

1 John 1

-1 John, 2 John, and 3 John were all written by God through John, one of the twelve disciples of Jesus.

-These books were written toward the end of John's life on earth.

Let's read 1 John 1:1

1-That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

-Who is that which was from the beginning?

-The Lord Jesus Christ.

-What does it mean "from the beginning"?

-That the Lord Jesus Christ is eternal.

-The Lord Jesus Christ was from the beginning and even before the beginning as He has no beginning.

-Why is John writing that he heard Jesus, saw Jesus, and touched Jesus?

-Because people have heard with their own ears the eternal God whose name is Jesus Christ.

-Because people have seen with their own eyes the

eternal God whose name is Jesus Christ.

-Because people have touched with their own hands the eternal God whose name is Jesus Christ.

-Everyone could know God if they would only look at the Lord Jesus Christ.

-When John wrote these words, there were false teachers who were teaching that Jesus was not a human, but only a spirit.

-This is a teaching from Satan.

-If Jesus was not completely human, then He would not be able to understand how we humans live and suffer.

-If Jesus was not completely human, then He would not be able to die for us on the cross.

-Because Jesus was completely human, He completely understands us and completely saved us by dying for us.

-John also calls Christ the Word of life.

-In John 1:1, we read: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

-The Lord Jesus and all that He said on earth are that which is from God Himself.

Let's read 1 John 1:2

2-The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

-In this verse, Christ is called eternal life.

-Why is it important that we understand that Christ is eternal life?

-When we believe in Christ, we gain Him and all that He is which includes eternal life.

-On earth, people think that we live and we die, and then, that is the end, and there is no more.

-But when we believe in Christ, we gain Christ and eternal life with Him which means that we will never die even though our flesh must die.

-Our flesh or our body must die because we are born into sin, but our spirit on the inside will live forever.

-And just as Christ, after rising from the dead, had a new body, we Christians will also have a new body without sin.

-God "will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body" (Pp 3:21).

Let's read 1 John 1:3

3-We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

-What does it mean to have fellowship with God?

-It means that we share our life with God, and that He shares His life with us.

-Before the beginning of time, God has wanted to share His holiness with us.

-Before the beginning of time, God has wanted to share His goodness with us.

-Before the beginning of time, God has wanted to share His life with us.

-There is nothing greater in all of eternity than to share our lives with God, and to allow God to share His life with us.

Let's read 1 John 1:4

4-We write this to make our joy complete.

-The reason why John is writing this letter is so that our joy would be made complete.

-The Lord Jesus spoke of joy in John 15:11: “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

-When our thoughts are on ourselves and the world around us, this can take away our joy.

-When our thoughts, however, are on our God and all that He has done for us, we can have joy.

Let’s read 1 John 1:5

5-This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

-The Word of God helps us to understand God by teaching us that God is light.

-Can anyone live without light?
-No.

-Just like we cannot live without light, can we live without God?
-No.

-Just as God created the sun to give us physical light, God sent the Lord Jesus to give us spiritual light.

-Christ is our spiritual light who saves us from spiritual darkness.

-For people who do not believe in Christ, they are living in spiritual darkness.

-Just as no one wants to live in physical darkness, no one should want to live in spiritual darkness.

-It is Christ alone who is our spiritual light.

-God is light not only means that God is life, but it also means that God is pure and holy.

-God is pure and holy and wants all people to be pure and holy.

Let’s read 1 John 1:6

6-If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

-In this world, there are many people who say that they are Christians.

-Even though they say that they are Christians, they are not.

-This is because they walk in darkness.

-What does it mean to “walk in darkness”?

-It means to continually live in spiritual darkness away from the light of God.

-These are people who do not believe in Christ.

-Even though true Christians sin, they do not walk in darkness.

-Christians walk in the light of Christ while non Christians walk in the darkness of Satan and death.

Let's read 1 John 1:7

7-But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

-Walking in the light means to walk with the Lord Jesus who continually purifies us from all sin.

Let's read 1 John 1:8

8-If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

-There are some people who call themselves Christians who say that they are without sin.

-This, of course, is not true.

-Even though we have a new nature in Christ (2 Co 5:17), we still have our old habits which the Bible calls the "flesh."

-If we were without sin, our bodies would not die because sin brings death.

-Because sin is a part of our lives, however, our bodies will get old and die.

-One day, however, we will be completely without sin when we leave our bodies and go to heaven.

Let's read 1 John 1:9

9-If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

-To confess our sin means to ask God to send our sin to the cross where Christ's blood has completely paid for it.

-Then, God purifies us from all unrighteousness and sin.

Let's read 1 John 1:10

10-If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

-This is the difference between true Christians and non Christians.

-Christians admit their sin so that God can cleanse them, but non Christians do not believe that they have sinned, and therefore, continue to be full of sin.