



Beholding the Lord through His word 1 John 1:3 "we have seen with our eyes...the Word of Life" (see 1:1-4) Hebrews 12:2 "fixing our eyes on Jesus" (see 12:1-2) Seeing the Living Word of God in the written word of God

1 John 1:1–4 (NASB95) ¹ What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life— and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— 3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.

Outline

- 1. Preliminary Observations
- 2. Exegesis / Exposition of Verse 1
- 3. Exegesis / Exposition Verse 2
- 4. Exegesis / Exposition Verse 3-4



Outline

1. PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

- 2. Exegesis / Exposition of Verse 1
- 3. Exegesis / Exposition Verse 2
- 4. Exegesis / Exposition Verse 3-4



PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

- 1. Use of 'we' with reference to physical senses
- 2. Action based upon the response to physical senses.
- 3. The Apostle's reason for writing.
- 4. The Apostle's consistency in stating his purpose in his writings.

1 John 1:1-4 (NASB95)

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John 20:30-31 (NASB95)

³⁰ Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.



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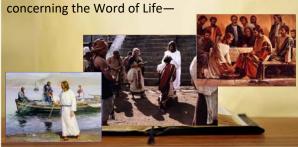
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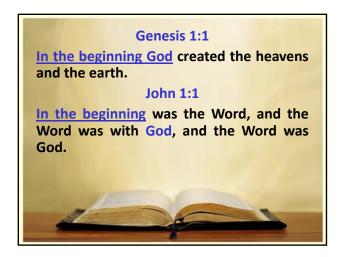
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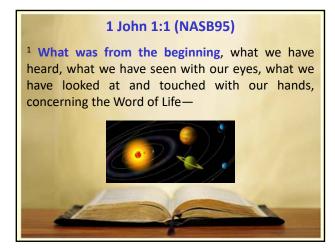


1 John 1:1 (NASB95)

¹ What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—









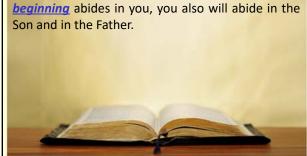
1 John 2:13-14a (NASB95)

¹³ I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. 14 I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning...



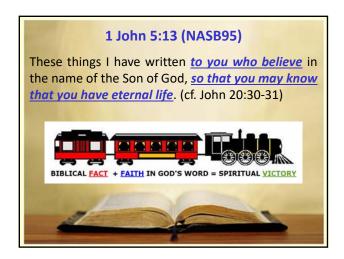
1 John 2:24 (NASB95)

As for you, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the



1 John 3:11 (NASB95)



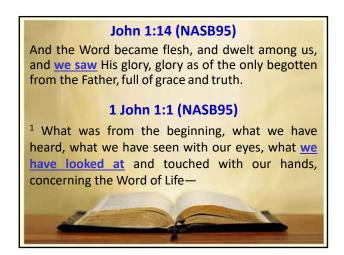


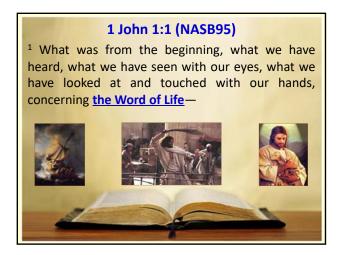


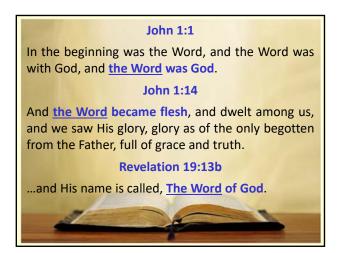


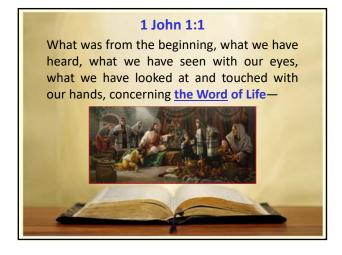












John 20:24-27 (NASB95)

²⁴ But Thomas,...said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."...Jesus came,...said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing."



1 John 1:1

What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—

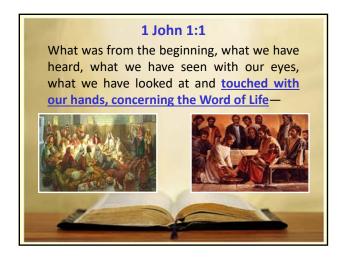
Ό ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, ὂ ἀκηκόαμεν, ὂ ἐωράκαμεν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν, ὂ ἐθεασάμεθα καὶ αὶ χεῖρες ἡμῶν ἐψηλάφησαν περὶ <mark>τοῦ λόγου τῆς ζωῆς-</mark>

