

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
SERMON NOTES  
SEPTEMBER 08, 2019**

**"1 JOHN: Eye-Witnesses"  
1 John 1:1-4**

It is widely held by most scholars that the Apostle John wrote the book of 1 John while pastoring the church at Ephesus, somewhere around 85 to 90 AD, before he wrote Revelation and Second and Third John, but after he wrote his Gospel.

The book of 1 John – like John's Gospel – deals mainly with giving Jesus center-stage in life and history. John's purpose in writing was to strengthen the faith of the churches, and the younger believers, by emphasizing the deity of Jesus; and, to combat the heresy of Gnosticism, which was gaining a foothold in the early church toward the end of the first century.

1 John 1:1 *"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched--this we proclaim concerning the Word of life."*

1 John 1:2 *"The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us."*

John 1:3 *"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ."*

1 John 1:4 *"We write this to make our joy complete."*

So, first and foremost it is \_\_\_\_\_

**"Always remember this essential truth, to which John bears witness, God has come to us in Jesus Christ. He, alone, is our hope, our joy, our salvation, and our life! He [Jesus] defines our faith... so hold fast to Him!"**