

The Manifestation of Eternal Life

I. The Word of Eternal Life

(1 Jn. 1:1-4; Jn. 1:1-5 <Heb. 1:2-3a; 11:3; 4:12>, 14, 16, 17b; 6:63, 68; 14:6-9; 20:22; Col. 2:9-10a; Rev. 19:13b)

A. Real in our experience – hear, see, behold, and handle it

B. Manifested – made visible (Jn. 21:1; Col. 3:4)

1. Through the incarnation of Jesus

2. Now through us, His disciples

C. The fellowship of life

1. With the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ

2. With one another, among us

3. That our joy may be full

II. Light and Love – the Evidence of Life

(1 Jn. 1:5-10; 2:1-2; 4:7-10)

A. **God is light** and in Him is no darkness at all (1 Tim. 6:16)

1. Jesus Christ – the light of life; the light of the world (Jn. 1:1-5; 8:12; 12:46; Mt. 4:16; Lk. 1:79; Mal. 4:2; Mt. 17:2; Rev. 1:16; 22:16b)

2. The word of God is light that shines in a dark place (2 Pet. 1:19; Ps. 119:105; Prov. 6:23)

3. The saints – the sons of light and of the day, and the light of the world (1 Thess. 5:4-6; Mt. 5:14-16; Phil. 2:14-16; Eph. 5:8, 11-17; 1 Jn. 2:8-11)

a. Walk in the light as children of light (Eph. 5:8-17)

b. Be blameless and harmless without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation

c. Holding forth the word of light, shining as luminaries in the world (Gen. 1:14-15)

d. Take heed that the light which is in us is not darkness (Lk. 11:34-35; Jn. 12:35; Prov. 20:27)

e. He who hates his brother is in darkness; he who loves his brother abides in the light (1 Jn. 2:9-11)

f. Men loved darkness rather than light (Jn. 3:19)

4. The churches of the Lord are the golden lampstands, and their messengers are the shining stars in the right hand of the Lord (Rev. 1:12, 16a, 20)
- B. **God is love** – (1 Jn. 4:7-10, 16; 2:3-6)
 1. Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God
 - a. He who does not love does not know God
 - b. He who loves God is known by Him (1 Cor. 8:1-3)
 - c. We know that we know Him if we keep His commandments (1 Jn. 2:3-5; 3:22; Jn. 14:23-24) – and His commandments are not burdensome (1 Jn. 5:2-3)
 2. The love of God is manifested toward us (1 Jn. 4:9-10):
 - a. By sending His only begotten Son into the world to be the propitiation for our sins
 - b. That we should be called children of God, being born of God (1 Jn. 3:1-10; Jn. 1:12)
 - i. Having received His eternal life – to be pure and righteous as He is pure and righteous; and to walk as He walked (1 Jn. 2:6)
 - ii. That we might live through Him and keep His commandments (His word)
 - iii. And be transformed into the glorious image of Christ (1 Jn. 3:1-2; 2 Cor. 3:16-18)
 - iv. Whatever (or whoever) is born of God cannot sin (Jn. 3:3-6; 1 Jn. 3:9-10; Gal. 5:16; Rom. 8:4-6, 13-14)
 - v. Those born of God are being preserved (kept) by Christ (1Jn. 5:18 <ref. NIV>; Ps. 121; Jn. 6:39; 10:28-29; 17:12, 15; 2 Thess. 3:3) and the wicked one cannot touch them. Better translation of 1Jn. 5:18: *“We know whoever is born of God does not keep on sinning, but the One begotten of God keeps him, and the wicked one does not touch him.”*
 3. Love is the fulfillment of the Law (Rom. 13:8-10, 11-12)

- a. The first and the great commandment (Mt. 22:37-38; Deut. 6:5) – to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength
 - b. The second is like the first (Mt. 22:39; Lev. 19:18; Jam. 2:8-9) – to love your neighbor as yourself
 - c. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets
4. The message of love from the beginning (1 Jn. 3:11-23)
- a. We should love one another (Jn. 13:34) and not to be like Cain
 - b. The love of the brethren is the evidence that we have passed from death into life
 - c. He who hates his brother is a murderer and abides in death
 - d. Like Christ, we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren (Jn. 15:13; 1 Jn. 3:16) – by this we know love
 - e. Do not love only in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth
5. Result of loving one another in truth
- a. The love of God is perfected in us (1 Jn. 2:5; 4:17)
 - b. We shall assure our hearts before God (1 Jn. 3:19-21; Acts 23:1; 24:15; Heb. 9:14; 10:19-25)
 - i. To have boldness in the day of judgment
 - ii. To have confidence toward God to receive whatever we ask of Him

