



“Doing What You Are Saying”

“This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in Him at all.”
1 John 1:5

A. John wrote a first-hand account...

“We proclaim to you the One who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen.” 1 John 1:1a

1. John the “Beloved” wrote with a pastor’s heart as he writes, “my dear children” and “dear friends.”
2. The letter was written around A.D. 90.
3. John was recognized as a pillar of the church by Paul.
“In fact, James, Peter, and John, who were known as pillars of the church...” Galatians 2:9a
4. 1 John parallels John 15 and can be read as a companion.
5. You will find an abundance of antithetical parallelisms (i.e. light and darkness, truth and falsehood, love and hatred, love of the world and love of the Father, Christ and antichrist, children of God and children of the devil, righteous and sin, Spirit of God and spirit of antichrist, and life and death).
6. There are three major themes: God is light, God is love, and God is life.
7. Fellowship with God and others will be a consistent refrain. And it is all bound together with love of the Father and love of others!

“God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.” 1 John 4:16b

B. John confirms his authorship...

“We proclaim to you the One who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen.” 1 John 1:1a

1. John was an eyewitness.

“We saw Him with our own eyes...” 1:1b

2. John was physically connected to Jesus.

“...and touched Him with our own hands.” 1:1c

3. Jesus revealed Himself to His disciples.

“This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen Him.” 1:2a

4. Because of all this...we can testify to His life-giving fellowship.

“And now we testify and proclaim to you that He is the one who is eternal life... We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.” 1:2a-3

C. This is the message...

“This is the message we heard from Jesus...” 1:5a

1. God is light.

“Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, ‘I am the light of the world. If you follow Me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.’” John 8:12

2. There is no darkness in Him at all!

“God is light, and there is no darkness in Him at all.” 1:5b

3. Fellowship with God is only possible if we are walking in the light. (Without light, I stumble, go to wrong places, can’t protect myself, don’t know what’s ahead, step on or into something, fall into danger, hit my head, etc.)

“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship...” 1:7a NIV

4. Walking in the light is obedience to His commands.

“When you obey My commandments, you remain in My love, just as I obey My Father’s commandments and remain in His love.” John 15:10

5. Walking in the light gives fellowship with God and others.

“But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.” 1:7

D. Sin brings darkness...

“So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth.” 1:6

1. All have sinned and are in need of a Savior.

“For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.” Romans 3:23

2. If we continue to live in sin, we cannot have fellowship with God.

“So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth.” 1:6

3. If we continue to live in sin, we cannot have fellowship with one another.

“But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other...” 1:7a

4. But...if we confess...

“But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.” 1:9

5. Always be aware of sin and its damaging effects.

“If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that His word has no place in our hearts.” 1:10

6. All this is written that we might not sin!

“My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous.” 2:1

E. So...how should you use this in my life?

“This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you...” 1:5a

1. See things the way God sees them.

2. Confess as soon as you sin.

3. Receive forgiveness at that moment.

4. Walk in the light and His ongoing cleansing!

“But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin.” 1:7

To begin a relationship with Jesus...

Text: I Choose Jesus to 88202

Next Week: Love God/Love People “Living the Life”

1 John: Chapter 2