

“What Do You Want?”

Mark 10:21

July 30, 2017

INTRO: Today we're going to have a Christian Peace Rally...

PREVIEW:

- Confrontational COMPASSION
- Christ's CLARITY
- Christian CONFESSION (and repentance)
- Commissioned CHURCH

Confrontational COMPASSION:

BIG IDEA: Disciples serve Jesus by serving & expending their time, talent, & treasure in His kingdom

- Defining vs. suggestive
- Christ's Church vs. cultural, consumeristic church

Serving & bringing glory to God through loving, faithful obedience is the only biblical bulls-eye for biblical, born-again believers. - JDP

What you believe is who you become! - JDP

Your behaviors reveal your real beliefs. - JDP

T/S: Servants serve, followers follow, & liars lie. - JDP

VIDEO: *MacArthur on the Rich Young Ruler*

And Jesus, looking at him, **loved him**, and said to him, "You lack **one thing**: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have **treasure in heaven**; and come, **follow me**." - Mark 10:21

Confrontational Compassion

"Jesus loved him AND told him he LACKED..."

Jesus never "offered" him the gospel... BECAUSE the man did not accept & address (aka confess & repent) his sin.

The Law is light & love that leads to life!

The American dream is a spiritual nightmare!

Christ's CLARITY:

- **2 Tim. 3:16-17...** Your interpretation/His inspiration?
- Service or Selfish – which rules your heart? (old/new?)

QT: *"Instead of serving the King and investing in His kingdom, the Rich Young Ruler chose to serve himself."* – Disciples Path

"Service without worship is SELF-serving." – JDP

Take a closer look at this "church All-Star"

- Words or Walk

- Real vs. “Plastic” FRUIT
- **Treasure** or “Trade-up” (What do you want?)
 - Will you sell everything to buy the field?
- Saved or Lost?
 - Great Commandments - **what if you say “No!”**
 - Great Commission - **what if you say “No!”**
 - Great Church - **what if you say “No!”**
 - Great Conflict - **what if you run away...**

- **“Jesus loved him & said: ‘you lack one thing...’”**
 - **99% obedience = 100% disobedience**
 - **God's grace is for the 100% vs the 1%**

***** What is the purpose of Grace?**

Grace is not for empowering our sin... it is for overcoming sin!!!

Grace does not grant permission to live in the flesh; it supplies
power to live in the Spirit.

******* Homothoomadon *******

(but that’s not what most people – in church – want)

22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful...

T/S: Reasons he went away GRIEVING:

1. He talked to the REAL Jesus... (real Truth)

- He calls for more... and He offers more

>>> **(We see & BE both Isaac & Gomer)** <<<

People either obey... or go away

No one is indifferent to the real Jesus

- ~ He divides the crowds
- ~ He unifies the Church

If indifferent... they did not meet HIM
If "casual" & comfortable... not CHRIST

2. Jesus confronted his beliefs:

Jesus does not replenish, He REPLACES!

3. Jesus got personal

- The real issue is the fight for your dreams/treasure(s)

What drives you defines you... what defines you drives you!

He's looking for a head or hands solution to a heart problem!

Christian CONFESSIOIN:

➤ *"One Thing"*

- Positive: 1 degree – 212 = boil/steam
- Negative:
 - 1 wrong letter = mis-spelled word...
 - 1 degree off = "miss the mark"
 - 1 with-holding from Christ = *non-Lordship*

➤ Confession/Repentance **before** Salvation/Sanctification

VIDEO: *Chan – "One Thing"*

Whatever (“one thing”) keeps you from serving, keeps you from salvation (it’s you idol!)

