

EPISTLE OF I JOHN

Two kinds of Evidence

External - Early Christian and secular writers attribute epistle to John from the very first. Clarke

Internal - Expressions and style of writer
Comparison with other works

EPISTLE

GOSPEL

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. v.1. That which was from the beginning | 1. v.1 In the beginning was the word |
| 2. 2:8- I write to you a new commandment | 2. 13:34- A new commandment I give unto you |
| 3. 2:8- The darkness passeth away and the light which is true now shineth. | 3. 1:5 The light shineth in darkness
v.9 That was the true light |
| 3:2 4. We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is... | 4. 17:24- Be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory... |
| 5. 3:8- He who worketh sin is of the devil, for the devil sinneth from the beginning | 5. 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil: He was a murderer from the beginning |
| 6. 4:9 By this the love of God was manifested, that God sent his Son, the only begotten into the world, that we might live through him. | 6. 3:16 |
| 7. 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. | 7. No man hath seen God at any time. |

There are nineteen definite points of comparison such as these, which shows to me beyond any reasonable doubt that John did write this book, whether epistle, as some claim, or treatise.

Another point which Dr. McKnight uses as proof is Demonstrative Prounoun "This"

1. This is the testimony
2. This is the work of God
3. This is the will of him
4. This is the epistle of life
5. This is the commandment
6. This is the victory

7. This is he who came by water

8. This is the promise

In this book the writer does not identify himself either in the beginning or the ending and since an epistle is a letter and considered to be correspondence between one person and others, many do not consider this an epistle, but a treatise on the subject of the divinity and humanity of Jesus, combating false doctrine.

THE EPISTLE

V 1. Beginning - John 1:1

Prov. 8:22 The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: while as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: when he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight rejoicing always before him; Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.

Col. 1:17 And he is before all things and by him all things consist.

Seen with our eyes - Looked Upon

2 Pet. 1:16

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

1 Jno 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the father sent the son to be the savior of the world.

Beheld - in a sense could be same as looked upon

John 1:14 And we beheld (Actually saw ANT) his glory, glory as of the only begotten of the father, full of grace and truth.

Isa. 40:5 And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.....

Matt 17:2 Transfiguration

John 2:11 Beginning of Miracles

John 11:40 Believe and see glory of Lord - to Martha at Death of Lazarus.

2 Pet 1:17 For he received from God the father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.....

Hands handled...

Luke 24:39 invited them to handle hands and feet as proof of resurrection

John 20:27 Invited thomas to reach forth fingers and hands to touch...

Verse 2 Life

Psa 36:9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light

John 1:4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men

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

John 11:25 I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth on me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.....

John 14:6 I am the way the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me....

Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Ijno 5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life
Meaning of what is to have the son of God....

Was Manifested

Rom 16:26 But now is made manifest, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, make known to all nations for the obedience of faith....

1 Tim 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness;
He who was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the spirit,
Seen of Angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the
world, received up in glory....ASV

And great and important and weighty, we confess, is the hidden
truth - the mystic secret - of godliness. He (God) was made
visible in human flesh, justified and vindicated in the (Holy)
Spirit, was seen by angels, preached among the nations (gen-
tiles, KJV), believed on in the world (and) taken up in glory.
ANT

1 Jno 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away sins; and in
him is no sin.

You know that He appeared in visible form and became Man to
take away (upon Himself) sins, and in Him there is no sins -
essentially and forever. ANT

Bear Witness

Luke 24:48 "Ye are witness of these things"... after giving great commission.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come
upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem,
and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part
of the earth. KJV

Isa 52:10 The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the
nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation
of our God.

Matt 28:19 Great Commission

John 15:27 And ye shall also bear witness, because ye have been with me
from the beginning

Acts 1:22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he
was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with
us of his resurrection. (This was reference to the selection of
a man to take the place of Judas Iscariot as an apostle and wit-
ness.)

Rom 10:18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes, verily, their sound went
into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.
(Speaking of the Jews and his desire for them to be saved and
quoting from Psalm 19:5)

- Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we are all witnesses.
- John 19:35 And he that hath seen hath borne witness, and his witness is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye also may believe.
- John 21:24 This is the disciple that beareth witness of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his witness is true.
- Rev 1:2 ...who bare witness of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, even of all things that he saw.
- 3 John 12 ...yea, we also bear witness; and thou knowest that our witness is true.

Show forth unto you eternal life

In setting forth Christ he is setting forth eternal life for without Christ we cannot be saved.

John 17:3 And this is life eternal that they should know thee, the only true God, and him whom thou didst send, even Jesus Christ.

Was with the father

That we have seen - declared - (bore witness - manifested)

That ye may have fellowship with us:----

Us: The Apostles

same belief

same hope

same joy -- arising from this fact that Jesus was on earth in the form of a man.

"HAVE FELLOWSHIP" - means to have anything in common with others - to share with them that common thing.

