



His Holiness, Pope Tawadros II
Pope of Alexandria & Patriarch of the See of St. Mark



His Grace, Bishop Mina
Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
Diocese of Mississauga, Vancouver and Western Canada

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	4
The Epistle Of St. James	5
Questions On The Epistle Of St. James	10
The 1 st Epistle Of St. Peter	13
Questions On The 1 st Epistle Of St. Peter	18
The 2 nd Epistle Of St. Peter	20
Questions On The 2 nd Epistle Of St. Peter	25
The 1 st Epistle Of St. John	27
Questions On The 1 st Epistle Of St. John	33
The 2 nd Epistle Of St. John	35
Questions On The 2 nd Epistle Of St. John	38
The 3 rd Epistle Of St. John	39
Questions On The 3 rd Epistle Of St. John	43
The Epistle Of St. Jude	45
Questions On The Epistle Of St. Jude	50
The Book Of Revelation	52
Questions On The Book Of Revelation	62
Answer Key	64

Introduction

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit one God. Amen

The Bible is the most important book ever written.

It is an eyewitness account of historical events that shaped the world in which we live.

Without the Bible the world would be completely different.

It is so important to read and understand the Bible.

I thank God for the group of servants in the church of Virgin Mary and St. Athanasius in Mississauga, Ontario, who have worked tirelessly to make this booklet.

This is an excellent tool to make studying the Bible more interesting, enjoyable and easy for children.

Also, this series is so precious because it covers all the 66 books of the Bible and it promises to be both enjoyable and beneficial for children and adults alike.

I encourage each family to obtain these series of books and sit with their children to study the Bible every day.

May God bless all the families and church servants through the intercession of St. Mary and St. Athanasius and the prayers of HH Pope Tawadros the second.

May God bless you.

Bishop Mina
Bishop of Mississauga, Vancouver and Western Canada

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES

WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Epistle to the Hebrews
- Followed by the 1st Epistle of St. Peter

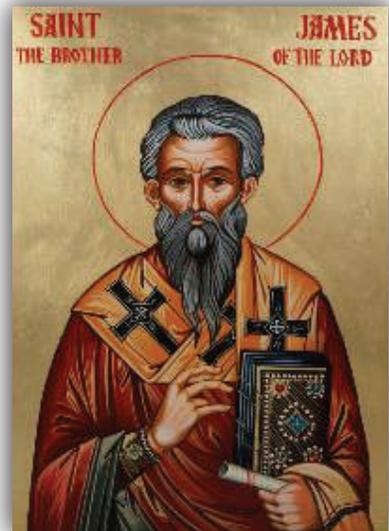


AUTHOR

St. James, the brother of the Lord

AUDIENCE

*The 12 tribes scattered abroad
(the Jewish Christians)*



WHO IS ST. JAMES?

- James, the brother of the Lord, meaning His cousin
- He did not believe in Christ during His time on earth, and then believed in Him after the resurrection.
- Christ appeared to him after the resurrection (1Corinthians 15:7)
- He was ordained a bishop of Jerusalem
- He instituted a Mass that Armenians still pray
- He was called the righteous because he loved worship
- His knees were like the knees of a camel because of his frequent kneeling for prayer
- He was the head of the 1st council in Jerusalem
- St. Paul called him one of the pillars of the church
- The Jews brought him to the wing of the temple and asked him to testify against Christ. He said to them “Jesus is now sitting on the right hand of the Father and He will judge the people”. They were enraged and pushed him down saying “The righteous has gone astray”. He rose on his knees asking God to forgive them. They hurried to stone him, and a man came and hit him with a pestle on the head, so he died right away.
- He was buried near the temple at the place of his martyrdom

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES – CONT.



KEYS

KEY WORDS

Faith and Work

KEY CHAPTER

Chapter 1

St. James reveals our correct response to:

Trials count them all joy

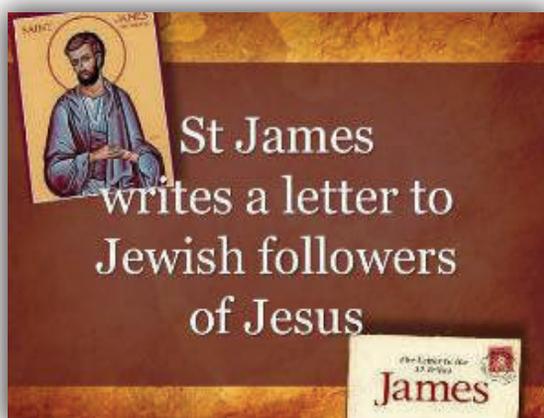
Temptations realize that God is not the source



KEY VERSES

“Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” James 1:19-22

“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” James 2:14-17



PURPOSE

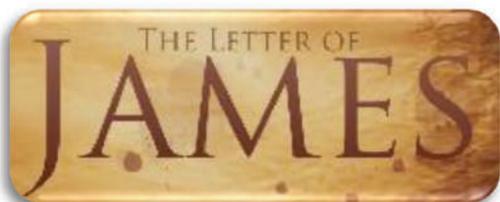
A large number of Christians had left Jerusalem and had gone to live in other countries. St. James wrote to encourage them to hold on to the faith and to endure the pain.

Connecting faith to practical life, it focus on “Holiness of the Christian life”.

KEY THEME

Faith expressed through works

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES – CONT.



OUTLINE

*Benefiting from trials
Trials build character
Ask God for wisdom
Every good gift comes from God*

1- The Test of Faith Chapter 1:1-18

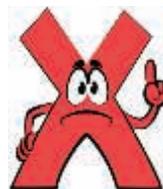
- The purpose of tests
- The source of temptations

2- The Characteristics of Faith Chapter 1:19-5:6

- Faith obeys the word
- Faith removes discrimination
- Faith proves itself by works
- Faith controls the tongue
- Faith produces wisdom
- Faith produces humility
- Faith produces dependence on God

3- The Triumph of Faith Chapter 5:7-20

- Faith endures awaiting Christ's return
- Faith prays for the afflicted
- Faith controls the erring brother



Therefore,
to him who
knows to do
good and does
not do it, to
him it is sin.
James 4:17

BE

- Doers of the word not hearers only
- Humble and submit to God
- Patient and persevering

DO NOT!

- Show partiality
- Judge a brother
- Boast about tomorrow

**HELP
WANTED**

Pray for the afflicted
Bring back the erring one

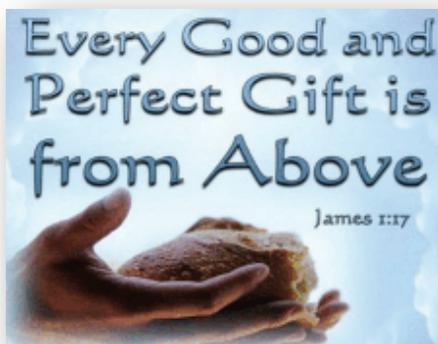
THE EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES – CONT.

SUMMARY



Chapter 1 - Perseverance Through Trials

St. James opens with a greeting and encouragement to remain joyful in the midst of trials because the outcome of this type of testing is perseverance and a mature and complete faith. He confirms that God is faithful and will grant wisdom so we can endure it. He then cautions us that God does not tempt us, rather temptation comes from our own evil desires inside. He then gives instruction about listening and acting according to the Word of God.



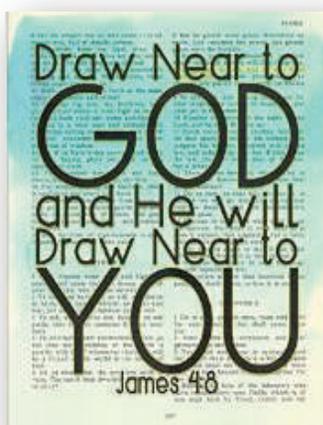
Chapter 2 - Faith and Deeds

St. James gives instructions about being impartial toward people. He instructs not to show favoritism toward individuals who are wealthy because God has chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith. He goes on to build a good case for works of faith. He cites examples from Abraham and Rahab, showing that what they did proved their faith.

Chapter 3 - Taming the Tongue

St. James gives instruction about the dangers of the words we say. The tongue is like a fire that can cause serious problems, beware of it, think before you speak and allow God to give you self-control.

This chapter ends with the definition of the wisdom that comes from heaven.



Chapter 4 - Submitting To God

St. James describes the war that rages between friendship with the world and life in God. He advises to submit to God and resist the devil and his schemes. We are reminded to humble ourselves before God so that He can exalt us. We are also cautioned to take into account the Lord's will when making plans because our time on earth is short and it is God's will that prevails.

Chapter 5 - The Prayer of Faith

St. James opens with a warning about hoarding wealth at the expense of workers. Then he encourages us to remain patient in suffering because the Lord is able to bring us through trials and make everything right. He closes the letter with instructions about praying. We are instructed to pray in faith because *“the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective”*

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES – CONT.

One of the 7 Catholic Epistles in the New Testament

Not addressed to specific churches or individuals they are known as general “Catholic” (universal) epistles.

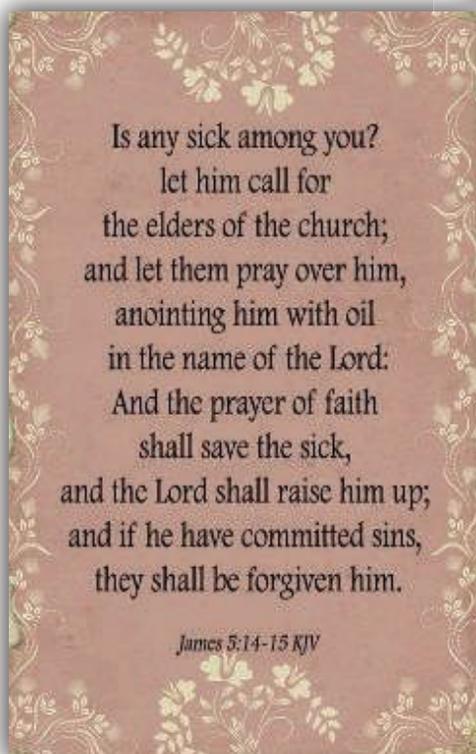
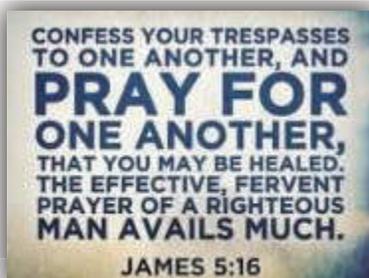
(James, 1,2 Peter, 1,2 and 3 John and Jude)

We read part of the Catholic epistles in the Liturgy after the reading of the Pauline epistles.

NOTES

3 CHURCH SACRAMENTS

- ❖ Confession
- ❖ Unction of the Sick
- ❖ Priesthood



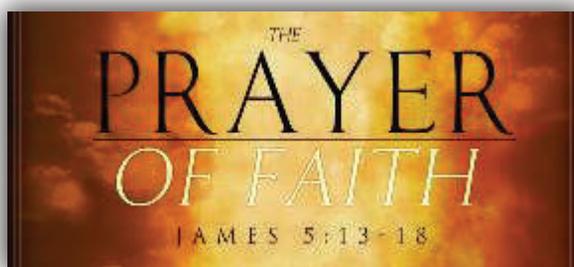
WAR



Comes from desire of pleasure that wars in your members

THE TRUE RELIGION

Praying, fasting, living a holy life, caring for the widows and orphans and giving to the poor



SEEK

HEAVENLY WISDOM

Pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, without hypocrisy

QUESTIONS EPISTLE OF ST. JAMES

Introduction

- 1- In the bible the epistle of St. James is followed by _____
 - a. The epistle of St. Jude
 - b. The 1st epistle of St. Peter
 - c. The 1st epistle of St. John

- 2- The epistle of St. James was the written to _____
 - a. The 12 tribes scattered abroad
 - b. The Gentile in Jerusalem
 - c. The 12 apostles

- 3- All is true about St. James the writer of the epistle EXCEPT _____
 - a. He was the brother (cousin) of our Lord Jesus
 - b. He was the bishop of Jerusalem
 - c. He was the first apostle to be martyred
 - d. He was called the righteous

- 4- St. James (the writer of the epistle) was the head of the 1st council in Jerusalem.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 5- The key words in the epistle of St. James are _____
 - a. Justification and faith
 - b. Faith and work
 - c. Judgement and righteousness

- 6- Which church sacraments are found in the epistle of St. James?
 - a. Baptism, Eucharist and confession
 - b. Priesthood, baptism and Eucharist
 - c. Confession, unction of the sick and priesthood

- 7- The epistle of St. James is one of the 7 Catholic Epistles in the bible.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 8- In his epistle St. James tells us not to _____
 - a. Show partiality
 - b. Judge a brother
 - c. Boast about tomorrow
 - d. All of the above

- 9- In the liturgy we read part of the Catholic Epistles before the Pauline Epistles.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Chapter 1

10- The testing of the faith produces _____

- a. Love
- b. Patience
- c. Sadness

11- If someone lacks wisdom he should ask _____

- a. Other people
- b. The priests
- c. God

12- Fill in the blanks: "Let every man be swift to _____, slow to _____, slow to _____"
James 1:19

- a. Hear, speak, wrath
- b. Act, anger, react
- c. Listen, act, anger

13- St. James explains that God is the source of all temptations.