Are you questioning "my" salvation? (Jesus says: Yes – 2 Cor. 13:5)

T/S: *“Jesus is our example... Jesus models for us a life of constant service to different kinds of people in various types of situations, and He expects the same from us. We love one another because Christ loved us. We serve one another because Christ served us. We sacrifice and die to our comforts and conveniences for the sake of others because Christ sacrificed His life for our sake on the cross.” - Disciples Path*

Commissioned CHURCH:

24 *And the disciples were amazed at his words. But **Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God!***

26 *And **they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?”***

27 *Jesus looked at them and said, **“With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.”***

- Miracle
- MESSIAH
- Mission

➤ **Doing “church” isn’t Church.** - JDP

- **Want to fly with a 99% standard-bearing airline?**
- **“DO-ing church = 75% - 99% biblical Church.”** - JDP
- *There’s no such thing as close-enough in Church!* -JDP

➤ **BE Church (hom-oth-oo-ma-don)**

- Repentant sinners captured by the Gospel/GRACE
- Supernaturally, Holy Spirit UNIFIED
- Riotously-PASSIONATE (imperfect) lovers of God
- ALL-In, Sold-out, Set-apart, Blessed-SLAVES

➤ ***“We have left everything & followed You...”***

- Some say that’s not necessary...
- Jesus says it’s defining:
 - Who do you believe?
 - Read Luke 14 (or this passage again)
- Jesus makes 3 “conditional obedience” promises:
 - Live Blessed
 - Live Persecuted
 - Live Eternal

VIDEO: *“Normal Church for Normal People”* (Rev. ch.2&3)

28 Peter began to say to him, ***“See, we have left everything and followed you.”*** **29** Jesus said, *“Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or (wife) or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”*

- How about you?
- ***What do you want?*** (a church of rich, young rulers???)

The kingdom of God and the kingdom of this world are at war!

“Seek first the kingdom of God... and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.” - Matthew 6:33
 Because of our future hope, we live radically different today!

1 Corinthians 5:58

*“Therefore my brothers & sisters, be steadfast, always excelling in the Lord’s work, because you know that **your labor in the Lord is not in vain.**”*

- What you want is what you will look for...
 - In your religiosity...
 - In your relationships... (vertically & horizontally)
 - Supernatural vertical seeks same horizontal
 - Superficial vertical seeks same horizontal...
 -
- Remember: **Our worship defines our fellowship!** - JDP
- **When fellowship defines worship, its not a Church.** - JDP



One FAITH. One FAMILY. One FOCUS.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will BE My witnesses (locally, regionally, and globally).” – Acts 1:8

One Question: *WHAT DO YOU WANT?*
One Offer: *COME AND SEE.*
One Promise: *TRUTH IN LOVE!*

Our Truth-in-Love Distinctives: We are...

1. Responding to grace & repenting of sin...
2. Trusting the Bible & obeying God’s Word...
3. Growing in-Christ & living Spirit-led...
4. Praying for guidance & following by faith...
5. Dying to self & carrying our cross...
6. BE-ing the Church & loving one another...(truly loving one another)
7. Equipping the saints & exemplifying supernatural unity...
8. Ministering as ambassadors & discerning matters shrewdly...
9. Worshipping God vertically & experiencing Him horizontally...
10. Proclaiming the Gospel (*no matter what*) & fishing for men...
11. Making disciplined-warriors & winning spiritual-warfare...
12. Loving our King & serving His kingdom!

Let's Pray!

NOTES:

QT: **“Instead of serving the King and investing in His kingdom, the Rich Young Ruler chose to serve himself.”** – Disciples Path

What are you investing in?

QT: “Jesus said that when we expend our lives in God’s kingdom, there is nothing that can destroy, diminish, or even steal our investment (Matthew 6:19-21). Consider what the kingdom of God is and how we, as disciples, are called to serve as Jesus did by spending our time, talent, energies & resources in the most rewarding and permanent venture in history: the movement of God’s kingdom.”

Let’s take a closer look at this guy...

He’s VERY impressive (on the surface).

The “kingdom” is a widely covered concept in Scripture:

- The kingdom of God
- The kingdom of heaven
 - Is like a man who sowed good seed in his field
 - Is like a mustard seed
 - Is like leaven
 - **Is like a treasure buried in a field**
 - Is like a net let down and caught all kinds of fish
 - Is like a land-owner who hired workers for his vineyard
 - Is like a king who prepared a wedding feast
- The kingdom of the Lord
- The kingdom of Christ
- Wherever Jesus went, God’s kingdom was experienced!

