

1st John # 18

“John says it’s My Way or the Highway”

1st John 1:1-4; Isaiah 55:6-9; John 1:1-3

Everyone who has above minimum intelligence reaches God-consciousness at the age of accountability but the monumental task of understanding God requires more than curiosity; it demands an active positive desire to learn about Him with a willing self-disciplined driven hunger for learning the truth.

Positive response to God is a matter of individual choice and most people turn away long before reaching the goal of understanding life’s meaning.

We are born spiritually blind, so we can’t discover God’s character without His help but ‘Good News’; Into our darkness shines the grace of God because He has revealed Himself to man!

The doctrines of the Word of God living in our souls are the only means in which we can know who and what God is and come to respect and love Him; so only through learning biblical truth can we give Him the recognition, honor and glory He deserves.

John, like Jesus, Paul, Peter and James, wants us to understand our eternal position related to Jesus Christ, which creates an intense desire for fellowship with Him, which further leads to an inevitable inner joy that follows His example.

John, the loving father-figure, wants his children to beware of bad influences; wolves in sheep’s clothing, false teachers with false doctrine.

John knows that we are all insecure by nature in spiritual death; so to counteract our anxiety and fear, he encourages us to share God’s happiness as the cure for loneliness, worry and guilt from our failures as we trust Jesus Christ, our righteous advocate to meet our every need.

The integrity of God gains nothing from the function of any creature but God’s creatures gain from the integrity of God which is perfect; not subject to change or improvement and therefore, no one can promote the integrity of God.

God’s attributes stand alone without help from any angel or human being at any time.

Humility recognizes it needs help from God, so when we mix the promises of God with our faith, God helps us by sending blessing from His justice to His indwelling righteousness in us.

John wants us to never forget that God can do all He wills to do but He may not will to do all He can do.

John’s emphasis is on Jesus’ message of Life and not the Living Word Himself, yet many mistakenly relate 1st John 1:1 with John 1:1 where the emphasis is on Jesus, the Living Word.

In 1st John, the apostle John emphasizes the principles of the incarnation in relationship to our experiential abiding spiritual life in Christ.

We have a secure positional relationship with Jesus Christ in eternity and the purpose for our remaining on earth is to continuously enter into an experiential abiding, abundant relationship with our Lord in time based on our understanding, believing and applying the apostle’s message.

As believers in Christ, we are here to glorify God and nothing glorifies God more than you and I sharing God's happiness.

John is referring to the word of life as the message related to full abundant living which is not something that's only spiritual in the sense that the Gnostics believed; the message of the apostles has physical implications that are not for the intellectual elite only to enjoy.

The satanic lie behind the heresy of Gnosticism is that Jesus Christ did not appear in a physical body as the God-man, so therefore, we have no example for our spiritual life.

1st John is not about entering into a spiritual life with God; it's about cultivating and enhancing the spiritual life we already have with Him.