

8/20/89

## 1 John 1

John begins his epistle without any salutation or address

to any specific recipients.

- 1:1-4 - An introduction to the epistle which declares the subject of the writer "The Word of Life".

- Comparable to the prologue of John's gospel, Jn.1:1-18

### 1:1-4 The introduction to epistle.

#### 1:1 Beginning.

- 1) Of creation. Gen. 1:1
- 2) Before creation. Jn. 1:1
- 3) This epistle refers to the the beginning of the human ministry of Jesus and gospel message. Jn. 1:1
- 4) Heard and seen - Present tense, continuous effects.
- 5) Look and handled - Gaze and inspect very closely.
- 6) Word of Life - Is the subject of John placing emphasis on "life" not "word".  
- Jn.14:6, I am the way...

#### 1:2 Life was manifested – The Incarnation.

Jn. 1:14; Phil. 2:5-7

- 1) John bears witness as in court.

- 2) John brings tidings (declares).
  - a) That eternal life ( Word of Life).
  - b) Was with the father (pre-existence).
  - c) Was manifested (Incarnation).

#### 1:3-4 The Purpose.

- 1) To have fellowship with believers.
- 2) To have fellowship with the Father.
- 3) To have fellowship with the Son.
- 4) To have fullness of joy.
  - a) Fellowship was broken by sin in Gen. 3
  - b) Joy results through; 1) Obedience 2) Answered prayer 3) God's oversight 4) Seeing others walking in fellowship 5) By fellowship with others. Jn. 15:10-11; 16:24; 17:11-13; 2Jn. 4, 12

#### 1:5-2:1 The basis for fellowship.

#### 1:5 The message comes from Him (Christ).

- 1) He is the mediator. 1Tim. 2:5
- 2) He is the revealer. Heb. 1:1-2
- 3) He has revealed the Father. Jn. 1:18
- 4) God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
  - a) Speaks of God's nature, essence and character. He is holy. Lev. 20:7
  - b) He is of purer eyes than to behold evil with acceptance. Hab. 1:13

- c) He dwells in the light which is unapproachable. 1Tim .6:16
- d) He covers Himself with light as with a garment. Ps. 104:2
- e) Light illuminates and exposes darkness. Jn. 1:4-5, 9
- f) God is said to be also love, light and spirit as to His nature.

**1:6** The doctrinal test of fellowship (Neg).

- 1) If we say - 1st proclamation contrary to Scripture!
- 2) Result - We lie and practice not the truth.  
\* Satan deceived Eve in the garden.  
Amos 3:3

**1:7** The doctrinal affirmation of fellowship.

- (Pos)
- 1) But- Contrast to VS-6, walk in the light.
- 2) Results - We can have “koinonia” with one another ( God)
- 3) The blood of Jesus cleanses me continually from all sin. Rom. 5:1; 8:1

**1:8** The doctrinal test of sin nature. Neg.

- 1) If we say - 2nd proclamation contrary to Scripture!
- 2) Results - We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, the Gospel truth. Jer. 13:23; 17:9; Eph.2:1-2; Rom.5:12

**1:9** The doctrinal affirmation of sin nature  
(Pos)

- 1) If we confess our sins.
  - a) To say the same thing or agree with God.
  - b) The fruit of sin nature.
- 2) This God forgives , generous repentance.  
Micah 7:18-19; Jer.31:34; 38:17

**1:10** The doctrinal test of the fruit of sin nature.

- 1) If we say - 3rd proclamation contrary to Scripture!
- 2) Results - We make Him (God) a liar and His word is not in us.