- **DEFINITION:** an active reign of God; wherever & whenever God is acknowledged to rule & reign

QT: “Jesus invites His followers to be ambassadors & agents for God’s kingdom work. We’ve been invited to experience life with Jesus as King and to serve and invest in God’s kingdom, both individually & corporately.” - Disciples Path

Q: “What would it look like for us to invest more fully in building God’s kingdom rather than our own kingdom?” - DP

The kingdom of God and the kingdom of this world are at war!

“Seek first the kingdom of God... and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.” - Matthew 6:33

Because of our future hope, we live radically different today!

1 Corinthians 5:58

“Therefore my brothers & sisters, be steadfast, always excelling in the Lord’s work, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

- **Matthew 25:31ff** gives us a wonderful description of Jesus’ return. **“The amazing thing about this passage, though, is that it focuses on the importance of showing love & kindness to others – serving them as if we were serving Christ.” - DP**

QT: “Jesus is our example... Jesus models for us a life of constant service to different kinds of people in various types of situations, and He expects the same from us. We love one another because Christ loved us. We serve one another

because Christ served us. We sacrifice and die to our comforts and conveniences for the sake of others because Christ sacrificed His life for our sake on the cross.” - Disciples Path

"What Do You Want?"

(Wanting the Perfect One vs. wanting perfection or being done)

How close is close enough? How good is good enough?

What keeps you from serving, keeps you from salvation (your idol(s))

Are you questioning "my" salvation? (Jesus says: Yes)

John 3:19-21!!!! (1 Jn 1:9)

Use 212 degrees to illustrate the 1 degree difference

When Jesus says "no one is good" He destroys most cultural-church theological assumptions & dispositions... Hence, their misguided priorities & practiced!

"Jesus loved him AND told him he LACKED..."

Jesus never "offered" the gospel BECAUSE the man did not accept & address (aka confess & repent) his sin...

The Law is light & love that leads to life!

American dream = spiritual nightmare!

American folklore: Do good = live well (reverse error of Job's

friends!)

"If this guy is OUT... then who could possibly be in?" (thoughts & question of the disciples!!!)

Keller: reasons he went away GRIEVING:

1. He talked to the REAL Jesus... (real Truth)

- He calls for more...
- He offers more

>>> **(We see & BE both Isaac & Gomer)** <<<

People either obey... or go away

No one is indifferent to the real Jesus

- ~ He divides the crowds
- ~ He unifies the Church

If indifferent... they did not meet HIM

If "casual" & comfortable... not CHRIST

2. Jesus smashed his 3 religious assumptions:

- Christianity is something YOU can "add"
 - * HE does not add to life, He gives life
 - * **HE does not replenish, He REPLACES!**
- Christianity is something YOU can "do"
- **NO ONE is "good" or "good enough"**

3. Jesus got personal

- **What divides us destroys us!** - JDP
- **The real issue is the fight for your dreams/treasure(s)**
- **Until Jesus is our dream, we're not His!**
 - * **Remember: What drives you defines you**
 - * **And... what defines you drives you.**
 - * Thus, IF you are divided over your dreams, then that which is

defining & driving you is simultaneously destroying you!

The RYR is looking for a head or hands solution to a heart problem!

"I have engraved you on the palms of My hands..." - God (per Isaiah)

*** See the parable of field/hidden treasure**

* See incorruptible treasure in heaven

~ **HE is your treasure (in heaven)**

~ **You will be His treasure (in heaven)**

***** To say that one loves Jesus but then disregard/disobey His Word (categorically) is a lie. See John 14:15... Either Jesus is wrong, can't be trusted, or is lying... OR... the person calling Jesus a liar is lying. Who do you choose to stand with? Look at 1st John... "Somebody's lying!"**

***** Contrast the RYR with "we cracked clay pots" that have been entrusted with Christ's priceless treasure....**

"If you'll come to Him, even when He's grieving you, you'll see that He's actually loving you." - Tim Keller

Howard Hendrix - ***"The cultural church of our day is suffering from a Vitamin A deficiency... "A" stands for application."***

***** See NIV Study Bible for Mark's 3-step "Servant's Cycle" (each below = 3X)**

1. Christ foretells of His cross
2. Disciples flounder in foolishness
3. Jesus focused on faithful obedience to serve

*** CS Lewis: 2 types of people... bow or not bend knees...

"The darkest places on the planet are those places where the people are seeing through the "black lights" of false gospels." - JDP

*** *See the account in John 4 of Jesus & the "woman at the well." He offers saving grace (aka "living water") to fully surrendered, repentant sinners (but NOT to self-righteous, puffed up, religious people).*

*** **Look at King Josiah...** he is blessed because his heart was tender, humble, repentant & obedient. At the core, he was the opposite of the RYR...

