

PARENTAL GUIDANCE REQUIRED

PART I - 1 JOHN 1:1-4

Pastor Joel Spiridigliozzi / July 6, 2008

Audio Message available at <http://www.kingstreet.org/audio/>

“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. 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. 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. We write this to make our joy complete” (1 John 1:1-4).

I. AN EYE-WITNESSED FAITH

+ The validity of the Scriptures

F.F. Bruce shows how rich the New Testament is in manuscript authentication comparing the texts with other historical works.

+ Textual Critic F.J.A. Hort says, “In the variety and fullness of the evidence on which it rests, the text of the New Testament stands absolutely and unapproachable alone among ancient prose writings.”

II. AN EYE-OPENING FAITH

+ **Who was this Jesus?**

The Humanity of Jesus:

- a. He had a human body
 - He was sometimes tired (John 4:6)
 - He was sometimes hungry (Matthew 4:2)
- b. He had human emotions
 - He was angry (Mark 11:15-17)
 - He loved (Mark 10:21)
 - He was sad (John 11:35)
- c. He had human experiences
 - He was tempted (Mark 1:13)
 - He learned (Luke 2:52)
 - He worked (Mark 6:3)
 - He obeyed His parents (Luke 2:51)

+ **What did Jesus say about Himself?**

Jesus confirmed he was the Son of God (Mark 14:61-64).

The people were stoning him because they believed he was declaring himself as the Son of God (John 10:33).

The disciples called Him Lord and Jesus did not disagree (John 20:28, 29).

“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic, on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg, or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man, was and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse...but let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He was not left that open to us. He did not intend to.” C.S. LEWIS

+ **What evidence is there to support what he said?**

His Teaching

His Works

-He turned water into wine (John 2:1-11)

-He multiplied food to feed thousands (Mark 6:30-44)

-He had control over the elements (Mark 4:35-41)

-He healed an invalid of thirty-eight years (John 5:1-9)

-He set people free from evil forces (John 11:38-44)

His Character

His Resurrection: The physical resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of Christianity. The following is evidence that it really happened –

1.His absence from the tomb

2.His appearance to the disciples

3.Christian Experience

+ **What does this eye-witnessed and eye-opening faith mean to you personally?**