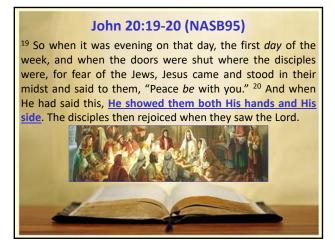


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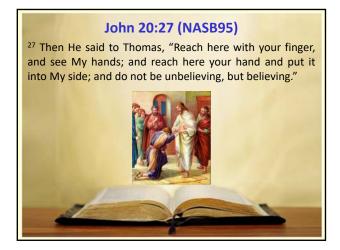


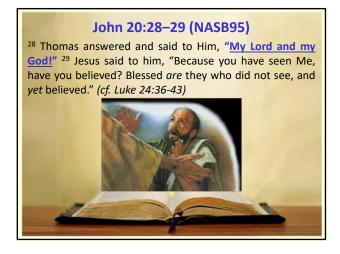




John 20:24–25 (NASB95) 24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."







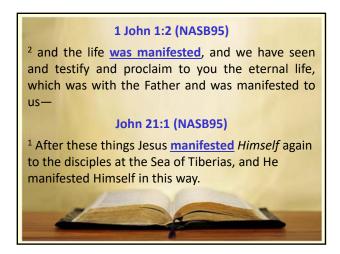
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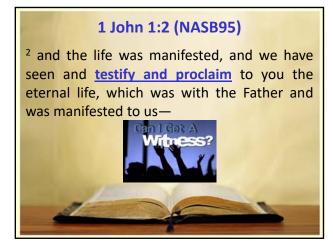
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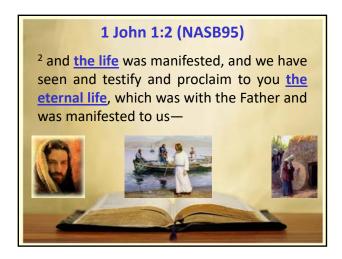
1 John 1:2 (NASB95) ² and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us—

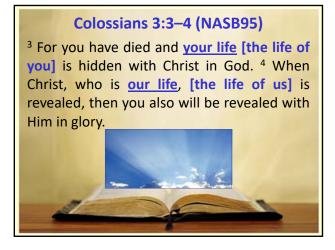


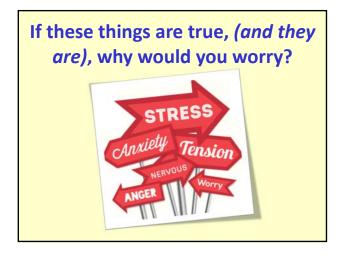












John 14:1-6 (NASB95) ¹Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ²"In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ³"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴"And you know the way where I am going. ⁵Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

Have you ever wished that somebody had posted a warning sign?



JOHN IS ALSO ISSUING A CRITICAL WARNING

- Saying that Christ is not actual and real is a spiritual dead end. (Docetism)
- Saying that Christ is only spiritually or mystically true is also a spiritual dead end. (Gnosticism)



John 19:26-27 (NASB95)

²⁶ When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own *household*.



JOHN IS ALSO ISSUING A CRITICAL WARNING



- Saying that Christ didn't actually die and resurrect physically in a real body is a spiritual dead end.
- Saying that we can find life in anyone or anything else is a also spiritual dead end.

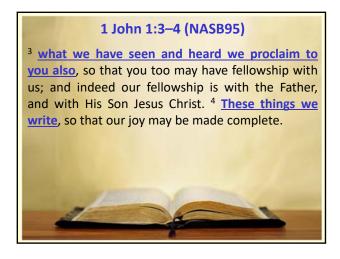
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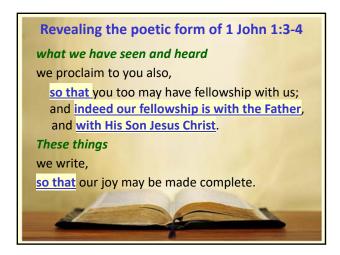
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Revealing the poetic form of 1 John 1:3-4 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.



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WHAT'S THE POINT OF ALL THIS?

- Paul wrote that as we behold the Lord through His written word, we are changed from glory to glory (2 Corinthians 3:18)
- God's written word is His glory growth tool in our lives!



WHAT'S THE POINT OF ALL THIS?



- John wrote that when Christ walked this earth, he and the apostles did behold His glory (John 1:14)
- We are therefore changed from glory to glory as we read and hear of John beholding Christ

CONCLUSION

WHERE DOES THIS ALL END... OR DOES IT? ROAD ENDS AHEAD

WHERE DOES THIS ALL END... OR DOES IT?

Here in today's passage (1 John 1:1-4), we find that John's beholding, touching and hearing Christ - the Life, the eternal One - is a continuously open invitation for us to join in a fellowship...





WHERE DOES THIS ALL END... OR DOES IT?



- It is a fellowship the apostles shared with one another, and with the Father of glory and with Jesus Christ, His glorious Son
- That is not a joy that disappoints, but is *full,* complete, total, and eternal **the Life!**