- a. True
- b. False

Chapter 2

14- Fill in the blank: "Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is _____." James 2:17

- a. Not true
- b. Dead
- c. Not accepted

15- Do demons believe in God?

- a. Yes
- b. No

16- St. James uses the example of _____ showing that they proved their faith.

- a. Abraham
- b. Rahab
- c. Moses
- d. a and b
- e. All of the above

Chapter 3

17- According to St. James, who is the "perfect man"?

- a. The one who does good work
- b. The one who prays all the time
- c. The one who does not stumble in word

18- St. James compares the tongue to _____

- a. A fire
- b. A knife
- c. A well of water

19- According to St. James the human wisdom is _____

- a. Earthly
- b. Sensual
- c. Demonic
- d. All of the above

Chapter 4

20- According to St. James, God resists the proud and gives _____ to the humble.

- a. Joy
- b. Grace
- c. Riches

21- Fill in the blank: "Draw near to Go and He will _____." James 4:8

- a. Forgive you
- b. Save you
- c. Draw near to you

22- St. James says that our life is like _____

- a. A vapor
- b. A dream
- c. A fire

Chapter 5

23- St. James uses the example of _____ to show the outcome of patience.

- a. David
- b. Joseph
- c. Job

24- St. James says that the prayer of a righteous man is _____

- a. Better than the prayer of the sinner
- b. Powerful and effective
- c. a and b

25- How can we cover a multitude of sins?

- a. By turning a sinner from the error of his way
- b. By not telling anyone
- c. By ignoring them

THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER

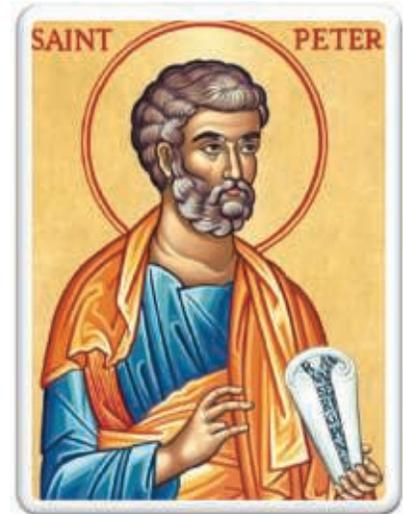
WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the Epistle of St. James
- Followed by the 2nd Epistle of St. Peter



AUTHOR

St. Peter, the apostle



AUDIENCE

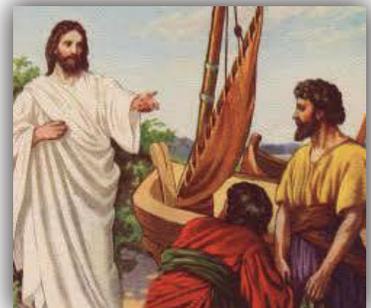
The Christians living in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia in Asia Minor who were scattered because of the persecution.

WHO IS ST. PETER?

- His first name was Simon son of Jonah
- His brother Andrew, was the one who brought him to our Lord Jesus
- He was from Bethsaida
- He was a fisherman
- He was one of the twelve disciples of our Lord Jesus
- He was of the inner circle of 3 disciples along with St. James and St. John
- Our Lord called him Cephas meaning “Rock”
- After his serious failure of denying Christ, he went to become an elder and key leader in the early church
- He preached his famous sermon on the day of the Pentecost
- He was a prominent figure in the first half of the Book of Acts
- According to the tradition he was crucified upside down in Rome

ST. PETER IN THE GOSPEL

- He asked to walk on the water
- He was the first to confess Christ
- He asked Jesus to wash his hands
- He defended Jesus with his sword
- He was the first disciple to enter the empty tomb
- He ignored the seriousness of the moment by going fishing



THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.

KEY WORD

Suffer

KEY CHAPTER

Chapter 4

Talks about how to handle persecution and suffering caused due to Christian Testimony:

- Christ's suffering to be our model
- We rejoice because we can share in His suffering

KEY VERSES

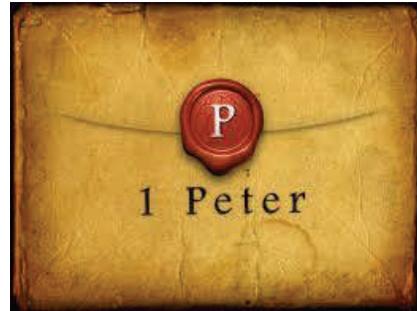
“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” 1Peter 1:6,7



KEY THEME

Salvation and Hope

KEYS



“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.” 1Peter 4:12,13

PURPOSE

It was written to the expatriate Christian believers in Asia Minor who were scattered because of the persecution.

- To strengthen their faith
- To put in them the spirit of hope
- To encourage them to accept the pain for the hope of the heavenly inheritance.

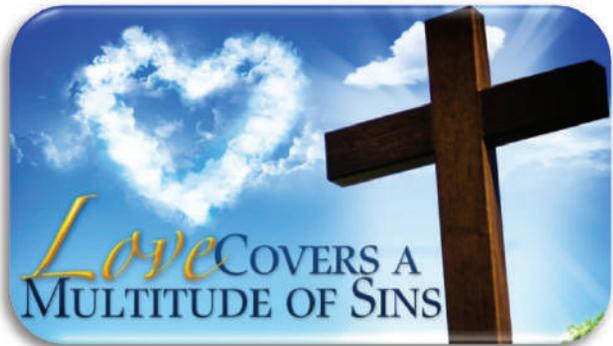
THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.



OUTLINE

Part one: Salvation of the Believers Chapters 1:1-2:12

- 1- Salutation
- 2- Salvation of the Believers
 - Hope for the future
 - Trials for the present
 - Anticipation in the past
- 3- Sanctification of the Believers
 - “Be Holy”
 - “Love one another”
 - “Desire the pure milk of the word”
 - “Offer up spiritual sacrifices”
 - “Abstain from fleshly lusts”



Part two: Submission of the Believers Chapters 2:13 – 3:12

- 1- Submission to the Government
- 2- Submission in Business
- 3- Submission in Marriage
- 4- Submission in All of Life

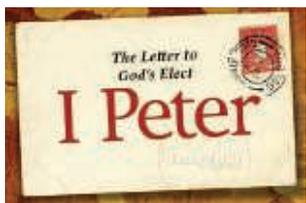
Part three: Suffering of the Believers Chapters 3:13- 5:14

- 1- Conduct in Suffering
- 2- Commands in Suffering
- 3- Minister in Suffering
 - Elders, shepherd the flock
 - Saints, humble yourselves
- 4- Benediction



- | Greetings 1:1-2
- | Call to Holiness 1:3- 2:12
- | Call to Submission 2:13 – 3:7
- | Call to Suffering 3:8 – 4:19
- | Exhortations 5:1-11
- | Final Greetings 5:12-13

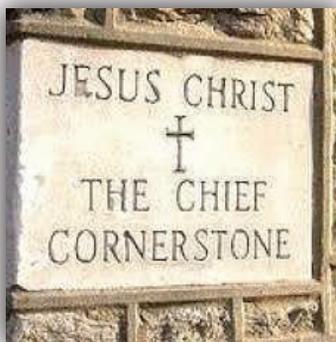
THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.



SUMMARY

Chapter 1 - Living Hope & Sure Salvation

St. Peter opens with greeting. He says that suffering will prove genuine faith. He also reminds that the prophets searched intently for the time and circumstances of Christ, they were not serving themselves but us when speaking of this **Great Salvation**. Therefore we are reminded to be holy and love each other deeply because we were purchased with a very high price; **the Precious Blood of the Lamb**.



Chapter 2 - Living as God's Chosen People

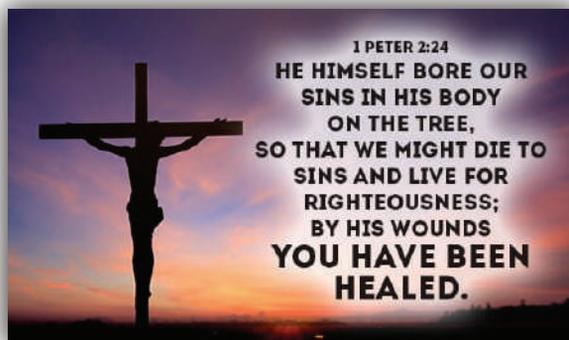
St. Peter begins by showing how we are being built into a spiritual house with the **Lord Jesus as the Cornerstone**. He says we are a “chosen people. Because of this we are to live as strangers in this world, living good lives so that others will see and glorify God. We are instructed to submit to those in authority over us; we are to follow the example of Christ.

Chapter 3 - Godly Living

St. Peter starts with advice for husbands and wives. He then encourages us to live in harmony with one another. We are to set aside Christ Jesus as Lord and always be ready to give an answer for this **Hope we have in Him**. Then we are reminded to keep a clear conscience at all times even when suffering unjustly.

Chapter 4 - Suffering as Christians

St. Peter reminds that the end is near; we are to be clear minded so we can pray. We are encouraged to love each other deeply and serve each other. We rejoice in suffering because we are Christians because it is evidence that we bear **the Name of Christ**.



Chapter 5 - Final Greetings

St. Peter closes with instructions to leaders, reminding them to be good shepherds. We are encouraged to be self-controlled and aware that the enemy is looking to devour; however the remedy is to **Resist and Stand Firm in Faith**. He ends with a reminder that the God of all grace will restore all things and make us strong, firm and steadfast.

THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.



All Catholic Epistles revolve around tribulations and the holy life.

FEATURES

- Teaches practical faith in all aspects of our life
- It quotes a lot from the Old Testament because St. Peter is the apostle of the Jews.
- It quotes a lot of the sayings of our Lord Jesus as St. Peter was an eyewitness who saw and heard the Lord himself.

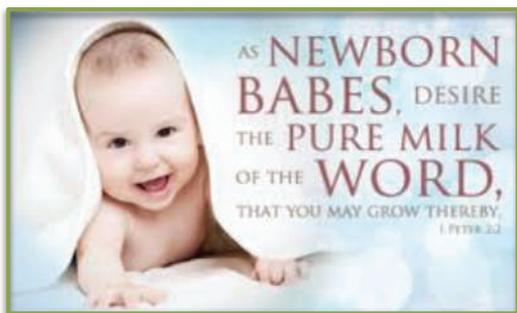
It has 2 sides:

A Theological side: To be believed

A Practical side: To be lived

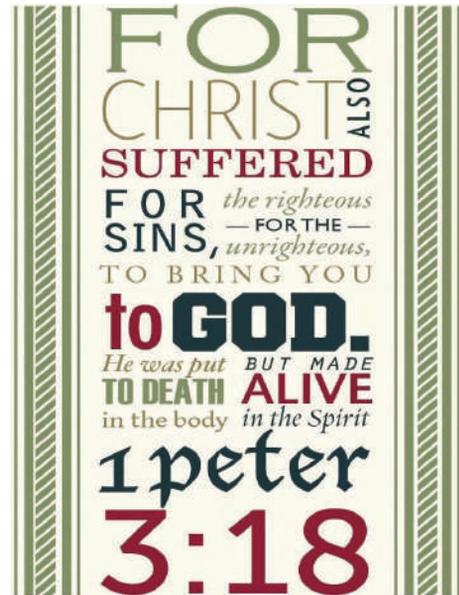
DID YOU KNOW?

