

/We will now begin the first lecture on 1 John. /I am Professor Jae Chang Han. /We will begin with the introduction to 1 John. /The author of 1 John is the apostle John. /1 John was written about A.D. 90.

/It was written in Ephesus. /There were three reasons for why John wrote this epistle. /First, it was to warn believers about heretic ideologies at the time. /2:26. /Second, it was to give assurance of eternal life. /5:13.

/Third, it was to give joy to believers. /1:4. /Now, let's go over the main ideas of 1 John. /First, it emphasizes the light and love of God's attributes. /1:5; 4:8.

/Second, it reveals the doctrine of the incarnation of Jesus. /Third, believers must discern the truth from lies through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. /2:21. /Fourth, /the antichrist, who does not acknowledge Jesus, will appear in the end of times. /4:1.

/The title of chapter 1 is, "Spiritual Communication." /Let's look at the main points. /First, the word of life. Verses 1-2. /Second, the purpose of testimony. /Verses 3-4. /Third, walk in the light. /Verses 5-7. /Fourth, /acknowledge one's sins and repent. /Verses 8-10.

/Read verse 1. /That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched-- this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

/The "beginning" does not refer to the time before creation. /This refers to the beginning of eternity. /Thus, there is no beginning or end to this beginning. /The "Word of life" refers to Jesus.

/Jesus the Word /was with God from the beginning. /Christ the Son existed before eternity as the Trinity God. /Jesus was born in the flesh through the line of David. /As the Spirit, Jesus is God who existed before eternity.

/Jesus worked with God the Father when he created the universe. /Christ is called the Word /because the Son, who is the Father God, revealed everything. /Therefore, Christ is the true life.

/Christ is the origin of eternal life. /Christ is Creator of the life of mankind and creation. /We received eternal life through Christ. /The way to God the Father was opened through the eternal life that we received.

/All life cannot exist for even a moment without Christ. /Man's soul will die if cut off from Christ. /His soul lives when he is connected to Christ. /The apostle John saw Jesus with his physical eyes and knew Jesus.

/When Jesus was on this earth, John heard the Lord's word and touched the resurrected Jesus. /Jesus is not a character that appears in legends or fairytales. /Historically, Jesus

was born 2,000 years ago.

/The Lord died on the cross for our sins. /Jesus resurrected and ascended into heaven.
/The apostle John had sure proof. /The apostles saw Jesus in person and received His teachings.

/This was the unique mark of an apostle. /Anyone who did not see Jesus could not become an apostle. /God sent Christ to this earth to give us sure proof of Jesus.

/The Holy Spirit moved the apostles to record what they saw and heard. /This account is the Bible. /The Bible was completed in A.D. 95, and we read, believed, and served Jesus through the Bible.

/Eternal life is in the Bible. /We can find the works of life through the Bible. /John 5:39 says that the Bible is about Jesus.

/Verse 2. /The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

/Jesus, who existed before eternity, /came to this earth in the flesh. /The greatest miracle of mankind is Christ's incarnation. /Jesus is the Word of life who came to this earth in the body of man.

/God came to this earth in human flesh, /and he showed us the way to eternal life. /Christ is the image of the invisible God. /Jesus is the firstborn of God. /Christ is truly God.

/Anyone who has seen Jesus has seen God. /Jesus' incarnation is the greatest miracle of mankind. /A new course of history began through the incarnation of Christ. /We believers experienced the greatest miracle of mankind.

/We believers of the New Testament are participating in what the prophets of the Old Testament did not know or experience. /Therefore, we must be truly thankful for this. /The apostles who saw Jesus the life testified.

/Their testimony is accurate. /Jesus is truly God and truly man who has both divine and human qualities. /Therefore, Jesus was the only one who could atone for the sins of mankind. /Jesus is the only Mediator who can reconcile God and man.

/Jesus was with the Father God from before eternity, /and He revealed Himself. /John 1:18 /John testified with these sure facts. /He delivered life. /We too must have confidence in the salvation of God that is revealed through the Bible, and we must evangelize.

