

The Epistles of John

1-3 John

The Word of Life (1 John 1:1-3; John 17:3)

- I. The Word was with God and was God (John 1:1-3)
- II. The Word became flesh (John 1:14, 18)
 - A. Manifested in the human life of Jesus
 - B. Fulfilling every commandment (Matt. 5:17-18)
- III. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life (John 6:63)
- IV. Our need to eat, hear and behold him (John 6:50-58, 8:47; Heb. 1:1; James 1:21)
- V. Not only spoken or written words, but also the deeds and reality (Matt. 23:3; Rom. 15:18; 1 John 3:18; 2 Tim. 3:10)
- VI. In direct opposition to knowledge of good and evil – the letter by itself
 - A. Leading to spiritual death (Gen. 2:17; 2 Cor. 3:6)
 - B. You search the Scriptures, but you are not willing to come to Me (Jesus Christ) that you may have life (John 5:39-40)

Eternal Life

- I. The living person of Jesus Christ (1 John 1:1; 1 Cor. 15:22; 1 John 3:8)
- II. Life was manifested (1 John 1:2)
- III. Life is declared (1 John 1:3; John 1:18; Phil 1:21; John 1:14; 2 Pet. 3:11)
- IV. Life brings us into the fellowship (1 John 1:4, Rev. 1:9; 2 Cor. 13:14)
- V. To know Him (Phil. 3:10)
- VI. Eternal life (1 John 2:25; Rev. 22:1, 2)

Keeping God's Commandments – the Evidence that we really know Him (1 John 2:3-6)

- I. God's Commandments are still valid and apply to us today, (Matt. 5:17-19, 21, 27)
 - A. First five is towards God and the second five towards our fellowmen
 - B. Christ did not abolish the law but fulfilled it and raised the standard higher (Matt. 5:17-19, 21, 27)
 - C. The Lord told the rich ruler to keep the commandments to inherit eternal life (Matt. 19:16-30)
 - D. The righteous requirements of the law to be fulfilled in us who walk according to the Spirit (Rom. 8: 3-4)
- II. Keeping His commandments (His Word) is the evidence that we know Him
 - A. We need to know that we really know Him
 - B. We lie if we say we know Him and do not keep His commandments (Words)
 - C. Being doers of the word and not just hearers (James 1:22)
 - D. Truly the Love of God is perfected in him (John 14:21)
 - E. His commandments are not burdensome (1 John 5:3)
 - F. By keeping His commandments, we abide in Him and will walk just as He walked
- III. The Law (commandments) is holy, righteous and good but does not give life (Rom. 7:12)
 - A. It becomes death to us (Rom. 7:10)
 - B. Makes sin even more sinful (Rom. 7:13-19)
 - C. Because sin dwells in our flesh with the law of sin and death (Rom. 7:20, 23)
- IV. What it really means to know Him
 - A. As the eternal life in us (John 17:3, 1 John 5:11-13)
 - B. Not life after death in heaven
 - C. Growing and experiencing all the potentials of this eternal life (1 Pet. 2:2; Eph. 4:13)

- D. Fulfilling all the righteous requirements of the law (Rom. 8:3-4)
- E. Being saved and perfected by His life (Rom. 5:10)
- F. Set free from the law of sin and death (Rom. 8:2)
- G. Becoming like Him at His appearing (1 John 3:2)
- H. Through the teaching of the anointing (1 John 2:20)
- I. All will know Him, from the youngest to the oldest (Heb. 8:10-11)
- J. He is the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:19)
- K. He will teach us all things (1 John 2:27)
- L. Writing God's law in our hearts and mind (Heb. 8:10-12)
- M. Becoming an epistle of Christ written by the Spirit of God on the tablets of our heart

Perfected by The Word of God

- I. The Word was in the beginning with God and was God (John 1:1-4)
- II. The word became flesh (John 1:14)
- III. His name: the Word of God (Rev. 19:13)
- IV. The Word of Life (1 John 1:1-4)
- V. Psalm 119 – Expressions used to describe the word of God: way, precepts, statutes, commandment, testimony, judgment, word, saying, law (1 Kings 2:3-4)
 - A. Living by every word of God
 - B. Perfect in the way (Ps. 119:1-8)
 - C. Keeping his way pure according to God's word (Ps. 119:9-16)
 - D. Realization of human weakness and the longing for revival and strength according to the word (Ps. 119:25-32)
 - E. Accepting God's discipline (Ps. 119:65-72)
 - F. Fully walking and living by the word, complete obedience to the word. (Ps. 119:105-112)

