

First John 1:1-4

- 1) *We are proclaiming* [pres. act. ind. ἀπαγγέλλω] *to you^{pl}* (Greek-speaking Jews)—1:3
 - a) The content of the proclamation—1:3a *what we have seen* [pf. act. ind. ὀράω] *and heard* [pf. act. ind. ἀκούω]
 - i) The incarnation of Jesus Christ that John experienced—1:1
 - What senses were utilized in John’s experience with Jesus Christ? What are the characteristics of the revelation?
 - (1) Stable—¹ *What continually was* [impf. act. ind. εἰμί] *from the beginning*,
 - (a) Used for eternity—2:13, 14; 3:8
 - (b) Used for the beginning of Christianity—2:7, 24; 3:11
 - (2) Audible—*what we have heard* [pf. act. ind. ἀκούω],
 - (3) Visible—*what we have seen* [pf. act. ind. ὀράω] *with our eyes*,
 - (4) Tangible—*what we observed* [aor. dep. ind. θεάομαι] *and our hands touched* [aor. act. ind. ψηλαφάω] *concerning the word of life*,
 - (5) To see, hear, or touch the genuine Christ involves making a judgment about him; it involves reasoning.
 - ii) The life (i.e. Christ) that John experienced—1:2 (cf. John 11:25; 14:6)
 - (1) Reality revealed—² *and the life* (Christ) *was revealed* [aor. pass. ind. φανερόω],
 - (2) Reality observed—*and we have seen* [pf. act. ind. ὀράω]
 - (3) Reality witnessed to—*and are bearing witness* [pres. act. ind. μαρτυρέω]
 - (4) Reality proclaimed—*and are proclaiming* [pres. act. ind. ἀπαγγέλλω] *to you^{pl} the eternal life*,
 - (a) Eternally with the Father—*which was continually* [impf. act. ind. εἰμί] *with* [πρός] *the Father*
 - (b) Revealed in time by the Father—*and was revealed* [aor. pass. ind. φανερόω] *to us*—
 - b) The purpose of the proclamation—1:3b *in order that* [ἵνα] ...
 - i) Horizontal—**you^{pl}** (emphatic) *also may have* [pres. act. subj. ἔχω] *fellowship* [κοινωνία] *with us*,
 - (1) Fellowship—to set aside personal, private interest and desire and to join in with others for a common purpose
 - (2) Vertical—*and indeed our fellowship* [κοινωνία] *is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ*.
 - (3) In one very real sense, Christians can never be out of fellowship with God.
- 2) John’s first purpose for writing—1:4 ⁴ *And these things* (1:1-3) **we** (emphatic) *are writing* [pres. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}*,
 - a) Other purposes: 2:1, 26; 5:13
 - b) Why? *so that* [ἵνα] *our* (John’s and their) *joy may be completed* [periphrastic; pres. act. subj. εἰμί + pf. pass. ptc. πληρόω].
 - i) The assurance of knowing that they possess eternal life would make for completed joy