

Sunday, November 4, 2018

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Two Things

1 John 1:1-4

(black Bibles page 1021; Children's Bibles page 1521)

Where did the early Christians meet?

- Many places: buildings include Solomon's Portico (Acts 5:12), and also the homes of Christians, often wealthy (Romans 16:5). But Scripture talks little about these meeting places. Why not?

Why is this a strange moment for New Life?

Two things: The Physical World and Personal Contact. Note both in 1 John 1:1-4.

- Mt. Sinai/Horeb background: they didn't see God (Deut 4:15). They heard God but decided they didn't want to, He was terrifying (Ex 20:19). Compare that with our passage!
- This level of physical touch leads John to speak of meaningful personal contact in terms of fellowship with the Son, the Father, and with other people (1 John 1:3).

Should we prefer face-to-face interaction?

- Consider 2 John 12: "Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink. Instead I hope to come to you and talk face to face, so that our joy may be complete." 2 John 12
- Reflections on social media from this

Buildings embody a certain set of *values*.

Hopefully, this campaign is a *catalyst*, not a replacement for 'more spiritual' endeavors!

Final thoughts