

# SOUL FOOD

DECEMBER 2, 2016

## I JOHN 1 THE ETERNAL LIFE

During the time of the writing of this letter, there was a heresy that was unduly leading many people astray. The name of the heresy was Docetism, which taught that our blessed Lord had a body like ours, only in appearance, not in reality. This was a dangerous teaching because in order for us to be redeemed Jesus had to become like us, for that which was unassumed would be unredeemed. This is why you notice John using many tactile words to describe the nature of the disciples association with Jesus. He used words such as seen, heard, and touched. It is interesting to read how John described the nature of eternal life. He said that THE LIFE was manifested and others testified to it and that they proclaimed the eternal life.

We would easily assume that John was primarily referring to the MESSAGE of the gospel. While John was involved in proclaiming the message of the eternal life, here in the beginning of this letter he was making the powerful assertion that THE LIFE IS A PERSON. John stated that the life was with the Father and was made manifest to them. This is pointing to the person of Jesus.

Just think of all that Scripture teaches us concerning the person of Jesus. Who is He? At the end of I Corinthians 1 we learn that Jesus is wisdom from God, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. In John 11 Jesus told Martha that He was the resurrection as well as the life. In Romans 5. we learn that we are saved through the life of Jesus and that we are made righteous through His obedience. John is swimming in the same stream of teaching concerning who Jesus is. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

All that we need we have in Him. All that we need for life and godliness we have in Him. How can I be confident that I will indeed grow in Christlikeness? Because Jesus is my sanctification. How can I know that I will make it out of this world alive? Because Jesus is my redemption. How do I know that I can come boldly to the throne of grace without fear or shame? Because Jesus is my righteousness. How do I know that I am on the right road that leads to heaven? Because Jesus is the WAY. How do I know that I will live forever? Because Jesus is the eternal life.

Now we know why John's joy was complete through proclaiming this Person.