

EPISTLE OF 1 JOHN  
CERTAINTIES REGARDING THE TRUE GOSPEL  
PART 1—THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS STEADFAST  
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**INTRODUCTION:**

**We live in a world that is FULL OF UNCERTAINTIES:**

- a. Political Uncertainty!
- b. Economic Uncertainty!  
What will the price of gas be tomorrow?  
Will the stock market go up or down?
- c. Many Other Uncertainties!—What does tomorrow hold for us?

**There are even many UNCERTAINTIES in the broad spectrum that encompasses what is known in this world as “Christendom”:**

**(Please realize that not all that have the label as “Christians” are such!)**

- a. **Christendom as a whole has veered far from the BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS of TRUE CHRISTIANITY!**  
Things that **at one time** were regarded as **absolutes** have been and are continually being replaced by many with things such as *public opinions, social pressures, relative truths, situation ethics, and even feelings*—All of which are **nothing more than shifting sand!**
- b. **There are many Churches who have become CONFUSED and UNCERTAIN when they should be CONFIDENT and BOLD!**
  - 1) **Some are confused and uncertain about WHAT IS RIGHT AND WHAT IS WRONG! But listen, God has told us WHAT IS RIGHT AND WHAT IS WRONG! We just need to read, study, believe, and obey His Word!**
  - 2) **Some are confused and uncertain about WHAT IS IMPORTANT! But listen, God has told us WHAT IS IMPORTANT! We just need to read, study, believe and obey His Word!**
  - 3) **Some are confused and uncertain about WHAT IS TRUE! God has given us the TRUTH! We just need to read, study, believe and obey His Word!**

**In the midst of all the UNCERTAINTIES in both the world and in Christendom there are some certainties for us as TRUE BELIEVERS!**

**1. There Are The Certainties of True Christianity!**

**a. True Christianity was founded on ABSOLUTES!**

Unfortunately, many false teachers have been allowed to creep in to various Churches and are they are the ones who have introduced the uncertainties, the insecurities, and the changing doctrine that is so prevalent in our day and time.

**b. The epistle of 1 John is a CONFIDENT and ABSOLUTE letter!**

It, along with the Gospel of John, are two books that I constantly recommend to new converts to read early in their Christian life and walk.

- 1) The word “*know*” or a form of it appears some 39 times in this book!
- 2) The characteristic noun of 1 John is a word that is translated into our English as both “*confidence*” and “*boldness*.”

3) So, **this book is about being BOLD or CONFIDENT on the basis of what we KNOW!**

**c. There Are Three Purposes Stated For The Epistle.**

**1) So that our joy may be full. (1:4)**

**2) So that we might be obedient. (2:1)**

**3) So that we might be confident of our salvation. (5:13)**

These three purposes are only fulfilled when what we believe is based on what we **KNOW**—That is, **it is based on certainties!**

*There Are The Certainties Of True Christianity!*

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**2. There Are The Certainties Of Christ!**

The first thing God wants each of us to have is a **proper belief or trust in Christ**. Without a proper belief or trust in Christ, there can be no salvation!

**a. John states that Christ has been verified as the Son of God!**

**1) Christ was a historical reality. (1:2)**

There can be no denial of that because the reality of His life is recorded even in the pages of secular history!

**2) Christ was testified to by the Apostles. (1:3)**

Why is this important? Because the Apostles both suffered and died because of their testimony regarding Christ!

