

“The Struggle For Confidence”
(I John 1:1-10)

A. Introduction

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| 1. Three things <u>desired</u> : | Three things <u>supplied</u> : |
| a) <u>Happiness</u> | d) <u>Joy</u> (1:4) |
| b) Clear <u>conscience</u> | e) <u>Forgiveness</u> (1:7) |
| c) <u>Confidence</u> | f) <u>Assurance</u> (2:1-2) |
2. Three absolutes
- a) Faith (5:20) – correct theology
 - b) Obedience (2:3) – correct action
 - c) Love (3:14) – correct motivation

B. A Letter Of Confidence – I John

1. Three facts:
- a) Circular letter
 - b) Opposition from without
 - c) Defection from within
2. Three issues:
- a) Division (2:19)
 - b) Elitism (4:6) – Seeds of *gnosticism*
 - c) Human wisdom (2:20, 27)
3. Three results
- a) Faithful
 - b) Secessionists
 - c) Troublers
4. Three reasons for struggles
- a) Attacks from without
 - b) Conflicts within
 - c) Imperfection

C. The Answer From God (4:1)

1. Test of Decision (1:7): Light and Blood
2. Test of Confession (1:6-10; 2:22): Sin and Christ
3. Test of Obedience (2:3-5)
4. Test of Love (4:7-5:3)
5. Test of Abiding (2:24-29)
6. Test of Faith (5:4, 11-13)