

The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

Why We Write

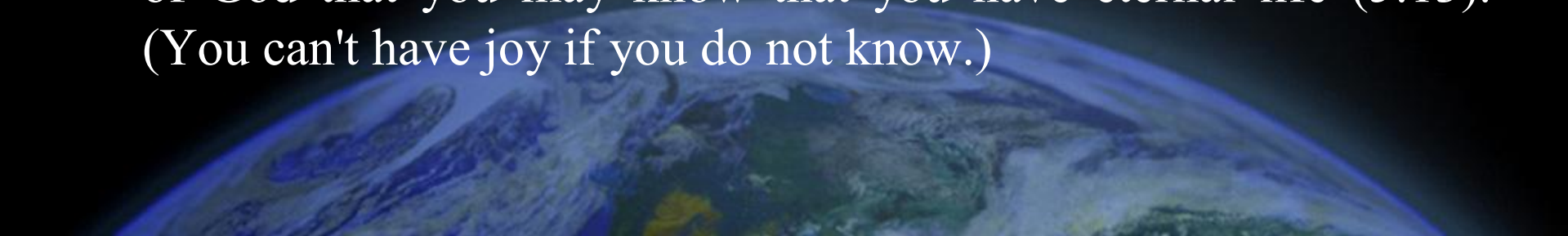
1 John 1:4

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



John Gives Four Reasons Why He Writes These things

Today we will deal with three. Next week we will cover the fourth.

1. **I am writing these things** so that our joy may be complete (1:4).
 2. **I am writing these things** so that you may not sin (2:1).
 3. **I write these things** to you about those who are trying to deceive you (2:26). (You can't have joy if you are deceived.)
 4. **I write these things** to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life (5:13). (You can't have joy if you do not know.)
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I. So That Our Joy May Be Complete

And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete (1:4).



1 John 1:5-10

**Joy is connected to light,
fellowship with him, truth,
and cleansing.**



The 2nd Reason John Wrote
II. So That You May Not Sin



Advocate means lawyer – a person who pleads for or in behalf of another; intercessor; a person who pleads the cause of another in a court of law.



Propitiation means “a sacrifice that bears God’s wrath and turns it to favor.” The sacrifice of Christ is available for the whole world. It is **special** for the elect and **general** for all.



The 3rd Reason John Wrote

III. So You Won't Be Deceived
(Deception will steal your joy.)



The Word “Know.”

The Gnostics were those who were trying to deceive them. The word “know” and “knowledge” are used 36 times in 1 John. The word “confidence” is used 4 times. “Reassure” is used once.



Warning Concerning Antichrists

1 John 2:18 Children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that antichrist is coming, so now many antichrists have come.



Every false teaching has Gnostic notions of dualism.

4:1-3 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God. .

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