

Bible Study Guide for I John 1

Day 1 – Overview

The book of **I John** was written in late 80 or early 90 A.D. Christianity was flourishing. But along with the strong Church there was the threat of the infiltration of heresy. The Gnostics were those who combined Christianity with the Greek and Oriental philosophies of the day. They taught that the spirit and the body were entirely separate – that a person could be holy in his spirit while his body could give way to sin and sensual living.

John therefore set out to write to the churches in and around Ephesus so that they might be on guard against the dangers of this heresy. He wanted them to know that to have fellowship with God, one must possess (1) righteousness of life, (2) brotherly love and (3) faith in Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God who lived, died and rose again that they might have eternal life in Him.

1. Skim/read all of **I John** today, being aware of John’s heart of love for his “*little children*” and his concern for them regarding false doctrines.
2. See in the following verses the reasons why John wrote this epistle.

I John 1:4

I John 2:1

I John 2:26

I John 5:13

Day 2 – I John 1:1-4

1. What special experiences had John had that gave him the ability to write as he did? Compare **I John 1:1-4** with **John 1:14**.
2. Give your own or a dictionary definition of what a witness is.