

VICTORY OVER THE WORLD,

(Christian Fellowship Wellsford - 25/10/92 - EKB)

1. **Reading:** *Rom 12:1,2.*
2. The central thought that links v1-2 together is **“do not be conformed to this world.”**
3. The world is a satanically designed and inspired system **that seeks to control each individual and keep them from God.** Satan’s purpose is to take people to hell and to the lake of fire with him, *Mat 25:41*, and he uses the world to do it.
4. *1Jn 5:19* says that “the whole world lies under the sway of Satan, *Jn 14:30*, *Jn 12:31*, He is the ruler of this world.
1Jn 2:15 “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.” You cannot love the world and the Father.
1Jn 2:16 “For all that is in the world - the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life - is not of the Father but is of the world”. These three sum up the character of the world.
1Jn 2:17 “And the world is passing away and the lust of it but he who does the will of God abides forever.” Across the world is written, **“FINISHED”!** *Jn 12:31*. But across the believer is written, **“ABIDES FOREVER WITH THE FATHER!”**
5. **“The lust of the flesh”** v16, includes: alcoholism, drugs, immorality, (sexual activity outside of the marriage covenant and union), homosexuality, child abuse, entertainment, excitement, pleasure, greed, violence, hate resentment, eye-gouging, control, manipulation, rock music, gambling, etc.
6. **“The lust of the-eyes,”** v16, includes: TV, pornographic magazines, videos.
7. **“The pride of life,”** v16, is having “the best”, boasting of “success,” seeking career first, full of importance, love of money, possessions, wealth, arrogance.
8. So *Rom 12:1* tells us that the way of release from satan’s control through the world system of lust, v16, is **to put your body under God’s** control by presenting it to Him as a living sacrifice each day. “Father today I present my body to You as a living sacrifice. I place it under Your control in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. My body is no longer available for satan’s use,” *Rom 6:13,16-19*.
9. *Rom 12:2* tells us not to be conformed to this world but to **be transformed by the renewing of our minds.** If we think the way the world thinks we are conformed to this world and controlled by this world. When our minds, thoughts and values are renewed to think the truth of God’s Word, then we are transformed to be new creatures in Christ and able to prove what is the good, and acceptable and perfect will of God.
10. *Pro 23:7* - As a man thinks in his heart so is he.

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| 11. | World | Kingdom of God |
| | I care for self first and have little concern for others. | I care for others as I care for myself, <i>Mk 12:31</i> . |
| | I have a right to choose what I want to do and do it. | I deny self will daily and choose to obey God's Will, <i>Deut 12:8, Lk 9:23, Jn 15:14</i> . |
| | I live independently from others and their controls. | I live in close fellowship with other members of the Body of Christ, <i>Rom 12:5, Eph 5:21, 1Pet 5:5</i> . |
| | I am self sufficient and self supporting. | I rely on God with thanksgiving for the supply of every need, <i>Phil 4:19, Mat 6:33, Jer 2:13</i> . |
| | I get all I can and keep all I can. | I get all I can to give all I can, <i>Lk 6:38</i> . |
| | I adopt an hostile attitude to those who oppose or criticise me. | I forgive those who are hostile towards me and criticise me, <i>Mk 11:25, Mat 5:44</i> . |
| | If I live a "decent" life and help others in need I will go to heaven. | I cannot get saved by my good works, but only by faith in Christ, <i>Gal 2:16</i> . |
| | Happiness is found in doing what I want to do, in pleasure, money, possessions and good times. | Happiness is found in God's presence, doing His Will and sharing His life and truth with others, <i>Ps 16:11</i> |
| | My security is in being successful, in achievements money and possessions. | My security is in God My Provider, Shield, Strong Tower and My Rock, <i>Ps 91:1-12</i> . |
| | My peace is in things going as I want them to. | My peace is in God, in my heart, as I cast every care on Him, <i>1Pet 5:7, Phil 4:6,7</i> . |
| | I am driven by fear of failure and concern of what others think. | I am free from fear of failure for God loves, accepts and forgives me as I live to do His Will, <i>Jn 15:14, Eph 1:6(KJV)</i> |
12. As our mind and thinking is renewed by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit we are transformed into the mature sons and daughters of God, *2Cor 3:18, 2Cor 6:18*.
13. Further scriptures which say the same: *Jn 8:31,32, Col 3:1-3, Ps 1:1-3, Rom 8:5-7*.
14. In *1Jn 5:4* it says, "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith." It is our faith in God and His Word that gives us authority and victory over the world.