

# FIRST JOHN STUDY

## CHAPTER 1:1-4

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### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Knowing God - Part 1”

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### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

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1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

## Many of the readers

were second and third generation believers. They were the children and grand children of the first church.

## **IT IS A SAD AND TRAGIC THING**

WHEN A GENERATION OF BELIEVERS FAIL TO HAND DOWN THE DISCIPLINES OF THE FAITH, THE CHILDREN BECOME VULNERABLE TO FALSE TEACHINGS AND CARNAL CONDUCT

### Paul's Burden to Timothy

**2 Timothy 2:1-2**

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And **the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

A Half-Heartedness had Arisen Among Many  
**Complacency had Set in**

The Christians Devotion and Passion  
had Dimmed to a Flicker... it was backslidden

It was to this condition that Jesus Wrote to the seven churches of Asia Minor

**False Teachers Arose from Within**

Matthew 24:11-12

"Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

**(persecution thru seduction)**

12 "And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

1 John 2:18-19

18 Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

The Lord will Often Counter Spiritual Decay  
By Prompting Revival!!!

It's with desire that John Writes

1.) The **Point of Origin** of Our Relationship with God

**That which** was from the beginning,

2.) The **Factual Evidence** of Our Relationship with God

(that) which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes,

3.) The **Experiential Reality** of Our Relationship with God

(that) which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled,  
concerning the Word of life

## 1.) The **Point of Origin** of Our Relationship with God

a.) It is Absolute, Total and Complete v.1

**That which** was from the beginning,

### 1 John 1:1

**That which** was from the beginning, **(that) which** we have heard, **(that) which** we have seen with our eyes, **(that) which** we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life--

That Which 3739 hos (hos);  
the primary article being a pronoun, the who, the which, the what, the that:

b.) Is Under Divine Control and Order v.1

That which was **from the beginning**,

### ""Referencing the Person of Jesus Christ""

There are (3) "Beginnings" Mentioned in Scripture

(1) - God's Existence In Eternity

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

(2) - The Creation of the Material Universe

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

(3) – God's Arrival in Bethlehem

1 John 1:1

That which **was** from the beginning,

# This Speaks of His Humanity

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

from the beginning

Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

from the beginning

**Isaiah 9:6**

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called **Wonderful...**

Wonderful 6381 pala' (paw-law');  
beyond great, something hidden, a thing too high, marvelous. English equivalent is awesome

## 2.) The **Factual Evidence** of Our Relationship with God

(that) which we have heard, (that) which we have seen with our eyes,

### a.) Is Heard in The Message of the Holy Spirit v.1

(that) which **we have heard**,



**heardgrk 191 akouo (ak-oo'-o);**

to give ear, to be in the audience, to hear the meaning

John 14:26

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will **teach you all things**, and **bring to your remembrance** all things that I said to you.

## **"It Just Rings True"**

Romans 8:16

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit  
that we are children of God,

John 10:11-16

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 12 "But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. 13 "The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. 14 "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. 15 "As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

## The Factual Evidence of Knowing God

b.) Is Seen because of the Working of the Holy Spirit v.1

(That) which **we have seen** with our eyes,

# The Eyewitness Accounts

2 Peter 1:16

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.



**seen** grk 3708 horao (hor-ah'-o);

to stare. To physically experience., to behold

1 Corinthians 15:3-8

3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

1 Peter 1:8

whom having not **seen** you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

### 3.) The Experiential Reality of Our Relationship with God

(that) which we have **looked upon**, and our **hands have handled**, concerning the Word of life

**?** **looked upon**    **2300 theaomai (theh-ah'-om-ahee);**  
to look closely at, to examine, to prove by reviewing

**?** **handled**    **5584 pselaphao (psay-laf-ah'-o);**  
**to verify its worth by contact; to touch and feel**

Having read the prophecies, Seeing the Miracles  
and touching Him

Paul had Challenged Diana in Ephesus

Acts 19:21-28

21 When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome." 22 So he sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus, but he himself stayed in Asia for a time. 23 And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way. 24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. 25 He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: "Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. 26 "Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. 27 "So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship." 28 And when they heard this, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!"

# Now Things had Become Quiet and Comfortable

Revelation 2:4-5

"Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place-- unless you repent.

## John at one time was Bishop of Ephesus

John's Argument is that The Christian is to have a Vital, Dynamic  
Relationship with God.

To Not Have that Experiential Reality is to be Living a Starved Life

## To Remedy the Situation is this...

#1

Is to determine to love God!

#2

To Place Him at The Center of Your Life

1 Chronicles 28:9

"...for the LORD searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever."

Matthew 6:31-33

31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

concerning the Word of life