

1st John # 81

“The Apostle John was there”

1st John 5:5-6; John 15:9-14; Galatians 1:6-9; 3:10-14; John 12:37-40

If we don't believe the eyewitness testimony of the apostles, we can't have fellowship with them and therefore, fellowship isn't eating together or talking together while hanging out; it's agreeing together as to who Jesus Christ is, what He's done and what He expects of us as His disciples.

So, even more so than post-salvation sin for which God has provided a solution, it's doctrinal heresy especially regarding the person of Jesus Christ that removes us from experiential fellowship with John and the apostles and therefore, with God the Father and His Son.

Our initial victory over Satan's cosmic world system occurred at salvation when we entered the plan of God, the only place of victory.

Just as our Lord overcame Satan's world system through His residence and function in the prototype plan of God, we as believers overcome the world through our residence and function in the operational Church Age plan of God.

Colossians 2:6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him.

For salvation, we believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross as our substitute and John obviously knows that and he mentions it only to make a point regarding those who have trusted Him already, so his focus is on a post-salvation issue.

To say that Jesus is not God is to call Him a liar and to say that He is not truly human is to deny that the unique Church Age spiritual life He pioneered is of any value to us.

1st John is a continuation of John 13 and 15, so the issue is post-salvation experiential, intimate, abiding fellowship with Jesus Christ by continuing to believe accurately regarding the person and work of our Lord.

Jesus Christ came to reveal the Father to Israel and the nations, so with undeniable evidence, the Messiah lived the prototype plan of God, providing salvation for all and demonstrating the pattern of success in the Church Age spiritual life for believers.