

1 John 1.1-4

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

People LEAVING Christ

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. 1 John 2.19

NOT Persecution from OUTSIDE / CORRUPTION from INSIDE

People LYING about Christ – TRUTH – Theological TEST

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. 1 John 4.3

People LIVING Dishonorably as Christians – LIGHT – Moral TEST

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 1 John 1.8

Cannot CONTINUE in Sin and be a REAL CHRISTIAN

People were LOVELESS – LOVE - Social TEST

Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. 1 John 4.15

LOVE the Family Members – even those you DO NOT LIKE

FOUNDATIONAL Truths / Laid Carefully for Rest of the Letter
One LONG Sentence takes 3 ½ verses

1. Word is Wondrous – Fellowship with the Father and Son

v. 1 That which was from the beginning

ECHOES of

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1.1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1.1

PARTNERSHIP with God > Enter RELATIONSHIP with Triune God

v. 3 our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ

MADE for This

How can we be CONTENTED in ANYTHING LESS

iPhone? Get the 6, THEN you will be COMPLETE??

2. Word is Witnessed – Eternal Life

Partnership BASED on TRUTH

RELIGIOUS Truth separated from SCIENTIFIC World

RELIGION is MYTH, HOPE, GOOD THOUGHTS > Not Verifiable

HEARD, SEEN, TOUCHED

Vs. 1,2 which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word

of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us

How do people SEE Jesus today??

1. Did NOT EXIST at ALL – Some people Believe This
1000s THINGS WRITTEN – LIVES Changed – Nations Transformed

2. He EXISTED – Great MAN, Noble, Wise, Compassionate

Life of JESUS was from BEGINNING

HE is the ORIGIN of the UNIVERSE

ETERNAL Life – He will NEVER DIE

Every CULT Denies Preexistence: Muslims, Mormons, Buddhists, JW
All RESPECT Man Jesus, He is MAN but Not JUST Man – GOD-Man
DISCOVER True Jesus NOT Mystical Experience – Divine Revelation

3. Want MESSAGE of Christian Ethics --- Not sure about
MESSENGER
But Cannot Separate Jesus from His Teaching

John writes as EYEWITNESS

He was REAL – Perfect Tense – Happened at Point in Time,
Continuous Impact > As SIGNIFICANT Now as it WAS THEN

3. Word is Written – Joy Complete

Testify – Proclaim – Write

Vs. 3,4 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you...
And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

LAST Letter in NT – 80 / 90 AD

JOHN Eyewitness – Leaves them with RELIABLE WORD to Keep

Wrote a Gospel to Give Clear Record of Jesus

these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20.31

Writes LETTER to CONFIRM Assurance of Salvation

UNADDRESSED & UNSIGNED - CIRCULAR LETTER - ASIA Minor

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5.13

ASSURANCE Given thru SCRIPTURES

v. 4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

Peter's Last Letter – Same Focus on PERMANENCE of Word

For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. *And we have something more sure*, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place 2 Peter 1.17-19

Called to WRESTLE WITH this Truth > Deep Thinking

John was HERALD of the GREAT NEWS > He SAW Jesus Christ

JOY comes from SHARING MESSAGE

Fellowship – Truth – Sharing – Joy

KEY to Joy – Fellowship w/ God on FOUNDATION of God's Truth

Fellowship: DEEP Intimate EXPERIENCE w/ God in Christ in WORD

So What?? – 12 Hours – Monday Morning – Challenge of Busy Week

1. Be on your Guard – – error from within

Walk in Truth / Light / Love

John the Beloved Disciple - left Jerusalem, lived in Ephesus

Church Father Jerome:

John - Too weak to preach was carried into congregation at Ephesus

EXHORTATION: "LITTLE CHILDREN, LOVE ONE ANOTHER"
 ASKED: WHY REPEAT SO OFTEN? "Because it is the Lord's
 command, and if this is all you do, it is enough"

2. Be BOLD in your Affirmations – You have MET Him, Know Him,
 Read His Very Word, Life been Changed by Him

Your Testimony is IRREFUTABLE – Jesus is GOD – DEBATE

Jesus is MY GOD – AND Changed ME – From Inside, Daily, Truly

3. EXCLUSIVE Claims of Christ – No OTHER Fellowship

UNITY is based on Apostle's Doctrine

4. BASIS of our Fellowship is in Christ – ALL in Christ – ONE Church

GIVE Ourselves to BOOK and the LORD of this BOOK