Do not love the world (1 John 2:15-19)

- I. The world is Satan's system to trap man (Luke 21:34-36)
 - A. The whole world lies in the hands of the evil one (1 John 5:19; John 14:30; Matt. 4:8-9; James 4:4)
 - 1. Enjoyment and pleasure of life (2 Tim. 3:4)
 - 2. Cares of this life (Luke 21:34-36)
 - B. The world is passing away (2 Pet. 3:10-12)
- II. The world within us (1 John 2:16)
 - A. Lover of ourselves (2 Tim. 3:1-5)
 - B. The pride of life (Prov. 6:16-19)
- III. Living a life to do the Father's will (1 John 2:17)
 - A. Denying our soul life (Matt. 16:24-27; Rev. 12:11)
 - B. Seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matt. 6:33)
 - C. Living a normal life (1 Tim. 3:1-5; 5:8; Mal. 2:15; 1 Tim. 6:17-19)
 - D. We will be like Him, prepared for His coming (1 John 3:2)

The Holy Anointing (1 John 2:26-29)

- I. Composition of the Holy Anointing
 - A. Finest Spices: flowing myrrh, fragrant cinnamon, fragrant calamus, cassia and mixed with olive oil (Exo. 30:22-33)
 - B. Signifying the all-inclusive Christ - His humanity mingled with Divinity - this is what all the saints need (John 14:16-18)
- II. Functions of the Anointing:
 - A. To teach us all things [about Christ] (John 16:12-13; 1 John 2:20; 1 Cor 2:15-16)
 - B. Reveal the truth and inoculated us against the lie (1 John 2:26-27)
 - C. To know the Father (1 John 2:13-14)

- III. Application of the anointing - how we can be anointed daily:
 - A. On the consecrated priest (Exo. 29:7); we need to be washed properly in the Word (Water), and cleanse our consciences (Lev. 8:1-3, 30)
 - B. Not on flesh – we must not apply the anointing on the flesh – God is Spirit (Exo. 30:31-33)
 - C. We shall not fake the anointing (Exo. 30:33)

Walking in the Truth

- I. What is Truth? Substance, reality, manifested essence
- II. As a child of God, we must practice righteousness and love the brethren (1 John 3:10)
 - A. What matters is our walk – what is manifested?
 - B. Evil or righteousness? (1 John 3:12)
- III. Righteousness and love manifested together in our living are an indicator of whether we abide in death or in life (1 John 3:14-15, 18)
 - A. Biblical love is through Christ’s life (1 Cor 13)
 - B. Love is of [from] God (1 John 4:7)
- IV. Walking in truth:
 - A. Manifested by love for one another (1 John 3:16-18; 3 John 3-6)
 - 1. We rejoice when we see others walking in truth (2 John 4; 3 John 3-4)
 - 2. Contrast between Diotrefes and Demetrius (3 John 9-11)
 - B. We know we are of the truth if we love in deed and reality (1 John 3:18-19)
 - C. John’s conclusion of His commandment (what it all “boils down to”) – believe on the name of Christ and love one another (1 John 3:23)
- V. How do we walk in truth?
 - A. We’re in the new covenant now (Jer. 31:33-34)

- B. Christ is the Way, the TRUTH, and the Life; Christ embodied the truth (John 14:6)
 - C. We have the Spirit of truth – leads us into the truth (John 14:13, 17)
 - D. The Spirit manifests Himself when we walk in it as the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23)
- VI. Gauge yourself (2 Cor. 13:5)

Overcoming (1 John 5:1-5; 18-21)

- I. The days of Noah and of Lot – the normalization of evil (Luke 17:26-30; Is. 5:20)
- II. Our response
 - A. Not being too comfortable with the world (2 Pet. 2:7, Eph. 5:11; 1 Pet. 4:1-4; Rom. 12:2)
 - B. Keeping His house holy (1 Pet. 4:17; 1 John 4:1-3)
 - C. Not becoming numb (Matt. 24:37-39)
- III. Our way out is in Christ (1 John 5:3-5, 18-19; 4:4-6, Rev 12:11)
 - A. Confidence in Christ (Phil. 3:1-11)
 - B. The Lord as our example (Matt. 4:1-11)