- 1st Peter is deeply rooted in the Old Testament, it contains more Old Testament reference than any other New Testament book.
- It emphasizes Christ's sufferings mentioning them in every chapter
- It has lots of similarities between St. Peter's speech on the day of the Pentecost



NOTES

Written during the persecution of Nero (54-68 AD). It was a time when converting to Christianity was considered a crime.



It mentions Noah's Ark as an anti-type for Baptism



CONTENT

Chapter 1: Salvation and Pain
Chapter 2,3: Practical Relationship with Christ
Chapter 4: Pain and Holiness
Chapter 5: Ecclesiastical Conduct

QUESTIONS 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. PETER

- 1- In the bible the 1st epistle of St. Peter is preceded by _____
 - a. The epistle to the Hebrews
 - b. The 3rd epistle of St. John
 - c. The epistle of St. James

- 2- The audience of the 1st epistle of St. Peter is _____
 - a. The converted Gentiles in Jerusalem
 - b. The Christians living in Asia Minor
 - c. The Christians in Rome

- 3- All is true about St. Peter EXCEPT _____
 - a. He was a fisherman
 - b. He was from Bethsaida
 - c. He was one of the 12 disciples of the Lord Jesus
 - d. He was beheaded in Rome

- 4- What does the name Cephas mean?
 - a. Rock
 - b. Thunder
 - c. Mountain

- 5- St. Peter was in the inner circle of disciples with _____
 - a. St. James
 - b. St. John
 - c. a and b

- 6- In the gospels St. Peter _____
 - a. Asked to walk on the water
 - b. Defended Jesus with his sword
 - c. Asked Jesus to wash his hands
 - d. All of the above

- 7- St. Peter wrote the 1st epistle to the believers to _____
 - a. Strengthen their faith
 - b. Put in them the spirit of hope
 - c. Encourage them to accept the pain
 - d. All of the above

- 8- The theme of the 1st Epistle of St. Peter is _____
 - a. Confession and repentance
 - b. Salvation and hope
 - c. Justification and grace

- 9- Fill in the blanks: “That the genuineness of your _____, being much more precious than _____ that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to _____, honor, and glory at the _____ of Jesus Christ” 1 Peter 1:7
- Faith, gold, praise, revelation
 - Hope, silver, praise, coming
 - Faith, money, exalt, return
- 10- St. Peter confirms that we were purchased with the precious blood of the Lamb.
- True
 - False
- 11- St. Peter shows that we are built into a spiritual house with the Lord Jesus as _____
- The basis
 - The cornerstone
 - The foundation
- 12- St. Peter explains that we have to be ready to give an answer for _____
- The reason we believe in Jesus Christ
 - The purpose of suffering for the name of Christ
 - The Hope we have in Jesus Christ
- 13- St. Peter explains that to resist the enemy we have to stand firm in the faith.
- True
 - False
- 14- The 1st epistle of St. Peter quotes from _____
- The Old Testament
 - The sayings of our Lord Jesus
 - a and b
- 15- St. Peter mentioned _____ as an anti-type of baptism.
- Circumcision
 - Noah’s ark
 - None of the above

THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. PETER

WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

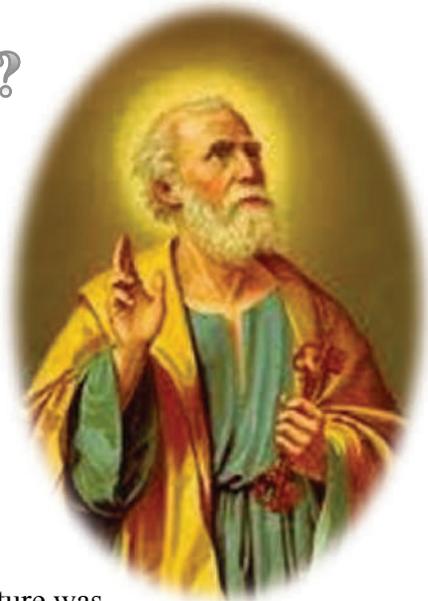
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AUTHOR

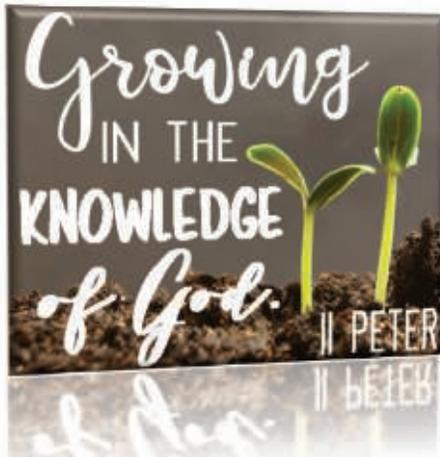
St. Peter, the apostle

AUDIENCE

Written to the believers in Asia Minor
(Same as the 1st Epistle)



As the Lord announced to St. Peter that his departure was imminent, he sent his farewell to Christians everywhere, telling them about the longings of his heart, "the Kingdom of the Heaven and the final coming of the Lord Christ."



He clarified that waiting for the Kingdom of the Heaven drives the believer to live a life of holiness and to reject heresies.

He mentioned that he was with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration.

He urged the believers to:

- Hold fast to the faith
- Understand the reality of the second coming of Christ

In this letter St. Peter is concerned about false teachers infiltrating the believers and introducing destructive heresies as well as immoral behaviour. He stresses many times that knowledge of our Lord Jesus combats these ideas.

THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.

KEY WORDS

Guard against false teachers

KEY CHAPTER

Chapter 1

Defining the relationship between God and man
on issue of inspirations



KEY VERSES

“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but **holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**”

2 Peter 1:20,21



KEYS



*Focus on internal
opposition and false
teachers*

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness.”

2 Peter 3:9-11

*Assurance of salvation “Christians
are partakers of the divine nature”*

THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.

2 PETER

OUTLINE

Cultivation of Christian Character Chapter 1

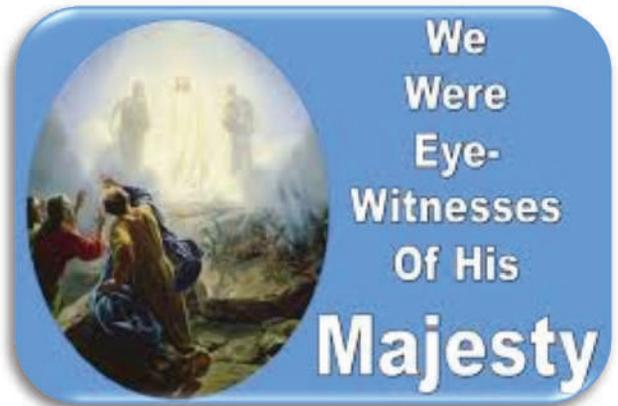
- a. Salutation
- b. Growth in Christ
- c. Grounds of Belief
 - Experience in the Transfiguration
 - Certainty of the scriptures

Condemnation of False Teachers Chapter 2

- a. Danger of False Teachers
- b. Destruction of False Teachers
- c. Description of False Teachers

Confidence of Christ's Return Chapter 3

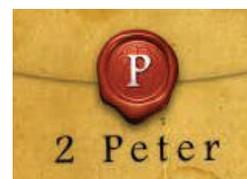
- a. Mockery in the Last Day
- b. Manifestation of the Day of the Lord
- c. Maturity in view of the Day of the Lord



- Chapter 1
The Kingdom of Heaven
Chapter 2
The False Teachers
Chapter 3
The coming of Christ*

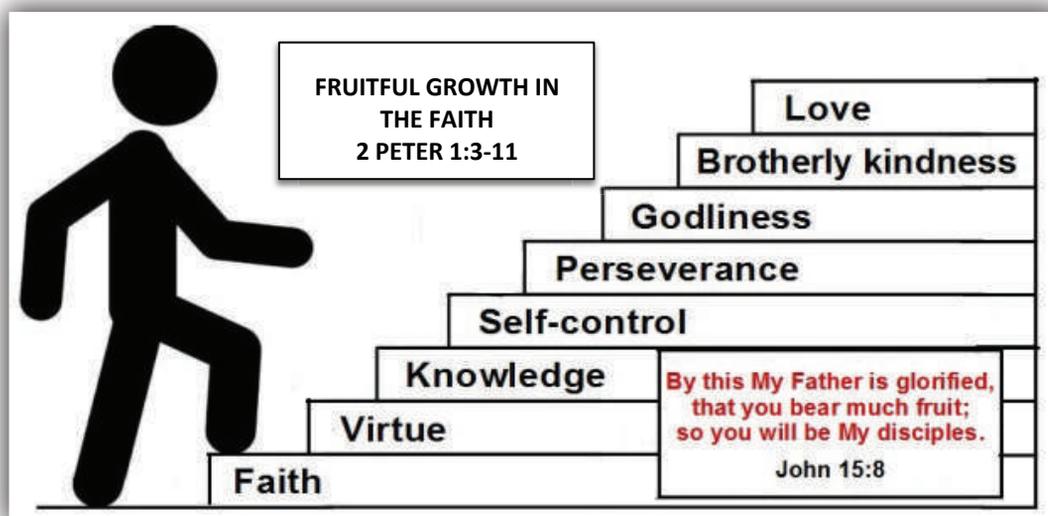
THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.

SUMMARY



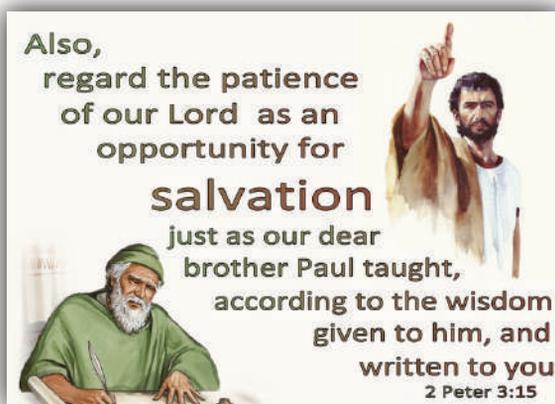
Chapter 1 - A Sure Salvation

St. Peter opens with a greeting. He reminds us that we have been given great promises to help us live godly lives and escape the corruption of the world. We are urged to progress in our knowledge of God so that we will be effective and productive. He was an eyewitness of Christ's majesty and was with Him on the sacred mountain (Transfiguration). He confirms that all prophecy of scripture has come by inspiration of the Holy Spirit.



Chapter 2 - Beware of False Teacher

St. Peter is warning that false prophets and teachers will try to secretly introduce destructive heresies. He recounts many stories of how God rescues the righteous while holding the unrighteous for the day of judgement. He warns that false teachers promise freedom but are themselves slaves to depravity. We are warned to be on guard.



Chapter 3 - The Lords Return

St. Peter starts by clarifying ideas around the Lord's second coming. Scoffers were creating controversy because it had not happened. He addresses the reasons and speaks of what will happen to the earth in final days. He closes the letter reminding us to live holy and godly lives looking forward to that day.

THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. PETER – CONT.



One of the Catholic Epistles

St. Peter wrote it in the year 68 AD just before his martyrdom in Rome.

NOTES



1 Peter

- Hope in the midst of suffering
- Comforts the believers
- The day of salvation
- Christ redemption
- We need hope to face trials
- Similarities to St. Paul's letters

2 Peter

- The danger of false teachings
- Warns the believers
- The day of coming back
- Christ power
- We need knowledge to face error
- Similarities with St. Jude's letter



Similarity between 2 Peter chapter 2 and the Epistle of St. Jude.

They are both warning against being led by modern heresies, and encourage the believers to hold on to the sound faith once delivered to the saints.