*** See **the 7 letters to the churches of Revelation 2 & 3...**

*** **See & show where the RYR fits into Luke's context!** Luke 17-19 is telling.... just before Jesus gets to Jerusalem.

Outline:

I. CONTEXT

A. Purpose of Context

B. Power of Context

C. Particulars & Principles of RYR's Context

II. CHRIST

A. Jesus is LORD (Yes or No?)

What does that mean?

NOW... What do you want?

B. Jesus is Loud (and clear)

C. Jesus is Love

III. CHILDREN

A. Children of God (1st John)

B. Children of the Devil (1st John)

IV. CONTRAST

A. Words

B. Walks

C. Works

D. Worship

E. WANTS (always win out)

V. CHURCH

A. Birth & Building: Acts is our BLUEPRINT

B. Define & Defend: 1 John is our Quality Control manual

C. Beliefs & Behaviors: Eph. Is our Users Manual

D. Walk & Worship: Gospels are our Virtual Reality Guide

E. Romans

F. Titus

G. 2nd Peter

H. 2nd Timothy

OLD TESTAMENT

E. Creator & Creation: Genesis

F. Corruption & Commission: Genesis

G. Prophetic & Problematic: Prophets

H. Teaching & Telling: the Law

I. Inform, Inspect & Inspire: Wisdom Lit.

J. Giants & Giant-slayers:

*** Are you:

Convinced vs Convicted?

Commendable vs Commissioned?

*** Connect 1 Peter 4:12ff & James 1:12 as "tests" & trials that purify and/or disprove biblical love for Christ (cf. Romans 1:16-18) ***

God's grace is for the 100% vs the 1%

*** **What is the purpose of Grace?**

- How is that purpose fulfilled?

- What if that is not happening?

*** What happens if you accept a counterfeit bill?

Highlight human examples...

- Judas, Hy, Alexander, Demas...

- False teachers/prophets, hirelings, 2nd John

*** Karen Watson's letter!!!

Read Romans 14:17!

Is your walk a celebration or obligation!!!

Tornados. Tests. Trials. Treasure!!!

Conforming to His image vs. dipped in grace!

Grace is not for empowering our sin... it is for overcoming sin!!!

******* *Homothoomadon* *******

- See Isma! (I love my brothers now) 1 Jn 3:14!

***** Followers live out the "only & always" guidelines of the gospel, imperfectly but passionately. It is the "get to" vs. "have to" disposition of a disciple! - JDP**

The Gospel According To Jesus

Chapter 2: A Look At The Issues

Listen to the typical gospel presentation nowadays... You will hear sinners entreated with words like: "*Accept Jesus Christ as personal Savior;*" "*Ask Jesus into your heart;*" "*Invite Christ into your life;*" or, "*...make a decision for Christ.*" It will surprise most people to learn that none of these directives are based on biblical terminology.

These phrases are the products of a diluted gospel.

It is not the Gospel according to Jesus.

The gospel Jesus proclaimed was a call to

discipleship, a call to follow him in submissive obedience, not just a plea to make a decision or pray a prayer.

The message of Christ confronted and condemned hypocrisy.

It was an offer of eternal life and forgiveness for repentant sinners, but at the same time to outwardly religious people, it was a rebuke to those whose lives were devoid of true righteousness.

It was in every sense, good news, yet it was anything but "easy-believism."

Jesus taught that the cost of following him is high, that the way is narrow and few find it.

Jesus said many who call him Lord will be forbidden from entering the kingdom of heaven—Matthew 7:13–23.

Present-day evangelism, ignores those warnings.

The prevailing view of what constitutes saving faith continues to grow broader and shallower, while Christ becomes fuzzy.

Anyone who claims to be a Christian can find evangelicals willing to accept a profession of faith, whether or not the person's behavior shows any evidence of commitment to Christ.