/Verse 3. /We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

/The apostles shared what they saw and heard concerning Christ. /They shared sure facts. /They preached the truth that they saw and heard. /The apostles personally met Jesus and had fellowship with Him.

/The apostles witnessed the Lord's suffering and resurrection. /That is how they were able to boldly testify about the gospel of Christ. /The purpose of evangelism is to reconcile the sinner with God.

/Believers evangelize so that people can have relationships with God. /Those who share and receive the gospel must have a relationship of life. /They become one in Christ through the gospel.

/The gospel is the way for all people to become one in Christ. /Galatians 3:28. /Those who become one in the gospel can have spiritual communication with God. /This is prayer with God.

/Jesus is our Savior and our friend. /He is the Mediator who provided a way for us to God. /There are no requirements in having a relationship with God. /The Father will welcome anyone who goes before the Father in the name of Christ.

/God invited sinners to come to him, and he promised to receive them. /We must develop our relationship with the Lord. /However, God is not with us when we have relationships of the flesh.

/The kingdom of God advances when there is relationship with God and Christ. /God also provides for all our needs in this world. /Our God did not spare his only Son but gave Him up for us.

/God gives us all that we need as we live on this earth. /Our relationship with God is very precious.

/Verse 4. /We write this to make our joy complete.

/Verse 4 tells us the purpose for this letter. /The apostle John wrote about the Word of life. /There is fellowship with the believer. /We are with God /to make our joy complete.

/He began the letter with the Word of life and ended with joy. /There is joy to those who receive the Word of life. /The gospel gives joy and assurance to those who are caught in fear and sadness.

/The gospel gives joy to the souls that are in despair in sin and death. /There is joy when we share the gospel. /There is joy in those who receive the gospel. /Therefore, joy and freedom overflow where the gospel is preached.

/The joys of the flesh are temporary and brief. /The joy that comes from sharing the gospel is eternal joy. /God sees that the feet of those who share the gospel are beautiful.

/Isaiah 52:7 /The disciples returned to Jesus in joy after preaching the gospel.

/This joy cannot be found in the world. /This is perfect joy that cannot be compared to anything. /Just as a man who finds a treasure hides it with joy, /whoever finds the gospel can also find joy.

/The treasure is the gospel. /We can see the faith of the apostle Paul. /After Paul discovered the gospel, he considered all things of the world rubbish. /Moses also considered the gospel more valuable than life in Egypt. /Wisdom, knowledge, and treasures are hidden in the gospel.

/Many fathers of faith received sufferings for the gospel. /They gladly gave up their lives for the gospel. /There is power in the gospel. /There is transformative power in the gospel. /It gives the heart joy.

/The purpose of life changes. /Spiritual eyes are opened, and one is able to see what is eternal. /Peace and joy overflow in the gospel. /Then why is there joy in preaching the gospel? /There are five reasons.

/First, we obey the Lord's Great Commission. /Matthew 28:19-20. /When Jesus began His public ministry, /He told the people to repent for the kingdom of heaven was near.

/During the Lord's three-year public ministry, He healed many who were sick. /He performed many signs. /All this was to preach the gospel. /He told us to believe in Him who is the bread of life.

/The Lord told the disciples to make all nations disciples /before His ascension. /He told them to baptize and teach in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. /This was Jesus' Great Commission. /It is the most important command.

/Second, why is there joy when we preach the gospel? /It is because God's kingdom is advanced wherever the gospel is preached. /God's kingdom is established in families, societies, and nations. /God's kingdom advances through the gospel.

/Third, there is joy because the spirit grows. /It is God's will and Jesus' command that we evangelize. /Believers who obey the Lord's will grow in faith. /Fourth, we have joy because God rejoices in evangelism.

/Luke 15:7. /It says that God rejoices /when the one lost sheep is found. /Fifth, there is joy because evangelism brings spirits to life. /Life in the flesh is short, /but the spirit that is given life never dies.