“But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.” 2 Peter 3:8

MAIN THEME

- God's revelation of truth in the bible is reliable and trustworthy
- It is essential that Christians reject false teachers and teaching that deviate from what the prophets and apostles have written
- Christians must never doubt that Christ will return
- This eschatological hope must lead to godly living

QUESTIONS 2nd EPISTLE OF ST. PETER

- 1- In the bible the 2nd epistle of St. Peter is followed _____
 - a. The epistle of St. Jude
 - b. The 1st epistle of St. John
 - c. The epistle to the Romans

- 2- The audience of the 2nd epistle of St. Peter are the Christians living in Asia Minor.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 3- St. Peter urges the believers to _____
 - a. Hold fast to the faith
 - b. Understand the reality of the 2nd coming of Christ
 - c. a and b

- 4- St. Peter was not with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 5- Fill in the blanks: “For _____ never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the _____.” 2 Peter 1:21
 - a. Scripture, Spirit of God
 - b. Prophecy, Holy Spirit
 - c. Holy books, Holy Spirit

- 6- In the 2nd epistle of St. Peter, He reminds us that _____
 - a. We have given great promises to help us live godly lives
 - b. We have to progress in our knowledge of God
 - c. a and b

- 7- St. Peter is warning that false prophets introduce destructive heresies.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 8- Fill in the blank: “Consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is _____” 2 Peter 3:15
 - a. Hope
 - b. Redemption
 - c. Salvation

- 9- 2 Peter chapter 1 defines the relationship between God and man on _____
 - a. The problem of Justification
 - b. The issue of inspirations
 - c. None of the above

- 10- There is a similarity between 2 Peter chapter 2 and the Epistle of St. Jude.
 - a. True
 - b. False

11- St. Peter was martyred in _____

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Rome
- c. Asia Minor

12- Scoffers were creating controversy because the day of the Lord had not happened yet.

- a. True
- b. False

13- According to St. Peter what combats the destructive heresies?

- a. The continuous prayer
- b. The knowledge of our Lord Jesus
- c. a and b

14- Fill in the blanks: “But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a _____ years, and a _____ years as one day.” 2 Peter 3:8

- a. Million, million
- b. Hundred, hundred
- c. Thousand, thousand

15- St. Peter wrote his 2nd epistle few years before his martyrdom.

- a. True
- b. False

THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN

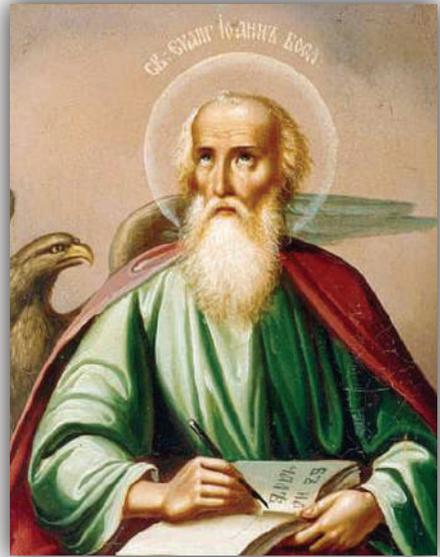
WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the 2nd Epistle of St. Peter
- Followed by the 2nd Epistle of St. John

AUTHOR

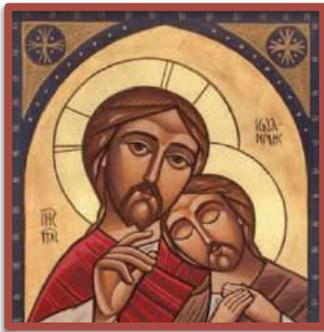
St. John the Beloved

He wrote it to the Universal Church of Ephesus. At the end of the first century, after the destruction of Jerusalem, after he wrote his gospel, and before writing the Book of Revelation.



WHO IS ST. JOHN?

- He was the son of Zebedee and Salome
- He was a disciple of John the Baptist
- He was a fisherman
- He was the brother of St. James (together known as the Sons of Thunder)
- He was in Jesus' inner circle, together with St. Peter and St. James
- His name means "God is gracious"
- He was the only disciple who followed Jesus to the Cross



- Jesus entrusted him with His mother at His Crucifixion
- He was the bishop of 7 churches in Asia Minor
- He was exiled to the Island of Patmos
- He returned to Ephesus, where he died around the year 100 AD
- He is the only apostle who was not martyred
- Always referred to as "the disciple whom Jesus loved"
- He wrote the Gospel according to St. John, 3 Epistles and the Book of Revelation

THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.

KEY WORD

Fellowship



KEYS

KEY CHAPTER

Chapter 5

Faith to overcome



KEY VERSES

“That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.” 1 John 1:3,4

“And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.” 1 John 5:11-13

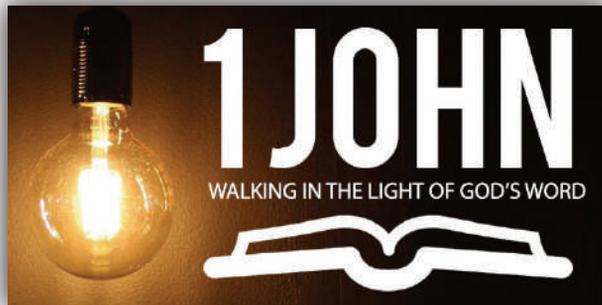
THEME



Another prominent theme is LOVE appeared more than 35 times

- Chapter 1- The Divine Incarnation and Love
- Chapter 2- The Light and the Love
- Chapter 3- Sonship to God and Love
- Chapter 4- Discernment and Love
- Chapter 5- Faith and Love

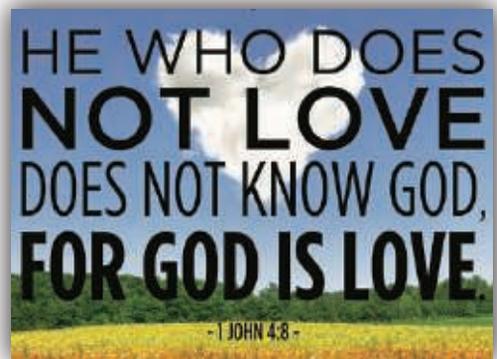
THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.



OUTLINE

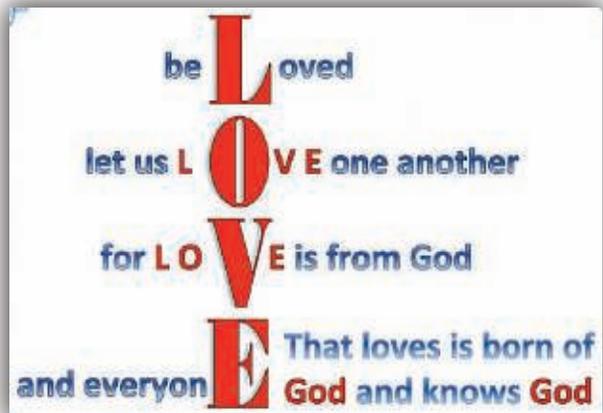
Part one: The Basis of Fellowship - Chapters 1:1 -2:27

- 1-Introduction
- 2-The Condition of Fellowship
 - Walk in the light
 - Confession of sin
 - Obedience to His commandments
 - Love for one another
- 3- The Cautions of Fellowship
 - Love to the world
 - Spirit of antichrist



Part two: The behavior of Fellowship - Chapters 2:28 – 5:21

- 1- Characteristic of Fellowship
 - Purity of life
 - Practice of righteousness
 - Love in deed and truth
 - Testing the spirits
 - Love as Christ loved
- 2- Consequences of Fellowship
 - Victory over the world
 - Assurance of salvation
 - Guidance in prayer
 - Freedom from habitual sin



Invitation to Joy 1:1-4
Walk in the Light 1:5-2:29
Walk in Love 3:1-4:19
Walk in Faith 5:1-12

*...And the blood of Jesus
Christ His Son cleanses us
from all sin. (1 John 1:7)*

THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.



SUMMARY

Chapter 1 - The Word of Life

St. John opens with a reminder that he witnessed first hand everything being declared about Jesus, the Word of life. He reminds us that eternal life comes only through the Son, who was with the Father in the very beginning. He also reminds us that true believers walk in the light and cannot remain in darkness because the Son lives in them and purifies them from all sins. He confirms that God is faithful to cleanse us from sin when we confess.

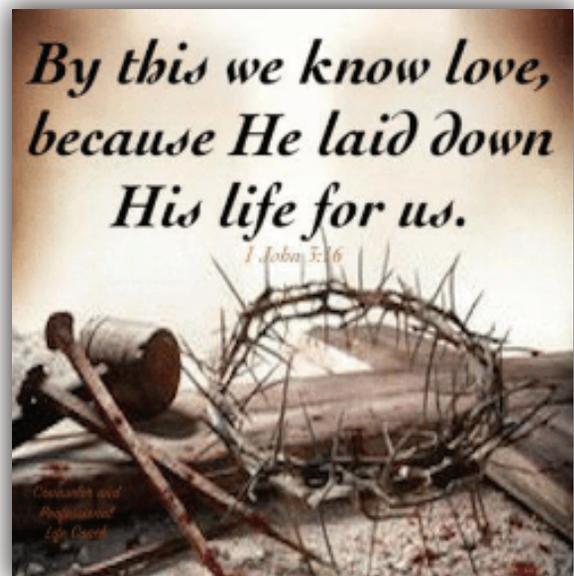


Chapter 2 - Christ is Our Advocate

St. John reminds us of our advocate in Jesus, who was the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the entire world. True believers should keep His commandments and love one another. He tells us not to love the things of the world, because they will pass away. He ends with warnings against antichrists who denied Jesus as the Christ. He reminds twice that believers have the Holy Spirit to remind them of the truth and to teach them in all things.

Chapter 3 - Obedience & Love

St. John starts with a reminder of the greatness of God's love toward us in making us His children. Then he gives reasons not to sin. Our Lord Jesus takes away our sins and destroys the devil's work. St. John notes that true children do not continue to sin because they have been born of God. He ends with a reminder to follow in Jesus' example of love.



THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.



SUMMARY

Chapter 4 - The Need For Sound Doctrine

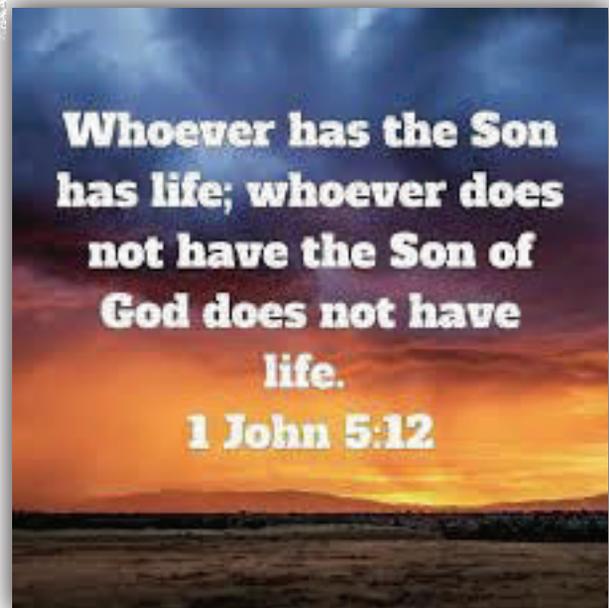
St. John encourages the testing of every spirit to see if it is from God.

What later became known as Gnosticism was infiltrating the church denying that Jesus has come in the flesh. St. John encourages us to test these teachings, learning to recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood. He then switches gears reminding us to love one another. He who does not love does not know God for God is love. He who loves God must love his brother also.



Chapter 5 - Overcoming the World

St. John explains that everyone born of God overcomes the world. This victory comes from faith. He then moves on to reassure us of the promise of eternal life in Christ. He reminds us that we have confidence before God and that we can ask Him anything according to His will and He will hear and answer us. He closes by saying that the Son living in us gives us understanding so that we may know what is true.