The Abandonment of Jesus' Gospel: Justification without

sanctification is a deficient doctrine of salvation.

The impact on the church of such an understanding of salvation without sanctification has been catastrophic.

Professing Christians have bought into a system that encourages shallow and ineffectual faith. Many sincerely believe they are saved, but their lives are utterly barren of any verifying fruit.

If you read Matthew 7:21–23, you will quickly understand that no past experience—not even doing signs and wonders—can be viewed as evidence of salvation, apart from a life of obedience.

I fear that multitudes who now fill church pews will be among those turned away on judgment day.

Contemporary Christians have been conditioned to believe that because they said a prayer, they are saved and should never question their salvation.

It is a widely held misconception that anyone who questions whether he is saved is challenging the integrity of God's Word. What misguided thinking that is!

The Bible encourages us to examine ourselves to determine if we are in the faith – 2nd Corinthians 13:5. Moreover, Peter wrote, ***“be all the more diligent to make certain about his calling and choosing you”*** – 2nd Peter 1:10.

It is right to examine our lives and evaluate the fruit we see there, because each tree is known by its own fruit—Luke 6:44.

The Bible is absolutely clear, evidence of God's work in a life

is the inevitable fruit of transformed behavior—1st John 3:10.

James 2:14–17 tells us that faith that does not result in righteous living is dead and cannot save.

Professing Christians lacking the fruit of true righteousness will find no biblical basis for assurance of salvation—1st John 2:4.

Real salvation is not only justification. It cannot be isolated from regeneration, sanctification, and ultimately glorification.

Salvation is the work of God through which we are conformed to the image of His Son—Romans 8:29 and 13:11.

Genuine assurance comes from seeing the **Holy Spirit's transforming work** in one's life, not from clinging to the memory of some experience.

Some historical background:

Prior to the last hundred years, no serious theologian would have entertained the notion that it is possible to be saved, yet see nothing of the outworking of regeneration in one's lifestyle or behavior.

In 1918 Lewis Chafer wrote a book entitled "He That Is Spiritual," articulating the concept/theory that 1st Corinthians 2:15–3:3 speaks of 2 classes of Christians: carnal and spiritual. The doctrine of spirituality stressed in this book became the basis of a whole new way of looking at the gospel. Consequently, many

people began to draw hard lines of distinction between salvation and discipleship... between the church and the kingdom... between faith and repentance... and between the age of law and the age of grace.

The law/grace division in particular has wreaked havoc and contributed to confusion about salvation. Of course, there is an important distinction to be made between law and grace. But it is wrong to conclude, that law and grace are mutually exclusive in the program of God.

Clearly, even Old Testament saints were saved by grace through faith—Romans 4:3, 6–8, 16. Just as clearly, New Testament saints have a law to fulfill—Galatians 6:2; 1 Cor. 7:19; 9:21.

Jesus came to seek and to save the lost—Luke 19:10. He came to call sinners to repentance— Matthew 9:13. He came so the world through him might be saved—John 3:17. He proclaimed the saving Gospel.

His gospel is the only message we are to preach.

Wrongly dividing the Word:

Jesus is both Savior and Lord—Luke 2:11—and no true believer would ever dispute that. While Savior and Lord our separate offices, we must be careful not to partition them in such a way that we divide Christ —1st Corinthians 1:13.

Nevertheless, there are some loud voices professing Christ who are putting forth the teaching that it is possible to reject Christ as Lord, yet receive him as Savior.

We do not make Christ Lord; he is Lord!

Faith that rejects Christ's sovereign authority is really unbelief.

Conversely, acknowledging his Lordship is no more a human work than repentance or faith itself – see 2nd Timothy 2:25 and Ephesians 2:8–9.

In fact, surrender to Christ is an important aspect of divinely produced saving faith, not something added to faith.

The two clearest statements on the way of salvation in all of Scripture both emphasize Jesus Christ's Lordship. Acts 16:31 states: ***“believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved.”*** Romans 10:9 is equally clear: ***“if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved.”***

No promise of salvation is ever extended to those who refuse Christ's Lordship. Thus, there is no salvation except Lordship–salvation.

True faith is not lip-service.

Christ pronounced condemnation on those who worship him with their lips but not with their lives... see Matthew 15:7–9.

