

Gospel of John : Purpose - We should Believe & have Eternal Life **John 20:31**

Epistles of John : Purpose - We have Assurance & Knowledge **1 John 5:13**

Gospel : Historical facts - Eternal Life was manifested by the Son of God.

And we may share in that Life . . . by believing. **John 3:16, 6:68, 10:28**

Epistles : Theme is still Eternal Life

- but here it's manifested in us : the children of God

Gospel : John reveals the key = **grace and truth** **John 1:1 & 14**

Epistles : **1 John** will focus on the power of **grace** in the believers life.

**2 & 3 John** will emphasize the necessity of **truth** in a believers life.

Johns Epistles provide both doctrine and duty.

They afford us with both teaching, and a test.

They teach us what eternal life is in the experience of a child of God.

And enable us to test ourselves and know that we have eternal life.

Johns Epistles also emphasize **fellowship**. (an essential, central doctrine)

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Fellowship with God         | <b>1 John 1:3</b>         |
| 2. fellowship with brethren    | <b>1 John 1:7</b>         |
| 3. avoid fellowship with error | <b>1 John 4:1 &amp; 6</b> |

Eternal life is given in Christ, and John highlights Christ's twofold essence : light & love.

Light - **1 John 1:5, 2:20, 2:27** light ~ knowledge ~ truth

Life - **1 Joh 4:7-9 & 20-21** love ~ service ~ grace

In Christ we see: the sunshine of sinless heavenly light and  
the sacrificial service of true selfless love.

Eternal life is grace life . . . it's true life . . . life as God intended it to be. **John 10:10**

reference :

CONCISE SURVEY of the BIBLE, G. Campbell Morgan, 1993, AMG Publ.