

# **THE WORD OF LIFE**

AN INTRODUCTION TO 1,2,3 JOHN

**“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have gazed at, and our hands have handled - concerning the Word of Life!**

**That life was displayed, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and we announce to you the life of God’s coming age, which was with the Father and was displayed to us.**

**That which we have seen and heard, we announce to you too, so that you also may have fellowship with the Father, and with his Son Jesus the Messiah. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.”**

**1 John 1:1-4**

# BACKGROUND

- Written by John, one of the 12 disciples, son of Zebedee, brother of James, friend of Peter.
- 'Disciple who Jesus loved' and a 'son of thunder!'
- Written in Ephesus around 80AD (?) after the gospel of John
- 1 John - Ephesians
- 2 John - Philippians
- 3 John - Colossians

**I** always  
thought that love  
was shaped like a



but  
it is  
really shaped  
like  
this



# STRUCTURE

## Ch 1 & 2

Living in the light

## Ch 3,4 & 5

Living in Love  
(as God's children)

*John 20:31*

*that you might  
**believe** that Jesus is  
the Christ... and in  
believing you might  
have life in his name*

*1 John 5:13*

*so that you may  
**know** that you,  
who believe....do  
indeed have the  
life of the age to  
come.*

JEWISH

“LOW” view of  
the deity of Jesus



GNOSTIC

“HIGH” view of  
Christ's deity



## Verse 1

That which was from the beginning,  
which we have heard,  
which we have seen with our eyes,  
which we have gazed at,  
and our hands have handled -  
concerning the Word of Life!

## Verse 2

That life was displayed,  
and we have seen it, and bear witness,  
and we announce to you the life of God's  
coming age, which was with the Father  
and was displayed to us.

## Verse 3

That which we have seen and heard, we announce to you too, so that you also may have fellowship with the Father, and with his Son Jesus the Messiah.

## **Verse 4**

**We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.**