St. John makes reference to a “mortal sin”. Given the context, he is probably referring to the sin of the false teachers who reject Jesus and refuse to repent.

THE 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.

UNIQUE FEATURES

- No salutations or signature or greetings
- No reference to persons, places or events
- No direct quotation from the Old Testament
- It highlights 3 characteristics of God
 - He is Light 1:5
 - He is Righteousness 2:29
 - He is Love 4:8-16

NOTES



One of the Catholic Epistles

THE TRINITY



“For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit”

1 John 5:7

PURPOSE

At the end of the first century the second generation Christians were no longer debating whether to observe Jewish laws that was a fiery issue for the first generation believers. New Christians face a movement that denies that Jesus came in the flesh.

To counter this heresy St. John insists with his very first sentence that Jesus was indeed human. He writes this letter to

- Encourage the church to remain faithful to the basics of Christianity
- Warn against false teachers who have gnostic ideas that reject the incarnation
- Emphasize the fundamentals of genuine faith translated into practical love for God and to one another

Similarities with the Gospel of St. John

- Both contain some Greek phrases that are unique to them e.g. “Take away the sin” “Has sin” “keeps the commandments”
- Both have same theological teachings
 - God sent His only Son to take away the sins of the world
 - The Word was with the Father from the beginning
 - The incarnation of the Word gives life to the believers
 - The devil is called the father of many sinners
 - Love is the most important characteristic of the believers

- *That your joy may be full*
- *That you may not sin*
- *That you may avoid the deceivers*
- *That you may know that you have eternal life*

QUESTIONS 1ST EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN

- 1- In the bible the 1st epistle of St. John is preceded by _____.
 - a. The epistle to the Galatians
 - b. The epistle of St. James
 - c. The 2nd epistle of St. Peter

- 2- St. John wrote the 1st epistle before writing his gospel.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 3- All is true about St. John EXCEPT _____.
 - a. He was the son of Zebedee
 - b. He was a fisherman
 - c. He was the brother of St. Andrew
 - d. He was the only disciple who followed Jesus to the cross

- 4- St. John name means _____.
 - a. God is gracious
 - b. God is love
 - c. God is Holy

- 5- St. John was exiled to the island of _____.
 - a. Malta
 - b. Patmos
 - c. Samos

- 6- Beside his gospel and the epistles St. John wrote _____.
 - a. The book of Acts
 - b. The book of Revelation
 - c. a and b

- 7- St. John was the only apostle who was not martyred.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 8- Fill in the blank: “And these things we write to you that your ___ may be full” 1 John 1:4
 - a. Love
 - b. Faith
 - c. Joy

- 9- Fill in the blanks: “And this is the testimony: that God has given us _____, and this life is in _____.” 1 John 5:11
 - a. Salvation, Jesus Christ
 - b. Eternal life, His Son
 - c. Forgiveness, believing

- 10- Fill in the blank: “He who does not love does not know God for _____” 1 John 4:8
 - a. God is love
 - b. God loves us
 - c. Love is from God

11- St. John reminds us that _____

- a. Eternal life comes only through the Son
- b. True believers walk in the light
- c. God is faithful to cleanse us from sin when we confess
- d. All of the above

12- The antichrists are those who denied Jesus as the Christ.

- a. True
- b. False

13- St. John says that true children of God do not continue to sin because _____

- a. Jesus died on the cross for us
- b. They have been born of God
- c. None of the above

14- The Gnosticism believed that Jesus has come in the flesh.

- a. True
- b. False

15- Fill in the blank: "He who has the Son has _____" 1 John 5:12

- a. Salvation
- b. Joy
- c. Life

16- The unique features of the 1st epistle of St. John are _____

- a. No salutations or signature of greetings
- b. No reference to persons, places or events
- c. No direct quotation from the Old Testament
- d. a and b
- e. All of the above

17- According to St. John, the characteristics of God are _____.

- a. He is light
- b. He is righteousness
- c. He is love
- d. a and c
- e. All of the above

18- St. John wrote the 1st epistle to _____.

- a. Warn against false gnostic teachings
- b. Warn against following Jewish tradition
- c. a and b

19- Fill in the blank: "For there are three that bear witness in heaven: _____, _____, and _____" 1 John 5:7

20- The gospel of St. John and 1 John have the following theological teachings _____

- a. God sent His long Son to take away the sins of the world
- b. The Word was with the Father from the beginning
- c. The incarnation of the Word gives life to the believers
- d. Love is the most important characteristic of the believers
- e. All of the above

THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN

WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

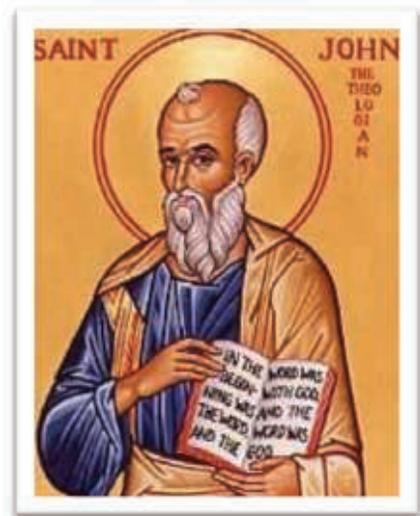
- Preceded by the 1st Epistle of St. John
- Followed by the 3rd Epistle of St. John

AUTHOR

St. John the Beloved

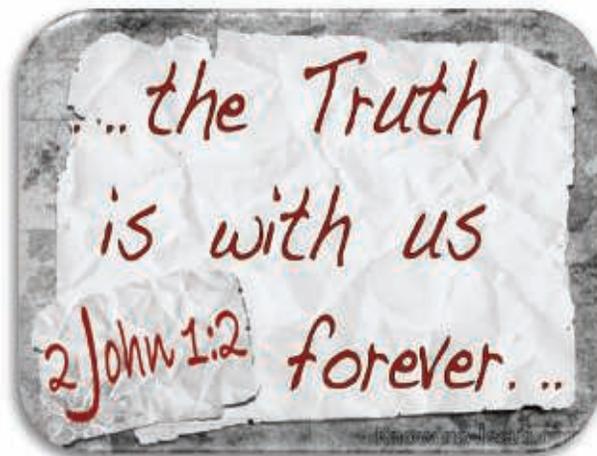
Written from Ephesus

Addressed to an elected lady and her children



Use Discernment in Hospitality

St. John starts with a greeting to an elected lady and her children. He opens with instructions to be obedience to God's command, which is to walk in love. He then gives a warning against welcoming false teachers into their homes; teachers who deny Jesus Christ as coming in flesh. Hospitality is expected of her, but it is okay to use judgment against those who are seeking to destroy the faith. He closes the letter by expressing his desire to come and visit to further discuss these things.



A successful Christian

- *Walks in Truth*
- *Loves the Truth*
- *Abides in the Truth*
- *Welcomes the Truth*

THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.

KEY WORDS

Truth and Love

KEY VERSES

“This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.” 2John 1:6



THEME

Steadfastness in the practice of purity of the apostolic doctrine that the reader has heard from the beginning and avoid fellowship with false teachers.

2 PARTS

- Asking them to continue to walk in love
- Exhorting them to be discerning in their expression of love

KEYS



“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him.” 2John 1:9,10



THE 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.



Walking in the Truth

NOTES

One of the Catholic Epistles

OUTLINE

1- Abide in God's Commandments
Verses 1-6

2- Abide not with False Teachers
Verses 7-13

DID YOU KNOW?

- It is the only New Testament book addressed to a woman
- It is the only New Testament book beside 1 John to use the term "antichrist"
- St. John called himself "the Elder"
- The word "truth" appears 5 times in the first 4 verses
- It is one of the shortest letters in the New Testament

It is written to warn against the corruption influences of false teachers denying the reality of Christ's humanity and to encourage Christians to love in the truth

SIMILARITY BETWEEN 1&2 JOHN

- Purpose that our joy be full
- Revolve around love
- Contain practical behavior that accompany the true faith
- Warn about the danger of false teachers who deny the incarnation of Our Lord Jesus

This letter closes with St. John's explanation of its brevity. He anticipates a future visit during which he will be able to "speak face to face" with the readers.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God the Father
and from Jesus Christ,
the Father's Son, will be with us
in truth and love.
2 John 1:3

QUESTIONS 2ND EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN

- 1- In the bible the 2nd epistle of St. John is followed by _____
 - a. The 2nd epistle of St. Peter
 - b. The 3rd epistle of St. John
 - c. The epistle of St. Jude

- 2- The 2nd epistle of St. John was written from _____
 - a. Rome
 - b. Patmos
 - c. Ephesus

- 3- St. John wrote the 2nd epistle to _____
 - a. The Gentiles in Jerusalem
 - b. An elected lady and her children
 - c. His disciples everywhere

- 4- Fill in the blanks: “This is _____, that we walk according to His _____.” 2 John 1:6
 - a. Love, commandments
 - b. Faith, teachings
 - c. The truth, words

- 5- Fill in the blanks: “He who _____ in the _____ of Christ has both the Father and the Son.” 2 John 1:9
 - a. Follows, commandments
 - b. Abides, doctrine
 - c. Believes, teachings

- 6- St. John in his 2nd epistle is warning them against welcoming false teachers in our homes.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 7- In the 2nd epistle St. John is _____
 - a. Asking them to continue to walk in love
 - b. Exhorting them to be discerning in their expression of love
 - c. a and b

- 8- The 2nd epistle of St. John is the only New Testament book that uses the term “antichrist”.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 9- The 1st and 2nd epistles of St. John are similar in _____
 - a. Revolving around love
 - b. Warning about the danger of false teachers
 - c. All of the above

- 10- Fill in the blanks: “Grace, mercy and _____ will be with you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in _____.” 2 John 1:3
 - a. Peace, truth and love
 - b. Love, faith and truth
 - c. Truth, love and faith

THE 3RD EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN

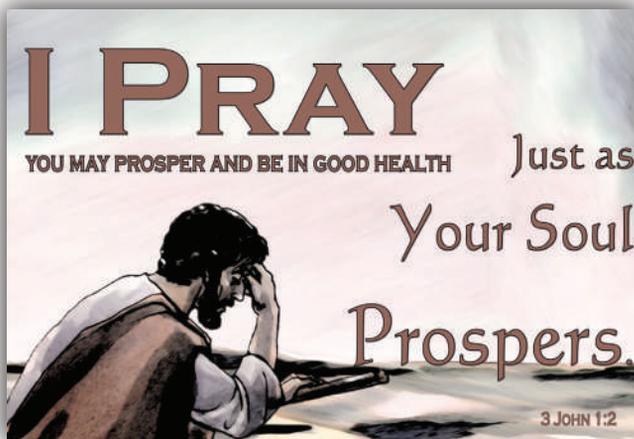
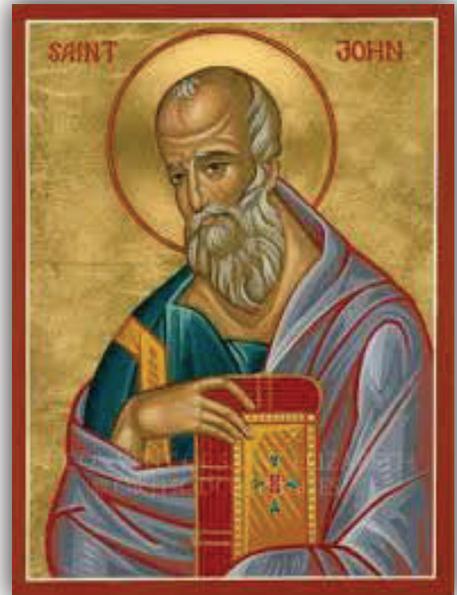
WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the 2nd Epistle of St. John
- Followed by the Epistle of St. Jude

AUTHOR

St. John the Beloved

He sent this letter to the beloved Gaius. Gaius was a wealthy person known for his hospitality especially for the servants of the church.



St. John opens with a personal greeting to Gaius. He then commended him for his faithfulness in opening his home to welcome traveling teachers of the church.

