

01 – 1 John 1:1-4 – Fellowship with God**The original message is true because...****1) Of its Biblical Connection**

... was from the beginning.

... the one, same consistent message since creation.

2) We testify to what we saw

...John is an eyewitness of Jesus.

... you can only testify to what you have seen.

= his own direct experience of Jesus and the gospel message that was promised right from the beginning of time

3) We have been sent to proclaim

... he was sent to proclaim the message by the risen Jesus.

Who or what is the Word of life?

... might seem obvious to us that after reading John's gospel that the Word of life is simply referring to Jesus

But 1 John 1:1-3 ... as things not a person.

John is referring to **both** Jesus the Word and the gospel message about the things Jesus has done.

Only the original message results in both...**1) Fellowship**

...fellowship with them ... fellowship with God the Father and also his son, Jesus Christ.

... thinking called Gnosticism

- claimed that fellowship with God could be achieved through knowledge
- emphasised the idea that matter was essentially evil because it has been infected by evil

eg: Cerinthus

... only the biblical consistent, historically accurate, gospel message of Jesus is the means of closer fellowship with God.

2) Ultimate Joy

v 4 that our joy might be complete.

Firstly, ... joy now AND ... one day we will have complete joy

Secondly.... salvation brings is cooperate.

v 4“our joy being made complete” = all those who now have fellowship with God

For us today

Firstly,... the gospel handed down to us by the apostles is one that is biblically consistent...

100% historical...

the apostles were sent by God to proclaim

Secondly, people are searching out a connection with the divine

- point them to Jesus

Finally ... evangelism and fellowship go together