

1 JOHN 1:1-10

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which **we** have heard, which **we** have seen with **our** eyes, which **we** looked upon and have touched with **our** hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and **we** have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to **us**— 3 that which **we** have seen and heard **we** proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with **us**; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And **we** are writing these things so that **our** joy may be complete. 5 This is the message **we** have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If **we** say we have fellowship with him while **we** walk in darkness, **we** lie and do not practice 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 cleanses **us** from all sin. 8 If **we** say **we** have no sin, **we** deceive **ourselves**, and the truth is not in **us**. 9 If **we** confess **our** sins, he is faithful and just to forgive **us our** sins and to cleanse **us** from all unrighteousness. 10 If **we** say we have not sinned, **we** make him a liar, and his word is not in **us**.



May 23 & 24, 2026 | Living in the Light- 2 | 1 John 1:5-10 | Dennis Miller

THE LETTER OF 1 JOHN

The Author: The DISCIPLE John but also “WE.” (John authored the Gospel of John, 1, 2, 3 John and The Revelation.)

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, . . .

The Date: 85-95 AD from EPHESUS

Written to: First century CHRISTIANS. (The Gospel of John is designed to introduce people to Jesus, while 1 John is written to Christians to help them GROW and find assurance.)

1 John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God . . .

1 John 2:1 My little children (15 times), . . . (beloved, 6 times)

The Key Message: “God is LIGHT”, and you can walk in FELLOWSHIP with Him and with one another!

THE REASONS FOR WRITING

1 John 1:4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. (Don't lose your joy!)

1 John 2:26 I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you. (Avoid false teachers!)

1 John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. (You can have assurance!)

THE SCRIPTURES

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice 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 cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

THE MESSAGE

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1. John (and the Apostles) had HEARD this message from Jesus Himself and now he is SHARING it with his readers.

2. The message is SIMPLE: "God is LIGHT."

John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 12:46 I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

3. "In him is NO darkness at all." Why say this?

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

TWO CRITICAL DEFINITIONS

1 John 1:6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, . . .

"Walk in the light" = understanding that you are a SINNER saved by GRACE. (Walking in HIS perfection.)

"Walk in darkness" = denying your SINFUL condition while claiming to be in FELLOWSHIP with God.

IF STATEMENTS

After the MESSAGE in verse 5, John follows up with five IF statements. These are divided into three PROBLEMS and two PROMISES.

THE PROBLEMS

1 John 1:6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

1 John 1:8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Vs 6	If we SAY...	We have fellowship with Him while walking in DARKNESS,	We continually LIVE a LIE (to the world).
Vs 8	If we SAY...	We have no SIN, (nature)	We deceive OURSELVES.
Vs 10	If we SAY...	We have not sinned,	We make God out to be a LIAR and we are not trusting His WORD.
Result	Talk is CHEAP.	Sin is REAL.	It is all DECEPTION.

THE PROMISES

1 John 1:7 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 cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Vs 7	If we WALK...	In the LIGHT, as He is in the light,	We have fellowship with one ANOTHER and He CLEANSSES from ALL sin.
Vs 9	If we CONFESS...	Our SINS,	He is faithful and just to FORGIVE our sin and cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness.
Result	WALK and CONFESS.	TRUST Him and acknowledge your SIN.	You are FORGIVEN! (All means all, that's all all means.)

OUR LESSONS

1. "God is LIGHT", and in our natural state, we are in darkness.
2. If we acknowledge our SIN and our NEED for Him, He forgives and CLEANSSES. This provides FELLOWSHIP with Him and with one another.