Fellowship is with the Father

A. John shared - had something in common-with the Father through Christ.

1. There was unity of feeling,
affection
desire
plan, and this was his source of joy
2. He - like God - was concerned with the salvation of men
3. He - as God - loved Jesus the Son, etc.
4. He shared in the plan of redemption.....
5. He had attachment to the same things
loved the same truth
desired the same objects
engaged in same work.

B. Fellowship of Christian with God.

1. Attachment to:
 - same truths
 - same objects
 - same beings - Christ and men - love for
 - love for the same principles
2. Same kind of happiness - degree not same -
happiness of God found in :
 - Holiness, truth, purity, justice, mercy, benevolence.....
3. Employment or cooperation with God -----
 - a. Sphere in which God works alone -
 - 1) Creation
 - 2) Upholding Things
 - 3) Government of Universe
 - 4) Transmission of light from world to world
 - 5) Seasons
 - 6) Rise and set of sun
 - 7) Storms
 - 8) Tides
 - 9) flight of comet
 - b. Sphere in which we can cooperate and he admits us graciously into his cooperation plan - not do for man what man can do for himself.
 - 1) Farmer sows grain
 - 2) Surgeon binds wound
 - 3) Medicine a means to health - God gives
 - 4) Efforts to save our souls and souls of others
 - c. Scriptural proof of the above.
 - 1 Cor 1:9 God is faithful, through whom ye were called into the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
 - John 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; so neither can ye, except ye abide in me.
 - John 17:21 That they may all be one; even as thou Father, art in me and I in thee, that they also may be in us:
 - 1 Jno 4:13 Hereby we know that we abide in him and he is us, because he that given us of his Spirit.
 - 1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow-workers: ye are God's husbandry, God's building. ASV

For we are fellow workmen - joint promoters, laborers together - with and for God.....ANT
 - Mark 16:20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word by the signs that followed.....
 - 2 Cor 6:1 And working together with him, we entreat also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain....
 - 3 Jno 8 We therefore ought to welcome such, that we may be fellow-workers for the truth.....

4. Fellowship by direct communion in Prayer
Meditation
Worship

Joyus thing to worship.....

5. Fellowship with God and Christ at the Judgment.....

2 Thes 1:10 ...when he shall come to be glorified in his saints
and to be marvelled at in all them that believed (be-
cause our testimony into you was believed) in that day....

Matt 19:28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, that ye who
have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man
shall sit on the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit
upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel..

Rev 3:21 He that overcometh, I will give to him to sit down with me
in my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my
Father in his throne.

And with his Son.....

Phil 2:10 Have this mind in you which was also in Christ Jesus
Character, feeling, desire, spirit, plan

Eph 5:32 This mystery is great but I speak in regard of Christ and
the church.....

Col 1:27 ...to whom God was pleased to make known what is the riches
of the glory of this mystery among the gentiles, which is Christ
in you, the hope of glory

Rom 8:10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin;
but the spirit is life because of righteousness.....

V. 5

MESSAGE might be tried to tie in with other passages where message is
used. In most cases it refers to something else.....

Message which generally delivered - Matt 28:18-20 Mark 16:15-16

I Cor 15:1ff

Now I make nown unto you brethren, the gospel which I preached
to you which also ye received, wherein also ye stand, by which
also ye are saved, if ye hold fast the word which I preached
unto you, except ye believed in vain. For I delivered unto you
first of all that which I also received, that Christ died for
our sins according to the scriptures.....

this paul's message in this particular instance
John had a different one at this present time
though in the Long run it was the same.

More specifically

GOD IS LIGHT

Notes on I JOHN, chapter 1, Page 8

GOD IS LIGHT v. 5

Think of God- what is brought to mind???

1. Holy
2. Terror, judgment, wrath, justice, mercy, in old Testament

New Testament

1. Love
2. Purity
3. Kindness, attributes of Christ

Think of Light -

Absence of light is darkness - light was in the beginning.....

Adam sinned - world plunged into darkness of sin -

Fellowship - joy spoken of by John in v 4.---

Darkness of pit with top on - no light
groping around in the dark

Darkness apprehended not the light John 1:1-5

Christ is light - God is Light

purity, truth, knowledge, prosperity, happiness

John 1:4-5

1 Tim 6:16 who only hath immortality, dwelling in light unapproachable;
whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honor and power
eternal.....

NO DARKNESS AT ALL

Absolutely perfect - source of sin & Misery not to be changed to God

V. 6

FELLOWSHIP - notice foundation laid of light and fellowship in verse 3....

WALK IN DARKNESS * ^{here} two cannot agree, house divided, two cannot walk together

2 Cor 6:14f be not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship have righteousness with iniquity? or what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what portion hath a believer with an unbeliever, And what agreement hath a temple of God with idols? for we are a temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in them and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people...

we say one thing - do something else - If we live in sin (darkness) we prove our profession is wrong - false...