**3) Christ is testified to us by the Holy Spirit. (2:20, 27)**

**b. The basic certainty of true Christianity is that the historic Jesus Christ of the Bible is God Who was manifested in human flesh and that He is the Saviour of the world through His death, burial and resurrection!**

**In dealing with the certainty of Christ, the Apostle John gives us some great certainties about the true Gospel Message that is embodied in the Lord Jesus or as he calls Him, “the Word of Life”.**

**Tonight I want us to look at the first great certainty of the true Gospel Message, and that is this--THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS STEADFAST!**

**The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is NOT something that evolves or changes with the times! But rather, the Gospel message is STEADFAST, it is STABLE, it is SOLID, it is UNCHANGING, it is DEPENDABLE!**

**I don't know many other ways I can say it!**

**The Gospel is the IMMOVABLE OBJECT of our salvation that we can DEPEND on!**

**I. UNDERSTAND THAT THE TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE HAS NEVER CHANGED. (Vs 1)**

**A. The True Gospel Was Conceived Before Creation.**

The True Gospel is God's 'A' plan! God never had a plan 'B'!  
*1 Peter 1:20—"Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,"*

**John 1:1-4**

*Revelation 1:8—"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."*

*Revelation 1:18—"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;"*

**B. False Teaching Does Not Change The Truth Of The Gospel!**

The gnostics were trying to introduce new theology to the Church in the Apostle John's days.

Some said that Christ was a Phantom.

Some said that the Christ spirit came upon Jesus at His baptism and departed just before He died.

John was saying they should go back to what they learned when they first heard the Gospel message!

**1. The Warning From Jude 3-4.**

The word "**once**" is translated from a word which means "**once for all.**"

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There will never be another Gospel. There can be only one true faith!

*Hebrews 13:8—“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.”*

**2. The Warning From Paul. (Galatians 1:6-12)**

Judaizers came with what they considered to be extended revelation.

Paul said there is no place for anything but the one, true, pure, unadulterated Gospel!

**3. The Warning From Peter. (2 Peter 3:1-2)**

Peter is saying that he was simply reminding the recipients of this letter of the truths they already knew concerning Christ!

They knew these truths from the Old Testament Scriptures and from the Apostles of Jesus Christ!

*THE TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE HAS NEVER CHANGED!*

**II. THE TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE DOESN'T NEED CHANGING!**

*(1 John 2:2)*

**A. The True Gospel Message Meets Man's Greatest Need!**

It is **THE ANSWER** to our **SIN PROBLEM!**

*(Romans 3:23; 6:23)*

**B. The True Gospel Message Is The Only Thing That Can Meet Man's Greatest Need!**

**1. The Law Could Not Meet Man's Greatest Need!**

*Galatians 3:21-22—“Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law.”*

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*22But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”*

**2. Baptism Could Not Meet Man's Greatest Need!**

All the water in the world is not sufficient to wash away our sins. Because sin is an inward problem that needs an inward cleansing.

**3. Church Membership Could Not Meet Man's Greatest Need!**

Without the true Gospel of Jesus Christ, **ANY CHURCH** is nothing more than a **DEAD ORGANISM** and **ANY RELIGION** is nothing more than a **DEAD RELIGION!**

**4. Religion Cannot Meet Man's Greatest Need!**

*Titus 3:5-6—“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; 6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; ”*

**5. No Other One Could Meet Man's Greatest Need!**

*Romans 5:12—“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”*

*Acts 4:12—“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”*

*John 6:35—“And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life:** he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.”*

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*John 8:12—“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light** of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”*

*John 10:9—“**I am the door**: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.”*

*John 10:11—“**I am the good shepherd**: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.”*

*John 10:36-38—“Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, **I am the Son of God**? 37If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.*

*John 11:25—“Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life**: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:”*

*John 14:6—“Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

*THE TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE HAS NEVER CHANGED!  
THE TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE DOESN'T NEED CHANGING!*

III. THE TRUE GOSPEL MESSAGE WILL NEVER CHANGE!

A. God Will Never Change His Requirements!

*John 3:3—“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*

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*Revelation 21:27—“And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.”*

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

B. God Will Never Change His Righteousness!  
*Romans 10:3-4*

**Conclusion**

If anyone is going to get to heaven, it is going to be because they have heard the Gospel message, and received the Gospel message by believing the Gospel message!

There is NO OTHER WAY than what is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!  
There is NO OTHER TRUTH than what is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

There is NO OTHER LIFE than what is found in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!  
(John 14:6)