Jesus does not become anyone's Savior until that person receives him for who he is–Lord of all! Read Acts 10:36.

A.W. Tozer said, "the Lord will not save those whom he cannot command. He will not divide his offices. You cannot

believe on a half—Christ."

Faith and true discipleship:

Those who teach that obedience and submission are extraneous to saving faith make a firm but unbiblical distinction between salvation and discipleship.

This false dichotomy, like that between the carnal—spiritual Christian, sets up two classes of Christians: ***“believers—only,” and true disciples.***

No (false) distinction has done so much to undermine the authority of Christ's message.

Are we to believe that when Jesus told the multitudes to deny themselves (Luke 14:26), to take up a cross (14:27), and to forsake ALL and follow Him (14:33)... that His words had no meaning whatsoever for the unsaved people in the crowd?

The call to Calvary must be recognized for what it is: a call to discipleship under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

To respond to that call is to become a believer. Anything less is simply unbelief!

The Gospel according to Jesus explicitly and unequivocally rules out easy-believism!

To make **all of our Lord's difficult demands apply only to a** higher class of Christian blunts the force of his entire message. It makes room for a cheap and meaningless faith—a faith that may be exercised with absolutely no impact on the

fleshly life of sin. That is not saving faith.

By Grace through faith:

Salvation is solely by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9). That truth is the biblical watershed for all we teach. But it means nothing if we begin with a miss understanding of Grace or a faulty definition of faith.

God's grace is not a static attribute whereby He passively accepts hardened, unrepentant sinners. Grace does not change a persons standing before God, yet leave his character untouched.

Grace does not grant permission to live in the flesh; it supplies power to live in the Spirit.

Faith, like Grace, is not static. Saving faith is more than just understanding the facts and mentally accepting them. It is inseparable from repentance, surrender, and a supernatural longing to obey.

Those who reject Lordship salvation assume that because Scripture contrasts faith and works, faith must be incompatible with works. They set faith in opposition to all practical elements of salvation.

They stumble over the twin truths: salvation is a gift, yet it costs everything Those ideas are paradoxical, but not mutually exclusive.

Salvation is a gift, but it is appropriated through a faith that goes beyond merely understanding and assenting to the truth. Demons have that kind of faith—James 2:19.

True believers are characterized by faith that is repulsed by the life of sin. Drawn to Christ, they are drawn away from everything else.

Repentance, as Jesus characterized it, involves a recognition of one's utter sinfulness and a turning from self and sin to God – 1st Thessalonians 1:9. It is the inevitable result of God's work in a human heart. Repentance is much more than a mere change of mind—it involves a complete change of heart, attitude, interest, and direct should.

Repentance is a conversion in every sense of the word.

The Bible does not recognize conversion that lacks this radical change of direction – Luke 3:7–8. A true believer cannot remain rebellious-or even in different.

In fact, Scripture often equates faith with obedience: John 3:36; Romans 1:5; 16:26; 2nd Thessalonians 1:8; Hebrews 11:8. That is the heart of the message of Hebrews 11, the hall of fame of faith.

Faith and works are not incompatible. God brings us to faith, then enables and empowers us to believe unto obedience (Romans 16:26 & Ephesians 2:10).

Read Ephesians 2:8–9 and then, having understood though role of Grace, read verse 10. It becomes clear that no one is saved by works, yet every one who is saved, is saved for works.

We must remember above all that salvation is a sovereign work of God. Works are not necessary

to earn salvation. But true salvation will not fail to produce the good works that are its fruit—Matthew 7:17.

No aspect of salvation is merited by human works. It is all the work of God—Titus 3:5–7. Thus, salvation can not be defective in any dimension.

As a part of his saving work, God will produce repentance, faith, sanctification, obedience, and ultimately glorification. Since he is not dependent on human effort in producing those elements, an experience that lacks any of them cannot be the saving work of God.

If we are truly born of God, we have a faith that cannot fail to overcome the world—1st John 5:4. We may sin—1st John 2:1—we will sin—but the process of sanctification can never stall completely.

God is at work in us—Philippians 2:13—and He will continue to perfect us until the day of Christ—Philippians 1:6; 1st Thessalonians 5:23-24.