

- **The Definition of Gnosticism**
- **The understanding of Knowledge**
- **The importance of Fellowship**

Matthew 17:1-3 NKJV

17 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; ² and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. ³ And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

Matthew 26:36-41 NKJV

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." ³⁷ And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. ³⁸ Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

³⁹ He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*."

⁴⁰ Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."

- **Gnosticism**= “Gnosis” meaning “Knowledge”
 - **Docetic** - taught that Jesus's physical body was not real but only seemed to be physical – known as asceticism from a Greek word that means "to appear.”
 - **Cerentian** - taught that Christ's spirit descended upon the human Jesus at his baptism but left him just before the crucifixion.

Luke 24:39 NKJV

³⁹ Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.”

Luke 24:40-43 NKJV

⁴⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “Have you any food here?” ⁴² So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³ And He took *it* and ate in their presence.

1 John 1:1-4 NKJV

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.

- **Ginosko** = Come “To Know”, taking in knowledge or to completely understand

- Fellowship = from the noun “*koinonia*” - Participation, Association or Communion with Christ and each other. The emphasis here is the closeness in relationship.

The Book of 1 John has a “*Series of Tests*” with statements of “*By this we Know*”:

- ***Incarnation*** = v. 1: 1-4
- ***Fellowship*** = v. 1:5-10
- ***Genuine Confession*** = v. 2:1-29
- ***Sin*** = 3:4-9
- ***Love & Truth by His Spirit (not of the flesh)*** = v.3:10-24 & 4:1-19 & 5:5
- ***Prayer*** = 5:14-15
- ***Salvation*** = 5:18-21