

## THE ETERNAL LIFE.

1 JOHN I. 1-2.

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The Epistle of John is the eternal life manifested in Jesus, and imparted to us—the life which was with the Father, and which is in the Son. . . . This life is so precious, manifested as it is in the person of Jesus, that the epistle has in this respect quite a peculiar charm. When I turn my eyes to Jesus, when I contemplate all His obedience, His purity, His grace, His tenderness, His patience, His devotedness, His holiness, His love, His entire freedom from all self-seeking, I can say, that is *my* life. This is immeasurable grace. It may be that it is obscured in me; but it is none the less true, that that is *my* life. Oh, how do I enjoy it thus seen! How I bless God for it! What rest to the soul! What pure joy to the heart; At the same time Jesus Himself is the object of my affections, and all my affections are formed on that holy object. And this is morally very important; while it is in *Him*, not in myself that I rejoice and delight. . . .

The law promised life on obedience; but life *came* in the person of Jesus, in all its own divine perfectness, in its human manifestations. Oh, how precious is the truth, that this life such as it was with the Father, such as it was in Jesus, is given to us! In what relationships it sets us, by the power of the Holy Ghost, with the Father and with the Son