

February 20, 2022

Lesson 5 — 1 John 1:5-10

- The doctrinal foundation of the letter of 1 John can be found in the first 4 verses:
 - **1 John 1:1-4** — *What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life 2 and the Life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal Life, Which was with the Father and was manifested to us 3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.*
- In these four verses, John sets forth the Doctrine of the Incarnation of the Son of God which also speaks of the plurality of the one Being of God.

- In this lesson, we will begin to look at the way John promotes this Divine-human fellowship.
- John beings with God is light:
 - **1 John 1:5** — *This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.*
- In the Scriptures “light” is a familiar metaphor that has to do with God’s intrinsic purity and perfection, with His complete knowledge and understanding of Himself.
 - **‘Light’** reveals the ministering presence of God as in **Exodus 10:22-23**:
 - *Moses stretched out his hand toward the sky, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days. 23 ...but all the sons of Israel had Light in their dwellings.*
 - **‘Light’** is associated with good, in contrast to darkness [evil, wicked, death, chaos, anti-God]
 - **Genesis 1:2** ...*Let there be light...>>*

- **John 8:12** ...*I am the Light of the world...*
- **1 John 1:6** — *If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.*
 - The word 'walk' in the Greek is *peripateo* which has to do with a way of life, a continuing walk as opposed to a step.
 - **John 15:8** — *By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.*
- **1 John 1:7** — *but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin...*
 - *A believer's life is characterized by walking the Light, which testifies to two Truths: 1. we have fellowship with one another, 2. the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses [keeps on cleansing] us from all sin..*

- **1 John 1:8** — *If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.*
 - To deny the existence of sin denies the necessity of atoning death of Jesus and refuses the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
- **1 John 1:9** — *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
 - Only agreeing with the conviction of the Spirit can a person repent of sin and receive Jesus as Savior.
 - Is John saying that we must repent every time the Spirit convicts in order to be kept saved? — John's instruction in v.9 has to do with the birth of a believer into the Kingdom.
- **1 John 1:10** — *If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.*