

**FINDING FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD... TOGETHER!**



**PO BOX 943, SUPERIOR MT 59872**

**Gathering at 502 Pike Street**

**TITLE: A Confident Christian?**

**TEXT: 1 John 2:12-17**

**DATE: 07 January 2024**

### **OPENING STATEMENT**

“2024 has arrived and it will require that those of us who are true followers of Jesus Christ can be and must be completely confident in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.”

### **OPENING STRATEGY:**

We are taking the challenge of this 2024 crazy culture to heart by building our confidence in our relationship with and in Jesus Christ by walking through **1<sup>st</sup> John**.

A Christian’s Confidence Comes By: **What We Know About Jesus - 1 John 1:1-4**

A Christian’s Confidence Comes By: **Staying in Fellowship with Jesus - 1 John 1:5-10**

A Christian’s Confidence Comes By: **Knowing for Sure We Are Christians - 1 John 2:1-11**

### **AND TODAY WE WILL LOOK AT...**

A Christian’s Confidence Comes By: **Triumphing Over Temptation - 1 John 2:12-17**

### **OPENING SCRIPTURE**

**1 John 2:12-17**

***12 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.***

***13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.***

***14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.***

***15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.***

***16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.***

***17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.***

## **OPENING SUPPLICATION:**

“Father, in the name of Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, we earnestly desire to worship you, today, in spirit and truth. May you apply, we pray, your Word to our hearts and our hearts to Your Word. We pray that You might continue to Save the lost, Revive the saved and build Your church here, in this place.”

## **SERMON OUTLINE:**

Let’s continue our Confidence Building Journey in **1st John** by learning about:  
**Triumphing Over Temptation - 1 John 2:12-17**

Let’s take note of 3 points from these verses:

**First, Note:** that our confidence in Jesus Christ will continue to grow in 2024 as we witness how those fellow-followers of Jesus Christ before us and those around us are “Triumphing Over Temptation.”

1. Here in **1 John 2:12-14**, John is highlighting believers of all ages who were “Triumphing Over Temptations!” Though temptations may take a physical form they are spiritual in nature and can only be defeated with spiritual resources!

### **A Thought:**

The Holy Spirit, writing through John, is reminding us that followers of Jesus Christ, of all ages, were facing temptations and winning! This is a letter of victory, not defeat ... a letter of encouragement; we can win over sin today!

2. Then, as now, all followers of Jesus Christ will face spiritual temptations which should always drive the child of God to Jesus Christ, the only way of victory. Later, in **1 John**, we will read:

**1 John 4:4:**

***<sup>4</sup> Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.***

3. John wrote the Gospel of John with salvation as its’ theme, and he stresses in **1 John** sanctification as its’ main thrust. The sanctifying process of growing spiritually was on the mind of Jesus as He prayed to the Father in

**John 17: 12-21:**

***<sup>12</sup> On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,***

***<sup>13</sup> Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet Him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.***

***<sup>14</sup> And Jesus, when He had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,***

***<sup>15</sup> Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.***

***<sup>16</sup> These things understood not His disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things unto Him.***

***<sup>17</sup> The people therefore that was with Him when He called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record.***

***<sup>18</sup> For this cause the people also met Him, for that they heard that He had done this***

*miracle.*

*<sup>19</sup> The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after Him.*

*<sup>20</sup> And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast:*

*<sup>21</sup> The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see Jesus.*

**2nd. Note:** that our confidence in Jesus Christ will continue to grow in 2024 as we personally “Triumph Over Temptation,” by consistently choosing the love of our Father over the things of the world.”

1. Here in **1 John 2:15-16**, John takes us a step further in the part we play in realizing victory over the temptations that come our way. In short, loving the world means you don’t love the Father. Shorter yet: “You can’t fake it and make it!”

2. The *KJV study Bible* states: “Some people think that worldliness is limited to external behavior—the people we associate with, the places we go, the activities we enjoy. Worldliness is also internal because it begins in the heart and is characterized by 3 attitudes: ...

“ ... (1) *craving for physical pleasure*—a preoccupation with gratifying desires; (2) *craving for everything we see* (“lust of the eyes”)—coveting and accumulating things bowing to the god of materialism; and (3) *pride in our achievements and possessions*—obsession with one’s status or importance.

When the serpent tempted Eve (**Gen. 3:6**), he tempted her in these areas. The devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness in the same 3 areas as recorded in (**Matt. 4:1-11**).

3. Listen, every follower of Jesus Christ faces at least 3 enemies-continually: first the enemy of *the world*, which is addressed in

**Romans 12:1-2**

*<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

*<sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

3. Then, the enemy of *the flesh*, addressed by James in

**James 1:13-17:**

*<sup>13</sup> Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man:*

*<sup>14</sup> But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*

*<sup>15</sup> Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*

*<sup>16</sup> Do not err, my beloved brethren.*

*<sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with Whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*

And finally, *the enemy of the devil* seen in

**1 John 3:8**

***He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.***

**3rd, Note:** that our confidence in Jesus Christ will continue to grow in 2024 as we learn that “Triumphing Over Temptation,” is an eternal reality for those followers of Jesus Christ who live out the will of God.

**1. Weirsbe: 2:12–17** “The world,” in the Bible, is Satan’s system for opposing the work of Christ on earth. It is the very opposite of what is godly and holy and spiritual (**v. 16**) The world is not a natural habitat for a believer. The believer’s citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20), and all his effective resources for living on earth come from his Father in heaven.

**2. Expositor’s:** All the vanity of this evil world with its devices is passing away. It has already begun to putrefy. It is a corpse not yet buried. But the person who really does the will of God has the breath of eternal life.

**3. There’s not much I know about 2024,** but I do know that I will think about this:

1] Are you personally saved; do you know Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, are you a Christ follower?

2] As a true follower of Jesus Christ, are you growing in your personal relationship with Him? How can I encourage you to be more confident?

3]\_Are you personally committed to and engaged in God’s Kingdom work? Are you personally helping in the building of His church – His fellowship here?

## **CONCLUSION**

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

***There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.***

**James 1:12**

***Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.***

## **INVITATION**

**Romans 10:13**

***For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.***