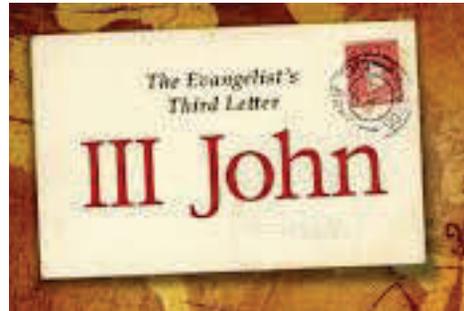
St. John praises Gaius and Demetrius for “*walking in truth*”. He wrote that nothing gave him more joy than to see Christians walking in truth and acting faithfully. Next, He criticized the destructive behaviour shown by Diotrephes who was spreading lies about him out of pride and discouraging anyone from accepting or accommodating any of the brethren of the church. St. John closes his letter expressing a desire to come to them and talk face to face.

THE 3RD EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.

KEYS

KEY WORDS

Hospitality- Truth



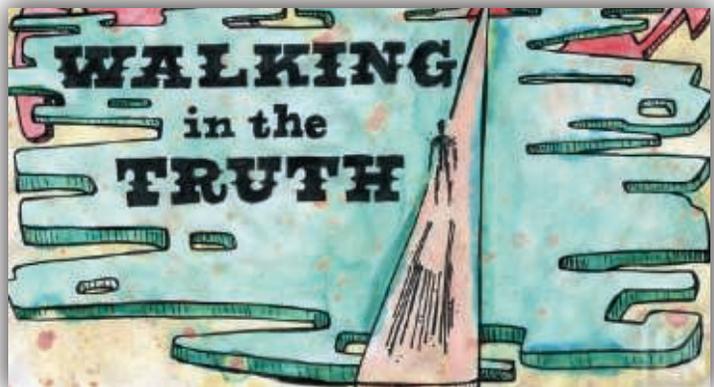
KEY VERSES

“Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers.”
3John 1:5

“Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.” 3John 1:11

THEME

The proper standards of Christian hospitality

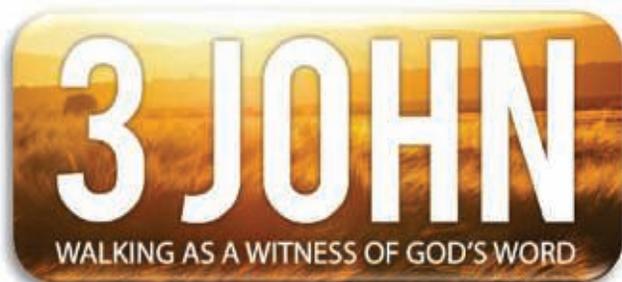


PURPOSE

- To praise Gaius and Demetrius for their faithful service.
- To encourage Gaius, who showed the proper hospitality
- To condemn Diotrephes selfish actions

*Stress the theme of enjoying and continuing to have fellowship with fellow believers.
The honest servanthood of Gaius in contrast with the selfishness of Diotrephes*

THE 3RD EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.



OUTLINE

1- Commending Gaius Chapter Verses 1-8

- a. Salutation
- b. Godliness of Gaius
- c. Generosity of Gaius

2- Condemnation of Diotrephes Verses 9-14

- a. Pride of Diotrephes
- b. Praise for Demetrius
- c. Benediction

CONTENT

- Gaius who is walking in the truth
- Diotrephes the arrogant servant
- Demetrius the honest servant
- Conclusion



THE 3RD EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN – CONT.



One of the Catholic Epistles

It is a very affectionate letter “dear friend” or “beloved” - repeated 4 times
It stresses the importance of following the truth - repeated 5 times

GAIUS

The name Gaius was mentioned many times in the New Testament.

- 1 - Gaius of Derbe (Acts 20: 4).
- 2 - Gaius the Macedonian (Acts 19:29).
- 3 - Gaius who was baptized by St. Paul (1 Corinthians 1:14).
- 4 - Gaius of Corinth, St. Paul’s host (Romans 16:23).

NOTES

Big Ideas in 2 & 3 JOHN

Watch out for false teachings

Truth matters

Loving others proves allegiance to Christ

Hospitality among Christians is vital

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN 2 & 3 JOHN

In both letters St. John addresses the idea of hospitality.

- 2 John verse 1 and 3 John verse 1
- 2 John verse 4 and 3 John verses 3-4
- 2 John verse 12 and 3 John verses 13-14

They were written around the same time

2 & 3 John are the shortest epistles in the New Testament.

QUESTIONS 3rd EPISTLE OF ST. JOHN

- 1- In the bible the 3rd epistle of St. John is followed by _____
 - a. The 1st epistle of St. Peter
 - b. The epistle of St. Jude
 - c. The book of Revelation

- 2- Gaius was _____
 - a. A wealthy person
 - b. Known for his hospitality
 - c. a and b

- 3- St. John commended Gaius for _____
 - a. Opening his home to welcome traveling teachers of the church
 - b. Donating money to the poor and the needy
 - c. Preaching and teaching the gospel in the churches
 - d. All of the above

- 4- Whom did St. John praise for acting faithfully?
 - a. Diotrefes
 - b. Demetrius
 - c. a and b

- 5- Who was spreading lies about St. John?
 - a. Demetrius
 - b. Diotrefes
 - c. None of the above

- 6- Fill in the blanks: “Beloved, you do _____ whatever you do for the brethren and for _____.” 3 John 1:5
 - a. Honestly, the believers
 - b. Justly, everyone
 - c. Faithfully, strangers

- 7- Fill in the blanks: “Beloved, do not imitate what is _____, but what is _____.” 3 John 1:11
 - a. Evil, good
 - b. Lie, truth
 - c. False, true

- 8- Fill in the blank: “He who does evil has _____.” 3 John 1:11
 - a. No truth in him
 - b. Not seen God
 - c. Deny the faith

- 9- The 3rd epistle of St. John is considered one of the shortest book in the New Testament.
 - a. True
 - b. False

10- Fill in the blank: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children _____" 3 John 1:4

- a. Love each other
- b. Walk in the truth
- c. Believe in the gospel

11- The key word (s) in the 3rd epistle of St. John is _____

- a. Truth
- b. Hospitality
- c. a and b

12- The 2nd and 3rd epistle of St. John were written around the same time.

- a. True
- b. False

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JUDE

WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- Preceded by the 3rd Epistle of St. John
- Followed by the Book of Revelation



*The last of the Catholic Epistles
Written before the destruction of Jerusalem
Directed to churches in Asia Minor*

AUTHOR

St. Jude

WHO IS ST. JUDE?

The brother of St. James (writer of St. James epistle)
The cousin of our Lord Jesus

It was written to address false teachings and to illustrate a contrast between the error of heresy and the truth of Jesus Christ.

Heresy was disturbing the churches and deceiving the believers.

The intruders teach that Christians can sin without risking their salvation because God has already forgiven their sins past, present and future. They practiced what they preached by boldly indulging their lusts.

In a concise sermon drawn from the Old Testament St. Jude reminds them that God has a long and consistent history of punishing those who persistently sin.

He refers to all of the apostles and disciples in the past, which had warned about false teachers and prophets that were coming to deceive. His advice is to focus on Jesus Christ and to watch out for each other so that no one is misled into error.

He concludes with a powerful and reassuring benediction that promises believers that God can keep them from giving in to the heresy and preserve them for heaven, where they will stand in the presence of the Lord.

CONTEND
FOR THE FAITH
JUDE 1

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JUDE – CONT.

KEYS

KEYWORD

Keep

KEY PHRASE

Keeping the faith once delivered to the Saints

KEY VERSES

“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.” Jude 1:3

“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.” Jude 1:24

KEY THEME

- Christians need to defend the doctrines of the faith.
- False teachers may be identified by their immoral character.
- God will judge false teachers.
- Saints must endure to be saved.
- As God grants mercy to those who are called, they must show mercy to others.
- God grants the grace to ensure that His people will persevere.

*“May mercy, peace,
and love be
multiplied to you.”
Jude 1:2*



“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.” Jude 1:20, 21

The Importance of the Epistle

1- It reveals the Holy Trinity

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

- “In God the Father we are called saints”
- “In Christ Jesus we will be saved”
- “Praying in the Holy Spirit “

2- Ecclesiastical life

Encourages the ecclesiastical life as a strong support in our spiritual struggle

- “I am writing to you about common salvation”

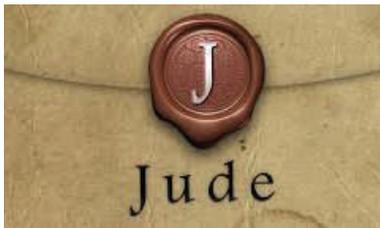
3- Biblical life

Refers to events in the Old Testament to teach us

Unbelief leads to:

- Dreams and illusions (8)
- The impurity of the body (8)
- Underestimating the authority of the Church (8)
- Slandering the Shepherds (8)
- Pride (9)
- Corruption (10)
- Violence and hatred for the brothers (10)
- Search for material benefit (10)
- Resisting the Lord and deceiving Him (10)

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JUDE – CONT.



OUTLINE

The Letter of
Salvation

- 1- Purpose of Jude Verses 1-4**
- 2- Description of False Teachers Verses 5-16**
 - Past Judgment of False Teachers
 - Present Characteristics of False Teachers
 - Future Judgment of False Teachers
- 3- Defense Against False Teachers Verses 17-23**
- 4- Doxology of Jude Verses 24- 25**

CONTENT

Verses 1-16
Warning of Apostates
Verses 17-25
Advice to Believers

SECTIONS

- 1- Salutation
- 2- Instruction to keep the right faith
- 3- Examples of deviation from the faith
 - Israel rebellion
 - Fallen angels
 - The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah
- 4- Characteristics of false teachers
- 5- Prophecies about false teachers (Enoch and the apostles)
- 6- Conclusion

PURPOSE

To encourage the believers to keep the faith once delivered to the saints
To tell them about the judgment of the wicked both humans and angels
To warn the Church against false teachers who:

- Corrupt the faith
- Deny the existence of God the Father and the Lord Jesus
- Slander angels
- Are arrogant and do not submit to the Church
- Seek their own pleasure and lusts
- Are selfish do not seek what is for others



THE EPISTLE OF ST. JUDE – CONT.

Refers to three eternal things:

- *Eternal life V. 21*
- *Eternal restrictions V. 6*
- *Eternal fire V. 7*

Confirms

- The final judgment. It is terrifying for the wicked, glorious and joyful to the children of God.
- The last coming of Christ among thousands of His saints

NOTES



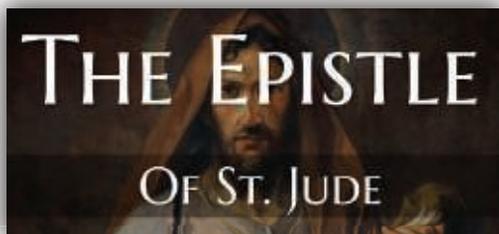
DID YOU KNOW?

- The letter of Jude is the most general letter in the New Testament, it emphasizes the relationship between right believing and right living.
- Jude is the only New Testament book devoted exclusively to confronting **apostasy**.
- The epistle is full with historical illustrations from the Old Testament.
- St. Jude used nature to illustrate the futility of the false teachings.
- It is the only biblical reference to:
 - The dispute over Moses' body
 - The prophecy of Enoch
- It is the fourth shortest New Testament Book (Philemon, 2,3 John are shorter)



St. Jude's original intent for his letter was to discuss truths of the common salvation that both Jews and Gentiles received. But he was led of the Spirit to exhort believers to defend the truth and contend for the faith.

THE EPISTLE OF ST. JUDE – CONT.



NOTES

OLD TESTAMENT IN JUDE

St. Jude does not quote the Old Testament directly, but used obvious allusions to it.

- Israel's rebellion v 5 - Numbers 12 and 26
- Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed v 7 - Genesis 19:24
- Satan rebuked v 9 - Zechariah 3:2
- Concealing the body of Moses v 9 - Deuteronomy 34:5,6
- Balaam v 11 - Numbers 22
- Korah v 11 - Numbers 16
- Cain's sacrifice v 11 Genesis 4
- Enoch v 14 with Genesis 5:18



JUDE AND 2 PETER

Comparing the Greek text portions of 2 Peter 2:1–3:3 (426 words) to Jude 4–18 (311 words) results in 80 words in common and 7 words of substituted synonyms.



