

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

REV. JEFFERY D. BELL SR., TEACHER/ PASTOR

BOOK : **I JOHN** ( OUTLINE )

START DATE : June 6, 2012

**KEY THEME** : THE TEST OF REALITY IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

**KEY VERSE** : I JOHN 5 VS 13

**I. INTRODUCTION** ( 1:1-4)

**II. THE TESTS OF TRUE FELLOWSHIP : GOD IS LIGHT** ( 1:5- 2:9)

- A. OBEDIENCE – 1:5 – 2:6 ( SAYING VERSES DOING )
- B. LOVE – 2:7 – 17
- C. TRUTH – 2:18-29

**III. THE TEST OF SONSHIP : GOD IS LOVE** (3-5)

- A. OBEDIENCE -3
- B. LOVE – 4
- C. TRUTH - 5

**INTRODUCTION:** THE SEARCH FOR SOMETHING REAL IS NOT NEW. IT HAS BEEN GOING ON SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HISTORY. MEN HAVE LOOKED FOR REALITY AND SATISFACTION IN:

- A. **WEALTH**
- B. **THRILLS**
- C. **CONQUEST**
- D. **POWER**
- E. **LEARNING**
- F. **RELIGION**

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THESE EXPERIENCES, EXCEPT THEY BY THEMSELVES NEVER REALLY SATISFY. WANTING SOMETHING REAL AND FINDING SOMETHING REAL ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS. LIKE A CHILD EATING A COTTON CANDY AT A CIRCUS, MANY PEOPLE WILL EXPECT TO BITE INTO SOMETHING AND GET A MOUTHFUL OF NOTHING. THEY WASTE PRICELESS YEARS ON EMPTY SUBSTITUTES FOR REALITY. THIS IS WHERE THE APOSTLE JOHN'S FIRST EPISTLE COMES IN. WRITTEN CENTURIES AGO, THIS LETTER DEALS WITH A THEME THAT IS FOREVER UP TO DATE: "THE LIFE THAT IS REAL." JOHN HAD DISCOVERED THAT SATISFYING REALITY IS NOT FOUND IN THRILLS OR THINGS BUT IN THE:

**PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD!**

WITHOUT WASTING ANY TIME HE TELLS US ABOUT THIS "LIVING REALITY" IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF HIS LETTER. AS YOU READ I JOHN 1 – 4, YOU WILL LEARN THREE VITAL FACTS ABOUT THE LIFE THAT IS REAL.

**I. THIS LIFE IS REAL** – ( 1 VS 1 ) AS YOU READ JOHN'S LETTER, YOU WILL DISCOVER THAT HE ENJOYED USING CERTAIN WORDS, AND ONE OF THEM IS MANIFEST ( REVEALED ) WAS ONE OF THEM.

1 JOHN 1 VS 2 ... AND THE LIFE WAS MANIFEST

THIS LIFE WAS NOT HIDDEN SO THAT WE HAVE TO SEARCH FOR IT AND FIND IT. NO IT WAS MANIFESTED- REVEALED OPENLY ! IF YOU WERE GOD HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT REVEALING YOURSELF TO MAN? HOW WOULD YOU TELL THEM ABOUT, AND GIVE THEM, THE KIND OF LIFE YOU WANTED THEM TO HAVE ?

***HOW HAS GOD REVEALED HIMSELF ?***

- A. **CREATION (ROM 1 VS 20 )**
- B. **HIS WORD (JOHN 1 VS 1)**
- C. **IN HIS SON ( JOHN 14 VS 9 )**

BECAUSE JESUS IS GOD'S REVELATION OF HIMSELF, HE HAS A VERY SPECIAL NAME: "THE WORD OF LIFE" (I JOHN 1VS 1 ).

I JOHN 1 VS 1 ...." IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD AND THE WORD WAS GOD " TO KNOW JESUS IS TO KNOW GOD!

QUESTION: WHY DOES JESUS CHRIST HAVE THIS NAME ?

BECAUSE CHRIST IS TO US, WHAT OUR WORDS ARE TO OTHERS. OUR WORDS REVEAL TO OTHERS JUST WHAT WE THINK AND HOW WE FEEL. CHRIST THEN REVEALS TO US:

- A. THE MIND OF GOD
- B. THE HEART OF GOD

HE IS THE LIVING MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN

- A. GOD
- B. MAN

NOTICE IN **1 JOHN 1 VS 3** .... JOHN MAKES NO MISTAKE IN HIS IDENTIFICATION OF JESUS CHRIST HE SAYS " JESUS IS THE SON OF THE FATHER – THE SON OF GOD. (1 JOHN 1 VS 3 ) JOHN WARNED US SEVERAL TIMES IN HIS LETTER NOT TO LISTEN TO FALSE TEACHERS WHO TELL LIES ABOUT JESUS CHRIST.

**1 JOHN 2 VS 22 , 1 JOHN 4 VS 2-3** , - IF A MAN IS WRONG ABOUT JESUS CHRIST HE IS WRONG ABOUT GOD BECAUSE JESUS CHRIST IS THE FINAL AND COMPLETE REVELATION OF GOD TO MEN.

## ***WHAT SOME SAY ABOUT JESUS CHRIST***

- A. JESUS WAS MAN BUT WAS NOT GOD –( 1 JOHN 5 VS 20 ) WE ARE IN HIM THAT IS TRUE, EVEN IN HIS SON JESUS CHRIST THIS IS THE TRUE GOD, AND ETERNAL LIFE

**1 JOHN 2 VS 22-23**..... AND HE MADE IT PLAIN THAT TO DENY THAT JESUS IS GOD IS TO FOLLOW THE LIES OF THE ANTICHRIST.

**II. THIS LIFE IS EXPERIENCED** (1 VS 2 ) – WHEN YOU READ THE FIRST FOUR VERSES AGAIN YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THE APOSTLES HAD A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST. HE DID NOT HAVE A SECOND HAND "**RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE**." INHERITED FROM SOMEBODY ELSE OR DISCOVERED IN A BOOK! NO, JOHN KNEW JESUS FACE TO FACE .

HEARD HIM SPEAK , WATCHED HIM AS HE LIVED WITH THEM, THEY TOUCHED HIS BODY , STUDIED HIM – THEY KNEW THAT JESUS WAS REAL AND NOT A PHANTOM, NOT A VISION, BUT GOD IN HUMAN FORM. SO SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT JOHN HAD AN ADVANTAGE BECAUSE HE WAS NEAR HIM PHYSICALLY . IT WAS NOT THE APOSTLES '**PHYSICAL NEARNESS** TO JESUS CHRIST TO JESUS CHRIST

THAT MADE THEM WHAT THEY WERE, IT WAS THEIR SPIRITUAL NEARNESS.THEY HAD COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO HIM AS SAVIOR AND LORD.

**III.THIS LIFE WAS SHARED** (I JOHN 3 ) – NOT TO ARGUE OR COMPARE BUT TO WITNESS MEANS TO SHARE OUR SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES TO OTHERS IN TWO WAYS:

- A. **LIVES WE LIVE**
- B. **WORDS WE SPEAK**

### ***PURPOSES FOR SHARING***

1. **THAT WE MAY HAVE FELLOWSHIP** (3)
  
2. **THAT WE MAY HAVE JOY** (4)