



INTRO: Date, Setting, Author

Personal Testimony (1 John 1:1-4)

1. Knowing Jesus was from the beginning and that he is the word of life are not things one comes to know simply by **watching**.
2. Without the **incarnation** we would have no fellowship with God.

Fellowship in the Light (1 John 1:5)

1. If we are going to have fellowship with God, it must begin by listening to His **words** through the **Scripture**.
2. John uses the motif of “light” and “darkness” to explain what fellowship with God looks like.

The Truth About Sin (1 John 1:6-10)

1. John used three “if we say” statements to demonstrate people’s misunderstanding of how their **sin** impacts their fellowship with God.
2. The **Gnostics** believed it was possible to achieve a level of perfection on earth.
3. The answer to **sin** in our lives is to expose it to the power of the **cross** (the light).
4. First we confess that He is **faithful** and second that He is **righteous**.



Sin and the Gospel (1 John 2:1-2)

1. John's use of the term "children" indicates a natural love for them and a desire to see them grow in knowledge and faith.
2. He also strongly spoke truth into their lives by urging them to view the grace of God not as a license to sin, but as balm to brokenness from sin.

Propitiation

1. The Greek word is translated in the Christian Standard Bible (and others) as "atoning sacrifice".
2. The word can literally can be defined as "the means by which sins are forgiven –'the means of forgiveness, expiation."
3. The word also appears in Romans 3:25
4. It is impossible to have fellowship with God without a relationship with His Son.

Personal Reflection:

What evidences of "light" and "darkness" do you see in the world around you? To what degree do you reflect that "God is light" to the world around you?

On a scale of 0 (never) to 10 (frequently, how regularly is confession of sin part of your devotion to God? Would your answer more nearly reflect an admission of sin or a deceiving of yourself about not having sin? Why?