Example of denying the faith

- *Angels: Not keeping grace - Pride.*
- *Israel: lack of belief.*
- *Sodom: Impurity and corruption.*
- *Cain: Rebellion (self-will).*
- *Balaam: The love of money.*
- *Korah: Lust for power, and rebellion against the church order.*

The epistle condemns the practices of heretical teachers in the church and counsels the readers to stand firm, grow in the faith and contend the truth.

QUESTIONS EPISTLE OF ST. JUDE

- 1- In the bible the epistle of St. Jude is preceded by _____
 - a. The epistle of St. James
 - b. The 1st epistle of St. Peter
 - c. The 3rd epistle of St. John

- 2- The epistle of St. Jude was written _____
 - a. During the destruction of Jerusalem
 - b. Before the destruction of Jerusalem
 - c. After the destruction of Jerusalem

- 3- St. Jude was the cousin of our Lord Jesus.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 4- False teachers were saying that Christians _____
 - a. Do not have to be baptised
 - b. Can sin without risking their salvation
 - c. Have to follow all the Jewish rituals

- 5- Fill in the blanks: "I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to _____ earnestly for the _____ which was once for all delivered to the _____." Jude 1:3
 - a. Deal, faith, Christians
 - b. Struggle, truth, believers
 - c. Contend, faith, saints

- 6- Fill in the blank: "But you, beloved, _____ your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit." Jude 1:20
 - a. Building yourselves up on
 - b. Remain faithful to
 - c. Keep yourselves in

- 7- St. Jude wrote his epistle to _____
 - a. Encourage the believers to keep the faith
 - b. Tell them about the judgment of the wicked both humans and angels
 - c. Warn the Church against false teachers
 - d. All of the above

- 8- St. Jude warns that false teachers _____
 - a. Corrupt the faith
 - b. Deny the existence of God the Father and the Lord Jesus
 - c. Are arrogant and do not submit to the Church
 - d. Seek their own pleasure and lusts
 - e. A and b
 - f. All of the above

- 9- Fill in the blank: “Now to Him who is able to keep you from _____, and to present you _____ before the presence of His glory with _____.” Jude 1:24
- Falling, blameless, great honor
 - Stumbling, faultless, exceeding joy
 - Sinning, pure, joy and honor
- 10- In his epistle St. Jude refers to eternal _____
- Life
 - Restriction
 - Fire
 - All of the above
- 11- In his epistle St. Jude used allusions from Old Testament regarding _____
- Israel’s rebellion
 - Sodom and Gomorrah destruction
 - a and b
- 12- The Epistle of St. Jude _____
- Reveals the Holy Trinity
 - Encourages the ecclesiastical life
 - Refers to event in the Old Testament
 - All of the above
- 13- According to St. Jude unbelief leads to _____
- Pride and corruption
 - Dreams and illusions
 - Underestimating the authority of the Church
 - a and c
 - All of the above
- 14- The epistle of St. Jude is the only New Testament book devoted exclusively to confronting apostasy.
- True
 - False
- 15- The epistle of St. Jude is the only biblical reference to _____
- The dispute over Moses’ body
 - The prophecy of Enoch
 - a and b

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

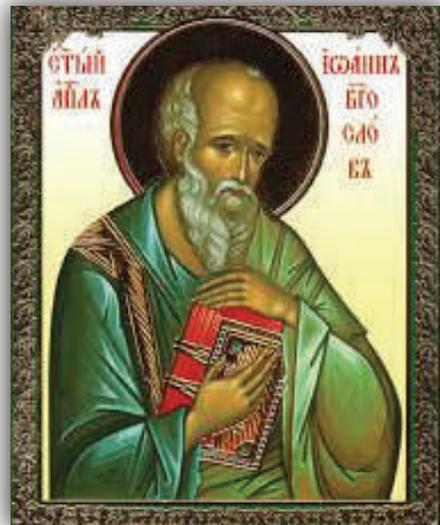
WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- The Last Book of the New Testament
- Preceded by the Epistle of St. Jude

AUTHOR

St. John the Beloved

When he was exiled in the island of Patmos, on the Lord's Day he was caught up "in the Spirit" and saw the vision recorded in this book.



This book reveals the struggle of the church through its way to heaven. It contains messages for the church, warnings, plagues for the rebellions, fall of the earthly kingdom, condemnation and destruction of Satan then the victory of the glorious church and the eternal joy with the Redeemer Lamb.

It was written to assure the readers of the ultimate triumph of Christ over all who rise up against Him and His saints.

The Church Fathers consider this Book as a compassionate letter that prophesizes about the persecutions and the church assured Victory.

The readers were facing dark times of persecution, and even worse times would follow. Therefore they need to be encouraged to persevere by standing firm in Christ in view of God's plan for the righteous and the wicked.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.

KEYS

KEY PHRASE

The revelation of the Coming of Christ

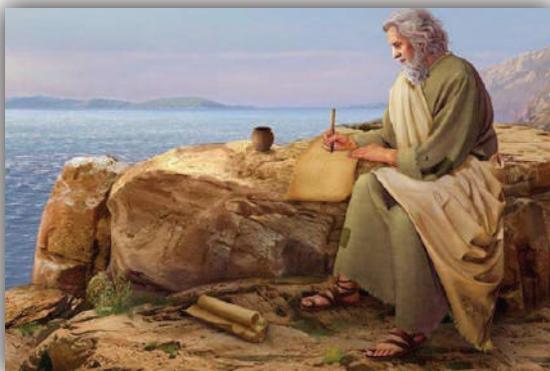
KEY CHAPTERS

Chapters 19-22

The plans of God for the last day and for all of eternity are recorded in explicit terms.

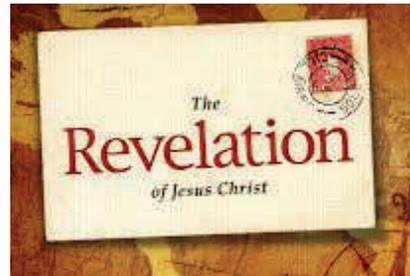
KEY VERSES

“Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.”
Revelation 1:19



PURPOSE

“The revelation of Jesus Christ”
To show his servants what must happen soon
To prepare the church for the Second Coming of Christ
To send messages to the 7 churches in Asia Minor
To encourage the Church through a number of visions
To give constant hope of enjoying the heavenly things in the midst of distress



“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” Revelation 12:11

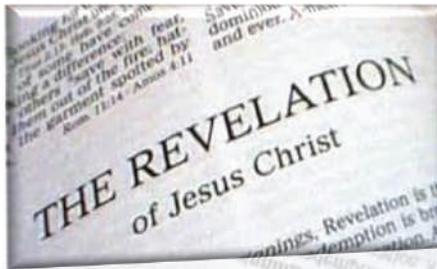
“Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.” Revelation 19:11

This book is a verbal message of encouragement that predicts the future of the days of the Church and the conflicts, persecutions and wars that will meet it in various pictures and successive ages, but the Church will definitely triumph.



THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.

OUTLINE



Part one: The Things Which You Have Seen- Chapter 1

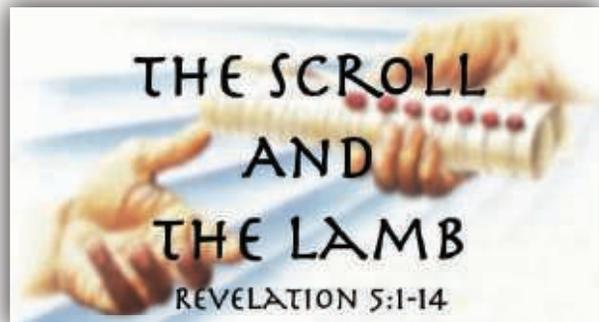
1. Introduction
2. Revelation of Christ

Part two: The Things Which Are- Chapters 2-3

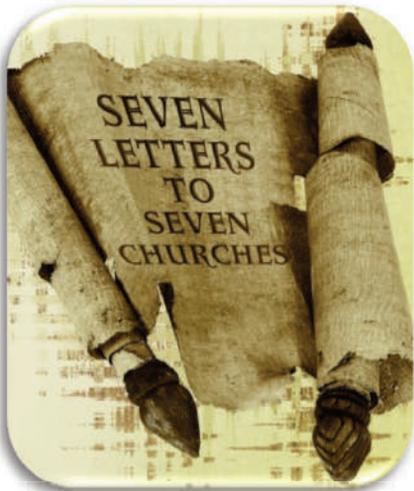
1. Message to Ephesus
2. Message to Smyrna
3. Message to Pergamos
4. Message to Thyatira
5. Message to Sardis
6. Message to Philadelphia
7. Message to Laodicea

Part three: The Things Which Will Take Place After This- Chapter 4 – 22

1. Person of the Judge
 - The throne of God
 - The sealed book
2. Prophecies of Tribulation
 - Seven seals of judgment
 - Seven trumpets of judgment
 - Explanatory Prophecies
 - Seven bowls of judgment
3. Prophecies of the Second Coming
 - Marriage Supper of the Lamb
 - Second Coming of Christ
4. Prophecies of the Millennium
 - Satan is bound 1000 years
 - Saints reign 1000 years
 - Satan is released and leads rebellion
 - Satan is tormented forever
 - Great white throne judgment
5. Prophecies of Eternal State
 - New heaven and earth are created
 - New Jerusalem descends
 - New Jerusalem is described
6. Conclusion



THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.



THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION

1- EPHESUS – THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH

COMMENDATION: I know your...

Good works, labor, patience, hated Nicolaitans.

CONDEMNATION

You left your first love.

COUNSEL: I counsel you...

Remember from where you have fallen and repent.

CHALLENGE: To him who overcomes...

I will give to eat of the tree of life.

2- SMYRNA – THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

COMMENDATION: I know your...

Works, tribulation, poverty.

CONDEMNATION

None

COUNSEL: I counsel you...

Fear not be faithful.

CHALLENGE: He who overcomes...

Will not be hurt by the second death

3- PERGAMOS – THE INDULGED CHURCH

COMMENDATION: I know your...

Works, held fast My name. Has not denied My faith.

CONDEMNATION

You have false teachers, Balaam and the Nicolaitans.

COUNSEL: I counsel you...

Repent.

CHALLENGE: To him who overcomes...

I will give hidden manna and a white stone with new name on it.

4- THYATIRA – THE PAGAN CHURCH

COMMENDATION: I know your...

Good works, love, service and patience.

CONDEMNATION

You allowed Jezebel to teach idolatry and compromise.

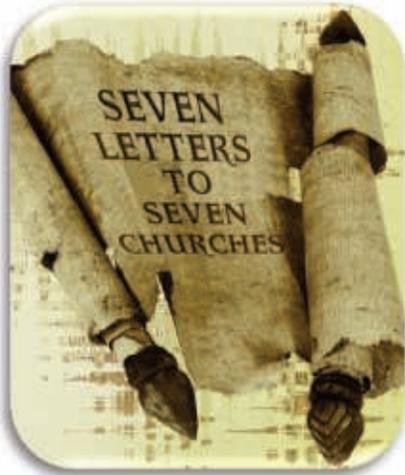
COUNSEL: I counsel you...

Hold fast what you have until I come.

CHALLENGE: To him who overcomes...

I will give power over nations and the Morning Star.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.



THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION

5- SARDIS – THE DEAD CHURCH

COMMENDATION: I know your...

Works. A name that you live.

CONDEMNATION

Dead. Works not complete.

COUNSEL: I counsel you...

Watch. Strengthen the things that remain. Remember, hold fast and repent.

CHALLENGE: He who overcomes...

Will be clothed in white garments. I will not blot his name out of the book of life

6- PHILADELPHIA – THE CHURCH THAT CHRIST LOVED

COMMENDATION: I know your...

Works. Missions. Little strength. Kept My word. Not denied My name.

CONDEMNATION

None

COUNSEL: I counsel you...