/Lives are saved when we preach the gospel. /We do not live for temporary joy in the world. /We must enjoy joy when preaching the gospel. /This is stored in heaven, and it is spiritual and eternal.

/We have joy through the gospel, /we enjoy joy as we live by the gospel, /and our joy must be complete by sharing the gospel with others. /Why is there no joy in our lives?

/It is because we chase after the things of the flesh and of the world more than the gospel.
/It is because we live according to own thoughts and will.

/Verse 5. /This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

/Jesus is life and God is our light. /This is not material light but is a spiritual light that is not seen with the eyes. /The apostle John testified that the message he heard from the Lord is the light of God.

/Our God is the light of the Spirit and truth. /He is the light of life and love. /God himself is the light, and God's world is the world of light. /There cannot be even a small bit of darkness in the world of light. /Light and darkness cannot coexist.

/What is darkness? /Greed and sin are of darkness. /Humanism and lies are of darkness. /We cannot be in the light if we remain in darkness. /God shines the light.

/God shines the spiritual light onto believers and guides them. /He teaches us the path we must take. /Even if the road is blocked before us, God will shine the light and show us the way to go. /Believers who received this light can walk down that way with joy.

/God gives us new light to get rid of darkness in our hearts. /Those who remain in that light can overcome trials that are like mountains with faith. /Darkness is cast out wherever the light is.

/In that place, new works of creation take place. /We were created by God's grace and new life. /We must be thankful that we are children of light. /If there is no light there can be no life.

/We exist because of God who is the light. /We received life and eternal life through the light. /We live in this world. /We can escape the powers of darkness. /We sing this in hymns.

/Even when we walk over mountains and through dark valleys, when we walk in the light the Lord is with us. /Ephesians 5:13 says that everything exposed by the light becomes visible. /Those who work in darkness are rebuked, and when they repent they then come before the light.

/We must receive God's word and rebuke of the good conscience with joy. /When we are reproached by our superiors, we can receive the guidance of the light. /The Jews did not repent even after they were rebuked by Stephen, and they did not enter the light.

/The prophet Balaam did not return even after he was rebuked by a donkey. /David sinned

in darkness, /but he returned to the light after hearing the prophet Nathan's rebuke. /Thus, the world of light is where God's word, the Spirit, and the conscience work together.

/Verse 6. /If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.

/Those who claim to have fellowship with God yet walk in darkness are liars. /Just as darkness cannot be with light, /those who have fellowship with God, who is the light, cannot walk in darkness. /2 Corinthians 6:14.

/Those who are in darkness have fellowship with God only with their words. /They are liars who cannot have fellowship with God. /Those who walk in darkness do not live by the truth.

/Those who leave God, who is the light, abide in darkness. /They cannot have fellowship with God who is the light. /Those who do not have true fellowship with God cannot live by the truth. /Those who are in darkness sin.

/God created light. /God sent Jesus the light of the world and changed our dark hearts. /We must become the light in this darkness world.

/We must shine the light on world cultures, economy, art, education, and other fields. /We must shine the light on the powers of darkness. /We must be an example and an inspiration for change.

/Everywhere we go must become places of light. /We must not be in darkness. /We must throw out all actions that oppose the truth.

/Verse 7. /But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

/Just as God is in the light, /we will have true fellowship with one another when we walk in the light. /This is possible because Christ tore down the wall that stood before God and us with His blood.

/To walk in the light means to walk in the truth. /Psalm 119:105 says God's word is light. /This means that righteousness must be accomplished in the truth. /Those who are in the light have fellowship with God.

/How can we walk in the light? /We must repent daily through the word of Christ. /We must throw away the works of darkness. /Our hearts and bodies must become more and more holy.

/Then we must bear fruit of the light, which are righteousness, kindness, and the truth. /The night is deep and the day is near. /Therefore, we must put off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

/Romans 13:12-14 says, /we must put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. /We were originally clothed with darkness. /We still have the corruption of the flesh in us. /The armor of light is the garment of Jesus Christ.

