

1 John 5: 1-5 - No Big Deal

- 1) 1 John 5:1 – 5
 - a) **Q: What do these verses say to you?**
 - i) If you believe in Christ, then you are the children of God
 - ii) If you love God, you love His children
 - iii) To love God is to obey Him, and that's "no big deal"
 - b) **Q: Do you agree that obeying God is "not burdensome"? Why?**
 - (1) Sometimes I feel that being obedient and sin-free is a challenge
 - (2) Purpose is to discuss and prove that obeying God is not a burden
- 2) **Q: Is love a burden?**
 - i) Think of someone you love
 - (1) Is loving them a burden? **Why?**
 - (2) Is doing what they've asked you to do a burden? **Why?**
 - (3) Do they stop loving you when you've messed up?
 - ii) **Q: So if doing what they've asked you to do is not a burden, then why do we struggle with obeying God?**
 - (1) Don't fully love and appreciate Him the way we should
 - (2) Lots of laws
 - (3) Flesh is contrary to the spirit
 - (4) Temptations, from self and Satan
 - iii) Remembering and obeying all the laws is tough, near impossible
 - (1) Unless you know the fundamentals behind it
 - (a) Love God, love others
 - (2) Like physics equations
 - (a) Memorizing them all tough
 - (b) Understanding the fundamentals (and calculus) allows you to derive all the equations
- 3) Burden
 - a) AMP v.3 "And these orders of His are not irksome (burdensome, oppressive, or grievous)."
 - i) **Q: What do those additional adjectives add to the message John is trying to convey?**
 - (1) His orders are not repulsive
 - (2) We won't find the orders repelling or outrageous
 - (3) We'll enjoy them
 - b) Besides "the law" God also has a plan or dream for you, that dream has several qualities:
 - i) He made you for that dream
 - (1) He put it in your heart and you'll find it rewarding
 - (2) He gave you and will give you the gifts and talents to succeed and excel
 - ii) Even though that dream is yours, it was designed to help others and show God's love for them
 - c) That is why I finally agree that obeying God won't be a burden