

## JOHN'S FIRST LETTER - Part II

"Jesus and Gnosticism"

Reference: **I John 1:1-4**

**Pastor Larry Webb**

---

---

Jesus is called the Word. The Greek word translated as Word is \_\_\_\_\_ and means "something that is said, a speech, or a discourse."

God's word exists in two basic forms:

- in \_\_\_\_\_ form (the Scriptures) meaning God's Word in print and on paper  
Reference: **I Thessalonians 2:13** (see screen)
- in \_\_\_\_\_ form (Jesus, Himself)  
Reference: **John 1:1-4** and **14** and **Revelation 19:13** (see screen)

In summation John said this about the Word and Jesus:

Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_... *"In the beginning was the Word"*

Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ God before coming to earth *"...the Word was with God"*

Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ *"...the Word was God"*

Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_... *"All things were made through Him..."*

Jesus is the Giver of \_\_\_\_\_... *"In Him was life"*

Jesus became \_\_\_\_\_ to reside with us... *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us..."*

One of the earliest church fathers made the statement about Jesus, *"Without ceasing to be what He \_\_\_\_\_, He became what He \_\_\_\_\_."*

The singular difference between our humanness and Jesus humanness is that Jesus was sinless, and we aren't.

Reference: **Hebrews 4:15** (see screen)

Notice three critical words in verse one: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

The reason John mentioned he was a personal eyewitness to Jesus was because he was countering a heretical religious movement that dominated the first three centuries called "\_\_\_\_\_."

It was an umbrella name that described different religious sects that had some commonality between them.

**Definition:** Gnosticism was a religious movement claiming that salvation could be received through a special mystical and higher form of \_\_\_\_\_.

Gnosticism was based on two false premises:

- Gnosticism claimed to possess a higher and better form of \_\_\_\_\_.  
The word Gnosticism comes from the Greek word gnosis. Gnosis means “\_\_\_\_\_.”  
True knowledge starts at God, not apart from God.  
Reference: **Proverbs 1:7** (see screen)
- Gnosticism endorsed a doctrine called \_\_\_\_\_.  
This philosophy said all that exists is divided into two categories: matter or material things and all that is spiritual. According to this doctrine matter and material things are \_\_\_\_\_ and those things that are spirit are \_\_\_\_\_.

In the **second verse** Jesus is called eternal life. That eternal life is both a **possession** and a **person**.

- As a **possession**, eternal life is an \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in absolute happiness with God, Himself.  
Reference: **Romans 6:23** (see screen)
- As a **person**, eternal life is God’s Son, \_\_\_\_\_.  
Reference: **I John 1:2**

**verse three** (see screen)

The Greek noun translated as fellowship is koinonia and koinonia in the original language means a partnership or to share \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

The essential basis to biblical koinonia is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Definition:** Someone’s spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ to **God** is defined as someone’s \_\_\_\_\_ relational connection to God as His child.

Reference: **John 1:11-12** (see screen)

**Definition:** Someone’s spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ to **God** is defined as an \_\_\_\_\_ relational connection to God as His child.

**Definition:** Someone’s spiritual **fellowship** to other \_\_\_\_\_ is defined as an \_\_\_\_\_ relational connection to other Christians as spiritual children.

Four particular reasons **I John** was written:

REASON ONE: **I John** was written so that we could experience complete \_\_\_\_\_.

**verse four** (see screen)

Reference: **John 15:11; Romans 15:13; and Galatians 5:22-23**  
(see screen)

**Definition:** Joyfulness is an internal sense of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ we have chosen, no matter what might be going on around us.