

INTRODUCTION

- * Advent - a time to reflect upon the wonder of the incarnation!
- * As the resurrection of Christ is the climax and core of the gospel message, so the incarnation is the foundation and strength of the gospel message.
- * During the advent season, we have considered the impact of the incarnation upon the Revelation of God, Redemption of Man and the Reflection of Christ
- * Today we consider the greatest of these reflection ... our reflection of His gift of eternal life!

INSTRUCTION

I. THE GOAL OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY

- A. **The Description of Your Joy** be full (pf ... that you may be perpetually filled!) ...
- B. **The Inception of Your Joy** (cf. **John 15:10-11**) ... *The Impact of the Incarnation!*
- * Christ came that you might have perpetual joy! ... But that joy is tied to your relationship to Christ (John 15:11) ... It is His joy - in you!
 - * So, in order for you to experience this fulness of joy you MUST be in Christ!

YOUR JOY IS A REFLECTION OF THE JOY OF CHRIST IN YOU!

John knows that those who are in Christ will reflect Him in their lives.

Therefore, he immediately moves into tests of the genuineness of a "believer's" reflection

II. THE GENUINENESS OF YOUR REFLECTION

A. **Walking In Light** (cf. **1 John 1:6-7; 2:3-6; 2:28-3:10; 5:2-5; 5:14-21**) ... Walking in Light = Walking in Obedience to the Commands of Christ

B. Walking In Love

1. CHRIST'S EXHORTATION TO LOVE 2. GOD'S EXAMPLE OF LOVE 3. OUR EXPRESSION OF LOVE

C. Walking In Life

1. CONFIDENCE IN _____ ING

a. The F _____ of Our Confidence

1. THE P _____ E OF GOD (cf. 2:24-27)

2. THE P _____ E OF GOD (cf. 4:9)

b. The E _____ of Our Confidence

1. A WILLINGNESS TO LAY DOWN OUR L _____ (cf. 2:15-17)

2. A WILLINGNESS TO LAY DOWN OUR L _____ (cf. 3:16; Luke 9:23-25)

2. CONFIDENCE IN _____ ING (cf. 5:9-15)

a. The Importance of the T _____ of God (cf. 5:9-12)

b. The Importance of the W _____ of God (cf. 5:13-15; John 14:10-14)

INTROSPECTION

- * HAVE YOU ACCEPTED GOD'S CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOU?
JESUS WAS INCARNATE THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE LIFE!
- * DO YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE?
- * IN WHAT WAY DOES GOD'S PROMISE TO YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFESTYLE?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" ... AND, THEREFORE, ACT?