

INTRODUCTION

- * Advent - a time to reflect upon the wonder upon 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 gospel message.
- * 1 Timothy 3:16 "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh (the incarnation), justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory (the resurrection)."
- * During this advent season we will be considering the impact of the incarnation upon our lives through a thematic study of John's first epistle.
- * Today, we begin with his testimony ... which, in turn becomes part of our testimony.
- * This study is crucial. For as we shall see: The validity of our testimony is contingent upon the veracity of God's testimony!

INSTRUCTION**I. THE VERACITY OF THE TESTIMONY OF GOD'S WORK****A. The Deeds of the Son**

1. THE VIRGIN BIRTH (cf. Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:30-35; Matthew 1:18-25)
2. THE INCARNATION OF GOD
 - a. The Testimony of the Presence (cf. Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 48:12-16; Zechariah 2:7-11; 12:10)
 - b. The Testimony of the Authority (cf. Jn 1:1-14; Acts 20:27-28; Rom 9:5; Col 1:15-17; 2:8-10; 1 Tim 3:16; Titus 2:11-13)
 - c. The Testimony of the Love (cf. John 8:23-24, 28, 56-59; 14:6-11)

B. The Deeds of the Antichrists

1. THE MESSAGE OF ANTICHRISTS
2. THE MESSAGE OF ANTICHRISTS

II. THE VERACITY OF TESTIMONY OF GOD'S CALL**A. The Assurance of Our Witness**

1. THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES (cf. 2 Peter 1:16-21; 3:14-18; 2 Timothy 3:14-17)
2. THE INSPIRATION OF THE LETTERS (cf. Matt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8)

B. The Signs of Our Witness (cf. 1:3; 4:14)

1. OUR EVIDENCE (cf. 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 2:15)
2. OUR EVIDENCE (cf. John 15:26-27; Matt 10:19-20; Luke 12:11-12; Rom 10:14-17)

C. The Motives of Our Witness (1:3-4)

1. THAT YOU MAY HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH US
2. THAT YOUR JOY MAY BE FULL

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ABOUT THE BIBLE?
DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE THAT IT IS WITHOUT ERROR?
- * HOW IMPORTANT IS BEING READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO YOU?
ARE YOU WILLING TO COMMIT MORE TIME TO THE STUDY OF GOD'S TRUTH?
- * HOW DO YOU RESPOND WHEN THE ANTICHRISTS COME KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" ... AND, THEREFORE, ACT?