WE LIE

DO NOT THE TRUTH

Act in accordance with truth

1. Many living in known sins - professing
 - a. Dark minds - without knowledge
 - b. Do not know peace which passeth understanding

2. Trusting in name Oforms - rituals
 - a. Baptism
 - b. no true fellowship with God at all....
3. Times of depression for all
careso of this life - doubt about salvation

V. 7

WALK IN LIGHT

1. Leading life of purity
 - a. examples - to brethren
 - b. light in world - Mt 5:16
2. In Truth
 - a. in opposition to all error
 - b. clear spiritual truths
- 2 Cor 4:16 Wherefore we faint not; but though our outward man perisheth, our inward man is renewed day by day ...

i Cor 2:9-15

Eph 1:18 having the eyes of your heart enlightened, that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in ~~xxx~~ saints.....

3. Enjoying comforts of religion -
(Some people have just enough religion to make them miserable.)

2 Cor 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort them that are in any affliction, through the comfort wherewith we ~~we~~ ourselves were comforted

13:11 be perfected, be comforted, be of the same mind

John 12:35 Yet a little while is the light among you. Walk while ye have the light, that darkness overtake you not; and he that walketh in the darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.....

FELLOWSHIP ONE WITH ANOTHER -

we shall resemble each other - closeness with Christ, each other

Verse 7

BLOOD OF CHRIST - ~~xxx~~ cleanseth- present tense

Redemption through his blood - Eph 1:17 - Col 1:14

Peace Col 1:20

Justified Rom 5:9

1 Cor 6:11 - washed, sanctified, justified

Heb 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish unto God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

1 Pet 1:19redeemed....not with corruptible things.....

"but with ~~xxx~~ precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ..."

Rev 1:5 "I Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loveth us, and loosed us from our sins by his blood.

No one can be saved without the blood of Christ ---
Acts 20:28

VERSE 8

IF WE SAY WE HAVE NO SIN -

Compare with v. 10 - If we say we have not sinned!

Job 9:2 Truly ~~xx~~ I know it is so, How can a man be just before God.

Job 15:14 What is man, that he should be clean?

Job 25:4 How then can a man be justified with God.

2 Chron. 6:36 - 1 Kings 8:46 "If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not) and thou be angry with them and deliver them to thine enemy.

Prov 20:9 "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, and I am pure from my sin?

Ecc1 7:20 "For there is not a just man upon the earth that doeth good and sinneth not."

Isa 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags - and we all do fade as a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind, have taken us away....

R Rom 3:10 as it is written, "There is none righteous, no not one."
Ps 14:1ff

NOTES ON I JOHN, CHAPTER 1, PAGE 11

Verse 8 continued

Rom 7:21 Ifind then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Gal 3:22 But the scripture hath concluded that ~~xxx~~ all are under sin

POSSIBLY VERSE 8 REFERS TO DOCTRINE OF NICOLAITANS

nothing forbidden to children of God - mentioned Rev 2:6, 16

At our best we need the blood of Christ -

Person told me one time his conscience did not bother him as evidence that he lived above sin.

James 3:2 In many things we all offend" ~~x~~ to stumble, to fall to commit error

When Nicolaitans were persecuted concerning certain things sacrificed to idols, they contended itt would do no harm - that it was indifferent as to whether or not they ate Rom 14 1 Cor 8

to hate their deeds was a sign of lifeamong Christians Rev 2:6 to tolerate was to forfeit glory Rev 2:14-15

Donc

Doctrine of once saved - always saved

1. Rom 8:1 No condemnation

1 Jn 5:4 For whosoever is begotten of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world,even our faith."

1 Jn 5:18 We know that whosoever is begotten of God sinneth not; but he that was begotten of God keepeth himself and the evil one toucheth him not.....

WE DECEIVE OURSELVES

We have not proper insight as to the character of mankind...

TRUTH IS NOT IN US

No one can have the truth of God in him, as has already been demonstrated, and say we do not sin.....

A man will not say tacks don't hurt when he has tacks in his shoes.. we know that if he says tacks don't hurt, he does not have tacks in his shoes....

Verse 9

IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS - Psalm 32:5 Prove 28:13

homologed "To confess, i.e., to admit or declare one's self guilty of what one is accused of..." "To say the same things as another i.e., to agree with, assent." Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon.

As used in:

Matt 10:32 Specific - confess Christ before men

John L;20 He confessed that he was not the Christ - John the baptist

John 9:22 "These things said his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man should confess him to be Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue..."

Verse 9 - continued

John 12:42 "but of the Pharisees they did not confess ~~it~~, lest they should be put out of the synagogue.

Rom 10:9 with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.....

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another and pray one to another

Acts 19:18 Many of them that had believed came, confessing, and declaring their deeds.

Matt 3:6 they were baptized of him in the river Jordan confessing their sins.

Psalm 51

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest and be clear when thou judgest. Behold I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean: wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. O Lord, open thou my lips and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion, build thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shall thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar."

Psalm 32

I HAVE SINNED

Matt 27:4 in that I have betrayed innocent blood

Luke 15:18 prodigal son

We might confess 9(by being prompted??) our acts of kindness, our good deeds, etc

Will we confess our sins? To God? To our brethren?

Why will we not confess our sins to our brethren? James 5:16