

1 John 1:1-10
“Simple Truths”

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Let's turn to the book of 1st John...
 - And follow along as I read ([1 John 1:1-10](#)).

NOTE TAKERS...

- We begin a new study series today...
 - In a message I've titled:

“Simple Truths”

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD...

- Truth has been under attack.
 - In fact... In ([Gen. 3:1](#)) the Bible records the serpent...
 - Called into question God's very word...
 - By saying, [“Has God indeed said...”](#)
 - Trying to raise the insecurity of doubt in Eve's mind!
 - And truth remains a hot topic in the 21st Century!

BUT AS WE LEARN WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT...

- Shares thru the Apostle John...
 - We'll come to realize there's... a definitive...
 - Right & wrong way to live as a Christian!

AND THIS IS WHAT...

- 1st John provides to Christians in all times...
 - **“Simple Truths”**
 - OR an intensely practical letter!

~STUDY~

NOW LETS CONSIDER A LITTLE BACKGROUND...

- As we begin!

Author & Date:

CHURCH HISTORY CREDITS...

- The Apostle John as the author of this epistle.

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- And at this POINT in-time... he was the last living...
 - Eye witness of Jesus Christ!

- a) He was the youngest Apostle at 15-yrs old.
- b) He was part of the inner circle (Peter, James, & John).
- c) And John spent the last years of his life in Ephesus...
overseeing the surrounding church plants by the Apostle Paul.

- d) Predominately the book is dated between (AD 80-95).

Cultural Setting:

- a) Asia Minor was the region (separated Europe & Asia)
- b) And Ephesus was the intellectual center of that region.
- c) It was a melting pot of all types of philosophies, religions, & superstitions!

Background of Book:

- a) Paul had established these churches some 40-years earlier (AD 49-52)
- b) The churches were to be beacon of light ([Matt. 5:13-16](#))

- c) **So the problem** was the trends of the day began to penetrate the thinking of the church from within & without.
- d) And partial truths began leading people astray.
- e) Gnosticism was the heretical trend of that day!

THE IMPLICATIONS OF GNOSTICISM...

- Tried to separate the inner spiritual stuff...
 - From the responsibility of external... moral & ethical... behavior!

GANG WE'VE HEARD THIS...

- Non-sense too!
 - It goes like this... Don't judge me you don't know my heart!

THERE WAS ALL TYPES OF TOXINS...

- Distorting the claims of Christ!

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IN OUR DAY WE SEE THE SAME DANGERS...

- There's the word faith movement – Benny Hinn.
- Those that deny the complete atonement on the cross – Joyce Myers.
- Seeker friendly churches, which make people feel good (no sin).
- Mormon & Christianity are compatible – Joel Olstein
- People stating no difference between Muslims & Christianity – Obama

AND OUR AREA OF THE COUNTRY...

- We find this **COEXIST** philosophy...
 - Stating all religions are equal.
 - It's NOT true!!!

NOW... JOHN'S BASIC AIM...

- Was to give the church a necessary affirmation of...
 - Simple truths about the Christian faith!
 - So, that their fellowship with God would be maintained!

MARTIN LUTHER...

“It's not Christ walking on the sea, but His ordinary walk that we are called... to imitate.”

A TRUE BELIEVER IN JESUS CHRIST...

- Acknowledges their relationship with Him...
 - They submit to His word...
 - They enjoy other Christians...
 - And they don't continue in a life contrary to His word!

SO... 1st JOHN WAS WRITTEN TO:

- Deepen the spiritual life of the church.
 - And guard against the watering down of Biblical truths!

WHEN THIS HAPPENS...

- When the word of God is taught & applied...
 - 1) The sheep are healthy
 - 2) And the sheep grow to maturity!
- They become unstoppable.

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NOW AS WE LOOK AT... (v.1)

- “From the beginning...”

- We want to have a right understanding by recognizing that Jesus is eternally existent (Gen. 1:1) (John 1:1)...
- And in (Rev. 22:13) Jesus says...
- *“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”*
- Again! Point being... Christ is eternally existent!

GNOSTICISM TRIED...

- To knock this down & portray a different Jesus.
- Today Mormons do the same thing!

1ST JOHN GIVES US...

- The right understanding so we're NOT deceived!

OK... (v.2)... JOHN THEN GOES ON TO PRONOUNCE...

- The literal **humanity of Christ!**
 - “We have heard...”
 - “We have seen...”
 - “We have looked upon...”
 - “have handled...”

GNOSTICISM TRIED TO...

- Convince people that Jesus was only a spirit & not real.
- John says... NOT so!!!

TURN TO (John 1:14).

- (Heb. 1:1-3)

GANG...

- Here's our response when we're in...
 - Close relationship with Jesus
 - (Luke 24:32)

(v.3)

JOHN UNDERSCORES THE HYPOSTATIC UNION...

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- Of Christ... which is just a fancy way of describing...
 - The deity & humanity of Christ.

AND NOW HE GIVES THE PURPOSE...

- **Remember**... this is a practical letter...
 - Underscoring simple truths!
- The purpose is for fellowship with...
 - Each other & with God.

FELLOWSHIP!

- This is NOT a social relationship.
 - It's an... All-In / Mutual / Joint Participation /
 - In each other's lives!

TURN TO...

(Acts 2:41-43)

- Those that gladly received His word
 - Were baptized.

THEN IT DESCRIBES HOW THEY LIVED...

- They “continued steadfastly”
 - (dedicated / devoted / whole heartedly / committed)
 - In the words of scripture
 - In fellowship
 - In breaking bread (Love feast – communion)
 - And in prayers.

~AND WE CLOSE TONIGHT~

WITH THE FIRST STATED PURPOSE...

- Of (1st John).

LOOK AT (v.4)

JESUS SAID IN... (John 15:11)...

“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.”

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MARTIN LLOYD-JONES (1899 –1981)

“There is only one thing that can give true joy... The Lord Jesus Christ. He satisfies my mind; He satisfies my emotions; He satisfies my every desire. Joy in other words, is the response and the reaction of the soul to a knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

IF YOU DON’T HAVE A RELATIONSHIP...

- With Jesus Christ please visit with the pastors after service.
 - If you have questions about Jesus or the Bible...
 - Come forward and ask the pastors questions.