

Certain Truth In Uncertain Times

1 John 1:1-4

Introduction

Certain Truths for Uncertain Times

I. The Certainty of *God's Unchanging Word* v1a

"That which is from the beginning"

1 John 2:7

1 John 2:24-25

"became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14), is the eternal Son of God.

II. The Certainty of *Eye-Witness Testimony* vv1b-2a

"when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman" (Galatians 4:4).

"testify" indicates the authority of *experience*.

"seen with our eyes" Gk 'to behold intelligently so as to grasp the meaning and significance.'

"touched with our hands"

"These two verbs express a definite investigation by the observer." Wescott

The testimony of seeing, hearing and touching Jesus, *the Word of Life*, was meant to put any nagging questions to rest; to relieve their troubled minds, and answer any lingering doubts they may have:

Luke 24:38-39

John 20:25

John 20:27-29

John 1:14

The manifestation of the Christ becomes the bold proclamation of His witnesses.

III. The Certainty of *Eternal Life* v2b

If the word “testify” is the word of *experience*, the word “proclaim” indicates the authority of *commission*.

“for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” Acts 4:20

John 3:32-34

Titus 2:15

“*the eternal life*”

“*which was with the Father.*”

1 John 5:11-13

IV. The Certainty of *Fellowship* v3

“you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” 1 Corinthians 1:9

John 17:21

“For we share in Christ,” Hebrews 3:14.

We all are *partakers of the divine nature* (2 Peter 1:4).

We have “the mind of Christ” (1 Cor. 2:16).

The Lord has taken up residence in all true believers.

If you have the life of Christ then you are in the fellowship. You did not accomplish that so you cannot lose it – if you indeed have received it.

John 14:22-23

John 14:15-17

1 John 4:16

V. The Certainty of *Everlasting Joy* v4

“*And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*”

“*so that our joy may be complete.*”

The immediate purpose of the proclamation is “*so that you too may have fellowship with us...*” (v3).

The ultimate purpose of the writing is “*so that our joy may be complete.*”

The fulness of *joy* comes when the proclamation of the gospel is made and *fellowship* is established!

All of John's references to joy in his gospel have allusions to some form of fellowship:

John 3:29

"These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full." John 15:11

John 16:24

John 17:13

2 John 12

The Truth of what John, what *we*, proclaim brings everlasting joy!

Truth brings joy as it unites us in fellowship with the Father and the Son. And makes a once disparate people united in Christ.