

1 John 1:4

by John Gill

The sermon emphasizes the importance of declaring Gospel truths to establish the saints in the faith of Christ's person and offices, leading to spiritual joy and ultimate glory.

Scripture: Psalm 16:11, John 10:10, John 15:11, Romans 15:13, 2 Corinthians 1:24, Galatians 5:22, Philippians 4:4, Hebrews 12:2, 1 Peter 1:8-9, 1 John 1:4

Topics: "Joy in Christ", "Fellowship With God"

Description

John Gill emphasizes the profound truths found in 1 John 1:4, focusing on the deity and humanity of Christ, the eternal life offered through Him, and the fellowship believers share with one another and with God. He explains that the purpose of these declarations is to enhance the joy of believers, which is rooted in their relationship with Christ and the understanding of His redemptive work. This joy is both a present spiritual experience and a future hope of eternal joy in God's presence, reflecting the ultimate goal of the Gospel and the joy of ministers when their congregations are grounded in faith.

Transcript

Ver. 4. And these things write we unto you,....

Concerning the deity and eternity of Christ, the Word and concerning the truth of his humanity, and the manifestation of him in the flesh; and concerning that eternal life and salvation which is declared in the Gospel to be in him; and concerning the saints' fellowship one with another, and with God the Father, and with Jesus Christ:

that your joy may be full; meaning either their spiritual joy in this life, which has Christ for its object, and is increased by the consideration of his proper deity, his incarnation and mediation by a view of free justification by his righteousness, and atonement by his blood; by a sight of his glorious person by faith, and by intimate communion with him, and a discovery of his love, which passeth knowledge: and which joy, when it is large, and very great, may, in a comparative sense, be said to be full, though not absolutely so, and being as much as can well be enjoyed in this state; and nothing can more contribute to it than a declaration of the above things in the Gospel, and an experimental acquaintance with them, and enjoyment of them: or else it may intend the joy of the saints in the world to come, in the presence of Christ, where are fulness of joy, and pleasures for evermore; and so may express the ultimate glory and happiness of God's people, which is the chief end, as of his purposes, promises, and covenant, so of the Gospel, and the declaration of it.

The Syriac version renders it, "that our joy, which is in you, may be full"; it is the joy of the ministers of the word, when the saints are established in the faith of Christ's person and offices, and have communion with him, with which view they declare him, and bear record of him. Some copies read, our joy.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/john-gill/1-john-14/>

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