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. **1** Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2** By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; **3** and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. **4** You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. **5** They are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them. **6** We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.”

- I John 3:23-24 shows us the gospel is more than just a message to know. It is also a command to be believed. What can we expect when we come to faith in the Person and work of Christ? We can expect opposition and we can expect to overcome through the power of the Holy Spirit.

1. Our Opposition – False Teaching

- a. Their number – Many (I John 4:1)
- b. Their teaching – Denied the humanity of Christ (I John 4:3)
- c. Their following – Large (I John 4:5)
- d. Their attitude – Proud (I John 4:6)

2. Our Overcomer – The Holy Spirit

- **I John 4:4, “Greater is He who is in you (indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit) than he that is in the world.”**
 - a. He reminds us we are loved (I John 4:1)
 - b. He anchors us to Scripture (I John 4:1)
 - c. He points us to Christ (I John 4:2)
 - d. He gives us the desire to learn and grow (I John 4:6)