/We must put on the garment of Jesus' love, holiness, and truth. /We must put on the garment of perseverance, obedience, and humility. /We must take off our garments of sin and put on the garment of Jesus. /Those who are in the light act by the light.

/They bear fruit of goodness, righteousness, and holiness. /Darkness comes when we stray from the world of light even for a moment. /Sinful desires always exist in our hearts.

/We must passively overcome sins, and we must actively act in goodness and righteousness. /We are sons of the light, sons of the day. /We must always be awake so that we are not overcome by night or darkness. /1 Thessalonians 5:5-6.

/Verse 8. /If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

/"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." /This was a refute against the wrongful claims of Gnosticism at the time. /Anyone who denies his sins cannot repent and he cannot be saved.

/This is because he is completely corrupted and will not repent until he dies. /Ecclesiastes 7:20. /Only those who recognize his sins and confess can receive the grace of God's salvation.

/Psalm 51:5 says, /"Surely I was sinful at birth, /sinful from the time my mother conceived me." /Our Jesus did not come to this earth to call the righteous. /The Lord came to call the sinners. Matthew 9:13.

/If people were not sinners, there would have been no need for our Jesus to come to this earth. /All adults in the Bible sinned. /Adam, Noah, Abraham, David, Moses, and Peter all sinned.

/They needed Jesus because they were sinners. /Sinners need salvation. /Those who claim to have no sin deceive themselves. /They deceive their consciences and are hypocrites.

/Even a saint like Paul said that he was the chief of sinners. /The Sadducees and Pharisees boasted of themselves and did not believe in Jesus, /and they did not receive salvation.

/Those who claim to have no sin deceive themselves, /and the truth is not in them. /If the truth is not in them, they are of darkness. /They are prideful and hypocritical. /They have no choice but to be ruled by the devil.

/Verse 9. /If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and

purify us from all unrighteousness.

/Those who confess their sins receive salvation and the grace of forgiveness of sins.
/Those who acknowledge that they are sinners /receive Jesus, /and they can receive forgiveness of sins and salvation through the love of the cross of the Lord.

/However, those who hide their sins will not prosper. /Only those who repent of their sins will receive mercy. /Proverbs 28:13. /Even those who have already been saved through faith in Jesus /must repent of their sins daily.

/Jesus spoke to Peter at the Last Supper. /He said that one who has taken a bath needs only to wash his feet. /To “bathe” is repentance at once. /To “wash his feet” is repetitive repentance.

/The apostle Paul repented of the sins he did not know he had. /God’s great grace was upon him at the time. /We are able to repent by the grace of the Holy Spirit God. /Acts 2:38.

/The Holy Spirit must help us recognize /the sins and faults in us and the mistakes of our hearts, words, and actions. /Psalm 51:11 shows that after David sinned, /he prayed that the Lord’s Spirit would not be taken from him.

/God washes away all our sins when we sincerely go before God. /No matter how wicked our sins may be, we will receive forgiveness /when we sincerely repent and believe in Jesus.

/Do you remember the robber who was crucified next to Jesus? /When the robber repented, /Jesus allowed him to enter paradise. /The robber was a thief his entire life, /but when he repented of his sins, /Jesus gave him salvation and forgave him of his sins.

/There is joy in the hearts of those who receive forgiveness of sins. /Acts 3:19 tells us to repent and turn to God so that our sins might be wiped out. /Then the time of refreshing may come from the Lord.

/Verse 10. /If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

/This contrasts with what is written in verse 9. /Those who claim that they have not sinned make God a liar. /God’s word is not in them. /This goes against the teachings of the Bible. /The Bible teaches that all men are sinners.

/Romans 3:10. /There is no one who is righteous. /However, those who claim to have not sinned /cannot receive salvation. /Wicked and dark spirits /and prideful hearts grow far from God.

/God is with /the gentle and humble spirit, and God’s grace is upon him.

/No one can hide his sins. /We cannot hide our sins. /Therefore, God's grace will be upon those who acknowledge and repent of their sins.

/With this we will conclude the first lecture on 1 John. /Thank you.