

## IS CHRIST REAL TO YOU?

1 John 1:1-10

INTRODUCTION: The apostle John, the man who knew Jesus probably better than any other person writes to us to give his personal testimony about the Lord Jesus. 1 John 1:1-4. The book of 1 John was written to strengthen Christians. A strengthen believer and a strengthen church is ready to be used by their Lord to strengthen others! I believe the great need in our lives and in our churches is to know the Word of God and the Son of God, Jesus in reality in our daily lives.

### I. THE APOSTLE JOHN'S REASONS FOR WRITING THE BOOK!

The apostle John gave four reasons as to why he wrote 1 John. 1. THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE! 1 John 5:13. Thirty times in the five chapters of 1 John, he uses the word "know." We live in times of doubt and skepticism that is teaching that nothing can be truly known. Yet God's Word tells us we can know that we have eternal life. 2. TO PROTECT GOD'S CHILDREN FROM BEING SEDUCED! 1 John 2:26-28. The devil has always been in the business of seducing the people of God and drawing them away from Christ: 1 Timothy 4:1-4. 3. TO RESTRAIN SIN AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD! 1 John 2:1: The Bible does not teach that Christians will be sinless but it does teach that Christians will sin less if they abide in Christ. 4. TO RESTORE JOY TO CHRISTIANS! 1 John 1:4: Our God wants our Christian lives to be marked by joy. Nehemiah 8:10.

### II. JOHN'S PERSONAL TESTIMONY ABOUT JESUS!

In the first four verses here, we see three things that Jesus is to him. First in 1 John 1:1 he says that Jesus is the Christ of reality: 1 John 1:1. Notice John called Jesus the Word of life which means that Jesus is the communication of God's life to us: John 14:8-11. John says Jesus is real eternally—"That which was from the beginning." John 1:1-5. John says Jesus was real historically: 1 John 1:1. Jesus actually lived as a man on this earth during the life time of John. John heard the voice of Jesus. If Jesus is real in your life, you also will hear the voice of Jesus: John 10:27-30. John said he saw Jesus with his own eyes: 1 John 1:1: he said he gazed at Jesus. If Jesus is real to you, you will also see Jesus: John 14:21. John says he touched Jesus: Luke 24:36-43. John said Jesus is the Christ of relationship: 1 John 1:3: If Jesus is real to you; you have fellowship with other Christians and you also have fellowship with God! John 8:38-44. How do we get into the family of God? We must be born into God's family: John 1:12-13.

### III. OUR FELLOWSHIP IN JESUS!

We have fellowship in sharing the gospel: Philippians 1:3-5. We have fellowship with the Father: Revelation 3:20. We are invited to know the Christ of joy: 1 John 1:4; Hebrews 11:24-25; Psalm 16:11. We have joy in our salvation: Isaiah 12:3. There is joy in the Scriptures: Jeremiah 15:16. We share in the joy of soul winning: 1 John 1:4.