

1st John # 19

“God is Light”

1st John 1:5

In the Gospel of John, the apostle emphasizes the person or humanity of Christ, the man and His message who existed before the Incarnation and is forever, the eternal Son of God.

Now, in 1st John, the apostle presents eyewitness evidence emphasizing what he and the other apostles heard, saw and touched when observing the prototype for the Church Age spiritual life who relied only on the Holy Spirit and the Word of God and that's *the message* that forms his doctrine.

And not only must our sins be paid for but we also must have perfect righteousness to relate to God.

So John is saying: this is what I and the other apostles saw, heard and understood about Jesus and it's what I want you to understand.

They observed it during the three years of Jesus' public ministry and this is their conclusion; they all had physical contact with Jesus Christ, so His physical body wasn't an illusion and that's their message of life, His life.

First, John saw, heard and experienced Jesus Christ's abundant spiritual life and then he experienced it himself and knowing how great it is, he wants us to experience the same abundant spiritual life, every single day.

According to John, if we want fellowship with God, we must understand, learn, believe and apply the apostle's message; having fellowship with them first.

During Communion, we break bread and pray to have fellowship with God, with the priority being fellowship with TLJC, not with each other.

So, fellowship is knowing who and what Jesus Christ is and what He's done for us, causing us to seek a living, abiding relationship with Him through His mind or the Word and it's not social gatherings with other believers.

Fellowship is understanding the blessings of a relationship with God and responding with a humble willingness to participate in a living, vibrant abiding relationship with TLJC.

When we make a free-will choice to discontinue walking by means of the Holy Spirit, we walk by means of the flesh in sin and the Bible says we grieve or quench the Spirit where we can't benefit from fellowship with God which is sponsored by the Holy Spirit, so when we sin, it interrupts our experiential fellowship.

It requires much more discipline to focus on invisible God and emphasize Him over people. Surely, a danger of misunderstanding biblical fellowship is that our Christian friends can be a source of blessing if they're walking by means of the Spirit and a source of cursing, if they're not.

We progress in our spiritual life if our fellowship is based on our relationship with God but if it's based on our relationship with people, we retrogress.

Sharing God's happiness or joy is a response to positive or negative circumstances due to what we think as a result of what we believe about God.

Now, John tells us the foundation of the message is that God is light and no message is valid unless it starts with God and is revealed and emphasized as God's plan or His system.

Light is used in 1st John 1:5 as an analogy to the essence and personalities in the Godhead or Trinity from the standpoint of the color spectrum and the composition of light.

And John is reversing Persian dualism, turning it around, using it as a way of revealing the personality and essence of God and then he'll relate it to the function of the Trinity.

All God's characteristics are always there; just like with a ray of light, all colors are always there but at certain times, certain ones are evident and others are not.

So, while all colors are present in one white ray of light, only the color(s) reflected are visible to the human eye; the others are still all there but colors absorbed by the object are not seen.

All characteristics of the Godhead are present in each person of the Trinity but only the pertinent characteristics to a given situation are observed by man.

Light contains 3 properties: actinic, which can neither be seen nor felt, a perfect illustration of God the Father; luminiferous, which is both seen and felt, a perfect illustration of God the Son and calorific (heat) which can be felt but not seen, a perfect illustration of God the Holy Spirit.

All members of the human race are controlled by either the plan of God or the plan of Satan.

There are immature believers and mature believers in the plan of God at different levels and there are unbelievers and believers in the devil's world system and the believers in Satan's cosmic system are there due to their negative reaction to the Word of God.

The end of verse 5 anticipates verse 6 where a believer claims to be living the Christian life, when in reality, he's living inside the cosmic system of Satan.