

1 John 1:1-4

Matt Deaton

“These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.” John wrote in this letter that the Word of Life had appeared to the saints. They heard it with their own ears, saw it with their own eyes, and touched it with their own hands. How could this be? Could the very Messiah spoken of by the prophets been heard, seen, and touched by John and his friends? Could this ‘word of life’ be the gift of eternal life from the Father for all who believe?

John is excited to proclaim the good news that God sent his son into the world. His enthusiasm is evident when he says his reason for writing this letter was so that the joy of the believers around him would increase. John knew that Jesus was a gift of God to humankind. All the prophets alluded to the day when they could see, hear, and feel God’s presence. This miracle had been alive and present with John and his friends for years, and after the Lord had ascended into heaven, John wanted everyone to know that Jesus was the one and only true Son of God. The mystery had been revealed - God’s plan of salvation for His people was Christ crucified.

The promise that one day a son of man would crush the head of the serpent was finally fulfilled. Belief and trust in Jesus’s life, death, burial, and resurrection is and always has been the only way to eternal life with the Father. John testified then and it is as true now as it was when John wrote it - “Our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.” This is our confession. Thank the Lord he sent his son so we could have the gift of eternal life.