

**“The Real Jesus”  
1 John 1:1-4**

**Ephesians 3:17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;**

**Background of this passage – Very similar to our Present Age**

**Gnostics** – Mixture of Greek philosophy, Judaism, Mystery Religions.

**Gnostics – View of Salvation** – Salvation comes through knowledge (gnosis) rather than through faith.

**Gnostics – View of Jesus** – Jesus only seemed to be flesh and blood.

**Gnostics – View of Holiness** – Holiness comes through isolation. The flesh is corrupt so it matters not what one does.

**Written To** – To Believers everywhere. *“General Epistle”*

**John Calls Believers Back To The Truth About Jesus Christ: John 14:6**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** “Jesus Being Eternal, Historical, Is Proclaimed At Christmas As God Who Came To Us In The Flesh”

**1. Verse – 1 Vetting The Real Jesus:**

**2. Verse – 2 Meeting The Real Jesus:**

**3. Verse – 3 Proclaiming The Real Jesus:**

**4. Verse – 4 Joy Through The Real Jesus:**

**1. Verse – 1 Vetting The Real Jesus:**

**1 John 1:1 - 4 Truths About Jesus:  
Eternal, Historical, Humanity, Deity**

**1. Jesus Vetted As Eternal: What was from the beginning,**

John is presenting the *Doctrine of “The Eternality of Jesus Christ”* Which means, *“Jesus, the second person of the trinity, He had no beginning, He always existed and Jesus has no end. He will always be.”*

**The Beginning of the Universe (Material): Genesis 1:1  
Jesus Always Was: John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word,**

**Word (Word of Life) – logos – “faculty of reason or thought, the idea of speech or word, expression of a thought”**

## **Jesus was much more than communication for God**

(He did not merely proclaim God's truth. Jesus was God's truth. The Living Word) **John 1:18**

**John 1:1 With God** – (Imperfect tense) means a continuum, *"always was and always will be, face to face, fellowship"*

**Isaiah 9:6; Daniel 7:9; Hebrews 13:8**

**Jesus Is Eternal - Application** "How do we re-assure and comfort our children and ourselves?"

Through placing our faith in the Eternal God – **Malachi 3:6 "For I, the LORD, do not change;** Everything changes. God does not!

## **2. Jesus Vetted Historically: What was from the beginning,**

The origin of our Truth is Historical. **from the beginning, The Beginning of the Christian Experience Is The Historical Jesus! (Genesis 3:15)**

**"What was from the beginning" John is affirming the Word of Life,** Jesus, the message, the Gospel, the same message preached since the Apostles.

**Jude 1:3; Galatians 1:6-7**

**What was from the beginning,** John is writing about a person, the real person of Jesus Christ who came with one message - **the Word of Life—**

**Jesus Was Historical – Application** People say, "Christianity, the Bible is just tradition, man-made. No, it is Historical/Divine. The Message came from the Eternal God and it is historical facts we can trust in. **(Genesis 3:15)**

## **3. Jesus Vetted In The Flesh (Humanity):** Truth is based on physical firsthand knowledge by John and the Apostles:

Note – **"We" 1 John 1:1-2** John along with the other Apostles.

**We Heard Jesus: what we have heard,** this is the first sense that John used in describing their encounter with Jesus.

**John 1:14; John 7:46**

**We Saw Jesus: what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld** John had been with Jesus about 3 years. **John 20:8, 29**

**We Touched Jesus: and touched with our hands**, means  
*"to feel after like a blind man"* **John 13:23; Luke 24:39**

**Jesus Came In The Flesh (Humanity) – Application** We have confidence because Jesus Is The Fulfilled Promise - fully flesh and blood, and the Eternal Second Person of the Trinity.  
**1 Timothy 3:16-17**

**4. Jesus Vetted In Deity: concerning the Word of Life—John 1:1-3  
Matthew 1:23; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:1-2;  
Revelation 4:11**

The theme of the Gospel of John's is "The Deity Of Jesus Christ"  
John records "**7 Signs Performed By Jesus**"  
**7 "I Am" Statements Of Jesus**

**Jesus Is Fully God (Deity) – Application** Only God can forgive sins. Forgiveness is found in the eternal, historical, flesh and blood God, Jesus Christ - **1 John 5:12**

## **2. Verse – 2 Meeting The Real Jesus:**

**1 John 1:2 and the life was manifested** – *"to make apparent, to make public"* This is the Doctrine of "**The Incarnation of the Son of God**"  
*Jesus Christ, who was both truly God and truly man, God the Son or the Logos (Word), became flesh by being conceived in the Virgin Mary, being fully God and fully man"* "**The First Advent, or Christmas**"

**Philippians 2:6-11; 1 John 3:5**

**and we have seen** - John had physically **heard** Jesus, **seen** Jesus, and even **touched** Jesus. John's relationship with Jesus was **historical** and **personal**.

**and testify** this term **witness** – Greek word taken from the courts of law, *"bearing testimony to what one has seen"*

**and proclaim to you** - suggests *"a commission from Christ with authority"*

*"bearing testimony to what they had seen along with the commission from Jesus Christ authority to deliver the truth"*

**the eternal life**, is both quantity and quality.

**which was with the Father** Jesus was with the Father (Jesus' Deity) not inferior to the Father but has always been with the Father.  
**1 Corinthians 1:9**

**Mark of A Genuine Child Of God - Has A Personal Relationship With Jesus Christ: and was manifested to us—**

*"to make apparent, to make public"*

**3. Verse – 3 Proclaiming - The Word Of Life:**

**1 John 1:3 Mark of A Genuine Child Of God – We Must Have It To Share It: what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8**

**so that you too may have fellowship with us;** Note that John does not say, *"you may have Salvation with us"* **fellowship with us;**

**fellowship** – *"partnership, participation, communion, sharer, associate, companion, partaker" Sharing thought and interests together"*

**and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.** No relationship with genuine Christians apart from a relationship with God. **1 Corinthians 1:9; Galatians 2:20**

**4. Verse – 4 Joy Through The Real Jesus:**

**1 John 1:4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.**

**These things we write,**  
explaining the Eternal, Historical, flesh and blood, God

**so that our joy may be made complete.** Literally *"The only way John would have a complete joy would be for his readers to experience his joy"*  
**John 16:22**

**Joy** - *"full satisfaction, total fulfillment that can never be lost"*  
**Romans 14:17**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16 - Rejoice always;**

Christmas is associated with Joy! **Luke 2:10-11**

**Application:**

1. Do I believe in the Eternal, Historical, Physical, Son Of God?
2. Do I Have A Personal Testimony Of Jesus Christ?
3. Do I Have A Growing Fellowship With Other's That Know Jesus?
4. Do I Have The Joy Of Life?