III. Do Not Love the World

(1 Jn. 2:15-17; Jam. 1:27b; 4:4; Jn. 3:19)

- A. The whole world lies in the evil one (1 Jn. 5:19; 14:30)
1. Satan is called the prince <ruler> of this world – the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2); “the god of this age <world>” (2 Cor. 4:4)
 2. The ruler of this world is judged and cast out (Jn. 12:31; 16:11; 1 Jn. 3:5, 8)

3. Jesus Christ was victorious over Satan (Jn. 14:30)
- B. The world is also within us: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life <human life Gr. Βίος>
- C. Love to the world cannot coexist with love to God the Father
- D. The world is passing away; but he who does the will of God abides forever (2 Pet. 3:10-13)
- E. Whatever <or whoever> is **born of God** overcomes the world and does not sin (1 Jn. 3:9; 5:4-5, 18)
 1. Our spirit is born of God (Jn. 3:6) – the Holy Spirit now dwells in us (1 Cor. 6:17; 19-20)
 2. Christ in us is greater than he who is in the world (1 Jn. 4:4)
 3. The victory that has overcome the world is our faith in the Lord Jesus (1 Jn. 5:4-5)
 - a. In Him is no sin (1 Jn. 3:5; Heb. 4:15; 1 Pet. 2:22; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 7:26) – He was manifested to take away sins (Jn. 1:29)
 - b. He overcame Satan and had destroyed the works of the devil (Heb. 2:14; 1 Jn. 3:8)
 - c. He disarmed all principalities and powers (Col. 2:15)
 - d. He conquered death and holds the keys of hades and of death (Rev. 1:18)
 - e. Christ is making us more than conquerors (Rom. 8:37; 1 Cor. 15:57; 2 Cor. 2:14) – nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus

IV. We Are Living in the Last Hour – Very Close to the End of the Age (1 Jn. 2:18; Jam. 5:7-9; Heb. 10:37; 1 Pet. 4:7; 2 Pet. 3:12-14; Jude 14-15; 1 Thessalonians; Phil. 4:5; Rev. 22:7, 12, 20)

- A. **The signs of times** (Mt. 16:2-3)
 1. In the political world – lawlessness (2 Thess. 2:1-12)
 - a. The end of democracy (Dan. Ch. 2)

- b. The mystery of lawlessness
- c. The coming of “the anti-Christ,” the beast (Rev. 13:1-10), “the lawless one” with all power, signs, and wonder of a lie <fraud> (Mt. 24:24)
- 2. In the religious world
 - a. Many anti-Christes <false prophets and teachers> (1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 4:3-4; 2 Pet. 2:1; 3:3)
 - b. The full development of Babylon (Rev. 17-18)
 - c. Their goal: to lie, to deceive, and to destroy (1 Jn. 2:26)
- 3. Test the spirits (1Jn. 4:1-6; 3:7-10); e.g., the Bereans (Acts 17:11)
- B. The Anointing from the Holy One** (1 Jn. 2:20-21, 27; Jn. 14:26; 15:26; 16:7, 14) revealing the truth to all of us
 - 1. The Holy Spirit sent by Christ (the Anointed One) dwells in us
 - 2. Teaching us all things
 - 3. Leading us into all truth
 - 4. He is true and is no lie
 - 5. And we all know the truth through the Anointing (1 Jn. 2:21; 3:24; 4:13)
 - 6. Teaching and imparting the essence of Christ into our being (Exod. 30:23-33)
 - a. Abide in Him (see also Jn. 15:4)
 - b. Do not grieve nor quench the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:30; 1 Thess. 5:19; Acts 7:51)
- V. Life Grows and Transforms** (1 Jn. 3:1-10)
 - A. We shall be like Him (Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:17-18; Col. 1:27-29)
 - B. The process of transformation by the Spirit of the Lord
 - 1. With unveiled face beholding the glory of the Lord by turning our hearts to the Lord
 - 2. To be pure as He is pure (Mt. 5:8)

3. To perfect holiness in the fear of God - purging away all the defilement of the flesh and spirit (2 Cor. 7:1)
 4. To be righteous as He is righteous
 5. To walk as He walked (1 Jn. 2:6)
 6. To keep His word <commandments> (1 Jn. 2:5)
- C. To become the first fruits (Rev. 14:1-5)
- D. To reign with Christ on earth over the nations as kings and priests (Rev. 1:5-6; 2:26-27; 3:21; 5:10; 20:6; 21:7)

Final Words of the First Epistle of John: Chapter 5:18-21

We know that whoever is born of God does not keep on sinning, but the One begotten of God keeps him, and the wicked one does not touch him.

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway of* the wicked one.

And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we **may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.**

Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.