

“The fact that our heart yearns for something earth can’t supply is proof that Heaven must be our home.” – C.S. Lewis

Education

Everything that John is about to tell us, in the center of it all, he mentions, “The Word of Life.” A title given to Jesus that is the central point to which everything else revolves around. – Similar to knowing nothing else but Christ and Him crucified John is emphasizing Jesus through very specific description and terminology.

THE WORD OF LIFE –

Word: logos – words spoken by a living voice. Sayings, concepts, ideas, or decrees.

- Authority
- Authenticity

Authority – Think back to the account of creation.

Genesis 1:1 & 3 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

Authenticity

Jesus was not a representation of God, Jesus was not like God, Jesus was & IS God. All of the power and the authority of God is Christ, Christ is the embodiment of all the power and authority of God.

John 14:9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

John 1:1-4a In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Note: begotten “there ARE no others and there will NEVER BE any others.”

Authority & Authenticity

From the Beginning (vs. 1)

Eternal & Unchanging

Eternal: always will be but as equally important, always has been.

Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Revelation 4:8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!”

Unchanging: Same from the beginning

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Authority & Authenticity
Eternal & Unchanging

Word of **LIFE** – vitality, vital signs, the life in which animates the body

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 10:10-11 “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. (An abundant life and Jesus Christ are inseparable.)

Validation

Note: verse 2 is inserted to expand what he just said.

**John... how do you know about the authority and authenticity of Jesus?
How are you so sure that He is eternal and unchanging? Who told you?
No one told me about it, I was an eye witness to it.**

Bear Witness: Courtroom

Manifested: To make known or visible what had been invisible or unknown.

John seems to be emphatic that the readers understand how he knows what he knows.

He points to the three primary senses almost everyone has.

1 John 1:1b

Looked upon: to behold intelligently, so as to grasp the meaning and significance of that which comes within our vision. (Brooke)

Handled: more than a momentary contact. To reach or feel after in order to find.

- John at the table
- Thomas after the resurrection.

“To have heard was not enough; people ‘heard’ God’s voice in the Old Testament. To have seen was more compelling. But to have touched was the conclusive proof of material reality, that the Word became flesh, and lived for a while among us.” – John Stott

EDUCATION
VALIDATION
INVITATION...

Declare: To personally make known in a public way.

Why is John Talk about it?

John is NOT trying to grow the size of a local church.

John is NOT trying to spread Christianity.

John IS trying to introduce other to Christ.

- That you may have fellowship with us. - Invitation
- That your joy may be full. – Impartation

Fellowship

Fellowship: to have in common. To be brought together by a common understanding, possession, belief.”

Our fellowship... bond of peace, joy, comfort, contentment... is in the Father.

Fellowship with the Father... to have SOME things in common with God.

God knows you but that you get to know God.

To have God's peace, joy, DEEP assurance, steadfastness.

The only way you have fellowship is through what Christ has done for us.

1 John 1:4

John 15:9-11 “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

Joy: gladness

Full: to make full, to cause to abound, to supply liberally, to make complete.

You don't have to try to be joyful, God will fill you with joy. BIG DIFFERENCE

Matthew 2:10 (wise men & the star) - rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

Matthew 13:44 finding treasure in a field. Sold all he had to get the field.

Matthew 28:8 So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

CONCLUSION

The divinity of Christ and your joy are inseparable

To those who do not have Christ.

(I am not selling you something, I am telling you something.)

When you are in fellowship with the Father... trusting in the Son... walking in the Spirit... you will never be alone again.

I am not asking you to trust a person... I am asking you to trust Jesus Christ, The Word of Life, The authority and authenticity, the Savior who is eternal and won't change on you.

To those who do have Christ.

Believer – be confident

Believer – be commissioned. ***Don't spread Christianity, share Christ.***