THE LITERARY STRUCTURE OF 1 JOHN 1:1--5:21

A Manifestation of Messianic Age Life
1:1-4

B Three Witnesses to a Believer's Life
[To deny sin is to make God a liar]
1:5--2:2

C Believers' Love For One Another
2:3-11

D Believers' Victory Over the World
2:12-17

E The Antichrists
2:18-27

F Believers' Confidence Before the Son
2:28-29

G Believers' True Nature Revealed in the Future
3:1-3

X THE SOURCE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND SIN
3:4-10

G' Believers' True Nature Revealed in the Present
3:11-18

F' Believers' Confidence Before the Father
3:19-24

E' The False Prophets
4:1-3

D' Believers' Victory Over the World
4:4-6

C' Believers' Love For One Another
4:7--5:5

B' Three Witnesses to Jesus' Life
[To deny Jesus is to make God a liar]
5:6-12

A' Acquisition of Messianic Age Life
5:13-21