

1 JOHN

(NIV) ¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched —this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ **We write this to make our joy complete.**

Light and Darkness, Sin and Forgiveness

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

BALANCE

- There are 70 valid explanations to every part of the Torah. (Bamidbar Rabbah 13:15).
- "They were seeing different aspects of the same all-encompassing truth — just as the many facets of a diamond glimmer differently at different angles." Rabbi David Rosenfeld
- "The joy of the Lord is your strength." (Ne. 8:10)

My notes~

PHYSICAL VERSUS SPIRITUAL**John 1**

(NIV) ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Ephesians 2

(NIV) ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith —and this is **not from yourselves**, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

I John 1

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have **fellowship with one another**, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (v. 7)

James 2

(NIV) ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ...¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

"Logos", one word for "Word"

Spiritual indivisible from physical

Our balance spiritual/physical: physical response; model for life and fellowship; inner life/ outer life

My notes~

THE TAKE-AWAY

- The possibility for complete joy
- Joy can be no deeper than one's understanding
- Balancing the "angles of the diamond"
- What kind of "fan" is your faith system?

My notes~

Suggested NEXT STEPS for your week~

Dear John Letters #1

Enrich your understanding, get the Sunday evening material: *GO DEEPER* page at canaan-church.org

Plan to make the Sunday evening sermon/discussion service at 7 pm

Chapter 1 of 1 John

To make your "joy complete"...

THIS WEEK WHAT WILL YOU BALANCE?

- MY ACTIONS WITH MY BELIEFS
- LOVE & FORGIVENESS WITH DISCERNMENT & STANDARDS
- FAITH & WORKS
- REST & WORKS
- DEEPER UNDERSTANDING WITH DEEPER EXPERIENCE
- GROWING INNER LIFE CHANGE WITH PRACTICING OUTER LIFE CHANGE
- OTHER: