

  
Gospel of Grace  
FELLOWSHIP

**1 John 1:1-2**

**Jesus Christ Has Come in the Flesh**

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**How to Judge Spirits**

**1John 4:2 (NASB)**  
By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that **confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God**;

**2John 1:7 (NASB)**  
For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those **who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh**. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

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**The Pre-Incarnate Christ**

**1John 1:1a (ESV)**  
That which was **from the beginning** . . .

- “From the beginning” is *apo arche* in the Greek
- The same Greek is found in John 1:1
- The same Greek is found in the LXX of Gen. 1:1; Isaiah 43:13, and Micah 5:2
- Jesus is the eternal Logos

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### The Incarnate Christ Was Seen and Heard

**1John 1:1b (ESV)**

which we have **heard**, which we have **seen with our eyes**, which we looked upon

- “We” denotes the apostles
- This indicates that they are valid eyewitnesses
- What was seen and heard was literal and historical
- There were two or three witnesses which makes their testimony legally valid

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### The Word of Life

**1John 1:1c (ESV)**

and **have touched with our hands**, concerning **the word of life**

- Jesus had a real body (Luke 24:39)
- The eternal Creator is the *Logos*, the word of life
- False teachers wanted to separate Christ from Jesus (see John 20:31)
- Jesus gave the Word and embodies it

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### The Apostles Testify About and Preach Jesus Christ

**1John 1:2 (ESV)**

the life was **made manifest**, and we have seen it, and **testify to it and proclaim to you** the eternal life, which was **with** the Father and was **made manifest** to us

- True life was manifested in history
- Jesus embodies eternal life
- “With” is *pros* which is used in John 1:1
- “Manifested” denotes objective reality

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### Implications and Applications

- Postmodern sensibilities cannot be allowed to alter Biblical standards of evidence
- The Holy Spirit testifies about Christ
- We must reject the cosmic Christ and come to the Biblical One

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### We Must Believe the Biblical Evidence

#### 1Corinthians 15:15-17 (NASB)

Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and **if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless**; you are still in your sins.

- See Luke 24:46-48

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### The Holy Spirit Testifies About Christ

#### John 15:26, 27 (NASB)

“When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify about Me**, and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.”

- This is the key to discerning spirits
- The apostles were eyewitnesses to the Incarnate Christ

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### Come to the Christ of the Bible

**Hebrews 7:26, 27 (NASB)**

For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and **exalted above the heavens**; who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because **this He did once for all when He offered up Himself**.

- See 1Peter 3:18a; Hebrews 9:28

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