

What is the main purpose that the author had in writing 1 John?

1 John is an epistle.

New Testament epistles do two major things:

- They teach
- They exhort

Examples:

Romans

Chapters 1-11 teach

Chapters 12-16 exhort

Ephesians

Chapters 1-3 teach

Chapters 4-6 exhort

Teaching sections consist primarily of verbs in the **indicative** mood.

Exhortation sections consist primarily of verbs in the **imperative** mood.

There is great **consistency** between the teaching and the exhortation.

The teaching changes the hearts of the hearers to prepare them for being obedient to the exhortation.

The letters were originally written **to solve a problem that the original audience had.**

The teaching and the exhortation are both aimed at the problem.

Identify the problem, and you have identified the major purpose the author had in writing the letter.

Occurrences of Verbs in 1 John 1:1-5:21

By Mood