Hold fast what you have.

CHALLENGE: To him who overcomes...

I will make him a pillar and write upon him the name of God and My new name.

7- LAODICEA – THE LUKEWARM CHURCH

COMMENDATION: I know your...

None

CONDEMNATION

You are lukewarm, wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked.

COUNSEL: I counsel you...

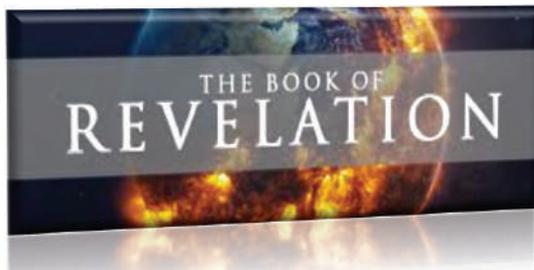
Buy gold tried by fire and white garments. Anoint your eyes. Be Zealous and repent.

CHALLENGE: To him who overcomes...

I will grant to sit with Me on My throne.



THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.



DIVISIONS

7 REVELATIONS

It is divided into 7 Revelations representing the Church Trip from Earth (1st Revelation) to Heaven (7th Revelation) passing through various successive persecutions (2nd – 6th Revelations) and its protection by the grace of God till its final Victory in Heaven.

1st Revelation: The Church on Earth (Chapter 1- 3)

It declares the Glory of God in the midst of the 7 golden lampstands (churches), holding 7 stars (Bishops).

A message was sent for each one of the Angels (Bishops) of the 7 Churches.

The messages were sent to specific churches and to specific Bishops but are of great use for the church in all ages as each letter ends by:

“He who has an ear, let him hear...”



The Lamb opened the 7 seals

1-White Horse (Apostolic Era – Jesus abolished death & opened the Paradise)

2-Red Horse (Martyrdom Era)

3-Black Horse (Era of Heresies)

4-Green Horse (serious heresy looks green a symbol of life while it carries death)

5-Spirits of the Martyrs under the Altar - will wait for their brothers

6-The Great Earthquake; no more time for repentance

7- Victory and description of the cleansed and heavenly ones

2nd Revelation: The Seven Seals (Chapter 4- 7)

It emphasizes the war and struggle of the church against the evil powers that ends by the victory of the church.

St John moved with his sight from earth to heaven to see the marvelous seen of the throne of God, the 24 elders, the sea of glass and the four living creatures with praising voices.

He saw a sealed scroll and knew that only the lion of the tribe of Judah has prevailed to loose the scroll and open its seven seals.

A Lamb stood as though it had been slain and all creatures praised Him and gave Him glory because He redeemed us to God by His Blood.



THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.

3rd Revelation: The seven Trumpets (Chapter 8-11)

It shows another picture for the war and struggle of the church with the evil powers. It started after the silence that came with the 7th Seal.

The first six trumpets declared the warnings from God to the people of the earth who are living in sin and will not repent.

An angel brought a small Book to St John to eat it. It was sweet in his mouth and bitter in his intern (a mix of joy and sufferings).

St John measured the temple.

The appearance of Elijah & Enoch.

The 7th trumpet reveals the glory of the Victorious Church.

DIVISIONS

7 REVELATIONS



4th Revelation: The Woman, the Dragon & the 2 Beasts (Chapter 12- 14)

It is a picture for the struggle between good and evil. It is a severe war only against Christianity trying to demolish her role of salvation.

The woman is the church of the New Testament. She is clothed with the sun of righteousness (Christ) and the moon (world) under her feet and 12 stars (Disciples) enlighten her head with their teachings.

The Dragon is Satan who wants to destroy Christ in His children and will be in war with them till his destruction by the power of God. God conquered Satan by His death & Resurrection.

The 2 beasts are 2 evil powers. The one coming from the sea represents all evil powers working for the account of Satan against the church and the other coming from the earth represents a person that looks like the Lamb but is not. He is the deceiver antichrist.

The Victory of the Lamb with His undefiled people. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

There are also 3 angels warning from following the evil and announcing the last days and the coming of the Lord with His sharp sickle.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.

5th Revelation: The seven Last Plagues (Chapter 15-16)

It is a new picture for the church struggle against evil and its victory as usual. The angels are not warning as before but are pouring the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth as a judgment on those who did not understand the seals and did not repent after the warnings. The victorious songs came before the plagues assuring the victory of the church.



7th Revelation: The Church in Heaven (Chapter 21-22)

After all the struggles, the Church now is glorified in heaven. There are also the joyful features of the heavenly Jerusalem. Finally there is the ending of the Revelation and the awaiting of the Groom.

DIVISIONS

7 REVELATIONS

6th Revelation: The Fall of Babel (Chapter 17-20)

It is the last picture of the church struggle against the power of evil during the journey from earth to heaven. It pictured Babel and its judgment.

There is also the Supper of the Lamb and the victory of the redeemed ones, then the thousand years of reign with the Lord and the end of days.

Babel represents all evil powers that oppose Christ and His children. There is a call for the sons of God to get away from Babel before its destruction. The fall of Babel. Lamentation of the people of earth and joy of the Heavenly hosts with the children of God for the judgment of evil.

Here comes the marriage of the Lamb and blessed is he who attends. The dragon tries for the last time to win the war but he is cast with all his powers into the lake of fire.

After thousand years (long period) Satan will be released for a little while then is thrown to the fire to be tormented forever with those who are not written in the Book of Life.



THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.



NOTES

The term New Jerusalem occurs twice in the New Testament, in Revelation 3:12 and Revelation 21:2.

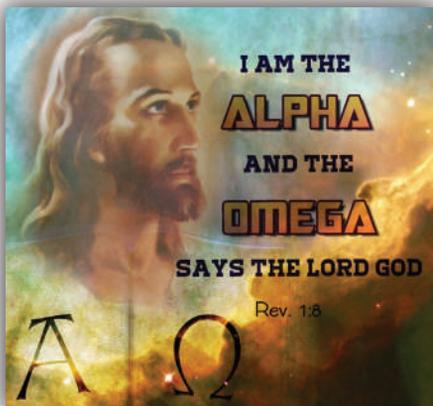
THE NEW JERUSALEM

- St. John describes the New Jerusalem as "the bride, the wife of the Lamb".
- He sees the New Jerusalem's descendants from heaven.
- It is "pure gold, like clear glass" and its "brilliance" is like a stone of crystal-clear Jasper.
- The street of the city is also made of "pure gold, like transparent glass".
- The base of the city is laid out in a square and surrounded by a wall made of jasper.
- The four sides of the New City represent the four directions (North, South, East, and West.)
- There is no temple in the New Jerusalem for God and the Lamb are the city's temple.
- The river of the water of life flows down the middle of the great street of the city from the Throne of God.
- The tree of life grows in the middle of the street and to both sides of the river.
- There are 12 gates hanging from the wall of the New City of Jerusalem. These 12 gates are oriented in groups of three and face the four cardinal directions. The 12 gates are each made of a 'single' pearl, giving these the name "Pearly gates". The names of the 12 tribes of Israel are written on the 12 gates.
- The New Jerusalem will be free of sin.
- Night will no longer fall, and the inhabitants of the city will "have no need of lamp or light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light."
- St. John ends his account of the New Jerusalem by stressing its eternal nature: "And they shall reign forever and ever."



THE BOOK OF REVELATION – CONT.

NOTES



The name Revelation is derived from Latin, and there is another alternative name for it, which is Apocalypse, derived from Greek, and both mean "unveiling."

DID YOU KNOW?

- It is the only Prophetic Book in the New Testament.
- It mentions heavenly truth that cannot be expressed in human language, that is why it used symbols, colors, metaphors and numbers.
- It is a code book sent from a persecuted to the persecuted to strengthen them without being clear to the persecutors.
- St John mentioned his name 5 times to make himself known as the author of this important prophetic book.
- The night of Great Friday is called the Night of Apocalypse because it is on this night that we read the entire Holy Book of Revelation.

Unique Characteristics

The use of the numbers 4, 7 and 12.

4 - Living creatures - Horsemen - Angels

7 - Churches - Seals - Trumpets - Bowls

12 - Elders - gates of the city of God

In apocalyptic literature these numbers represent completeness and perfection.

Therefore the 144,000 elects should not be taken literally but rather 12,000x12 stands for totality.



Characteristics of the Victorious

- 1- Are standing; Symbol of victory and strength.
- 2- Before the throne; Symbol of glory and being in the presence of God.
- 3- Clothed in white clothes; Symbol of purity and dignity.
- 4- Holding palm leaves; Symbol of victory, peace and joy.
- 5- Shouting loudly; Symbol of joyful singing and praise of God

The elements of victory over the devil:

- 1 - The blood of Christ: which cleanse from all sin.
- 2 - The word of martyrdom: living for Christ and witnessing for Him in any life situations.
- 3 - Preparedness for death: aspiration for eternity.

The struggle ends with the final victory of the redeemed, they stand on Mount Zion with the Redeeming Lamb and sing the hymns of victory while the evil Babylon falls

QUESTIONS BOOK OF REVELATION

- 1- St. John wrote the book of Revelation when he was exiled in _____.
- 2- The book of Revelation was written to _____.
 - a. Warn against false prophets and false teachers
 - b. Confirm the triumph of Christ over all who rise against him
 - c. None of the above
- 3- The readers of the book of Revelation were facing severe persecution.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 4- Fill in the blanks: “And they overcame him by the blood of ____ and by the word of _____, and they did not love their lives to the death.” Revelation 12:11
 - a. Christ, the gospel
 - b. Jesus, the truth
 - c. The Lamb, their testimony
- 5- Fill in the blank: “Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called _____. Revelation 19:11
 - a. Faithful and True
 - b. Righteous and just
 - c. King of kings
- 6- The book of Revelation contains messages to _____.
 - a. The churches in Jerusalem
 - b. The 7 churches in Asia Minor
 - c. The 5 churches in Europe
- 7- What counsel was given to the church of Ephesus?
 - a. Fear not be faithful
 - b. Hold fast what you have until I come
 - c. Remember from where you have fallen and repent
- 8- What condemnation was given to the church of Smyrna?
 - a. You left your first love
 - b. None
 - c. You have false teachers
- 9- To the church of Thyatira to whom who overcomes _____.
 - a. I will give power over nations and the Morning Star
 - b. I will give to eat of the tree of life
 - c. Will not be hurt by the second death
- 10- The church of Pergamos was commended for not denying the faith.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 11- To whom who overcomes I will make him a pillar and write upon him the name of God and My new name. This message was given to _____.
- The church of Sardis
 - The church of Ephesus
 - The church of Philadelphia
- 12- The church Sardis is _____.
- The pagan church
 - The dead church
 - The lukewarm church
- 13- What commendation was given to the church of Laodicea?
- None
 - Not denying the faith
 - Good works
- 14- The “Red Horse” represents _____.
- The era of heresies
 - The apostolic era
 - The era of martyrdom
- 15- Only the 24 elders could loose the scroll and open the seals.
- True
 - False
- 16- In the 4th revelation the woman clothed with the sun represents _____.
- The souls of the believers
 - St. Mary the virgin
 - The church of the New Testament
- 17- All is true about the New Jerusalem EXCEPT _____.
- The street of the city is made of pure gold
 - It will be free from sin
 - It has 12 gates made of single pearl
 - The sun enlightens it day and night
- 18- There is no temple in the New Jerusalem.
- True
 - False
- 19- The book of Revelation _____
- Is the only prophetic book in the New Testament
 - Is a code book sent to the persecuted
 - Uses symbols, colors and metaphors
 - All of the above
- 20- St. John never mentioned his name in the book of Revelation.
- True
 - False

ANSWERS KEY

James	1 Peter	2 Peter	1 John	2 John	3 John	Jude	Revelation
1- b	1- c	1- b	1- c	1- b	1- b	1- c	1- Patmos
2- a	2- b	2- a	2- b	2- c	2- c	2- b	2- b
3- c	3- d	3- c	3- c	3- b	3- a	3- a	3- a
4- a	4- a	4- b	4- a	4- a	4- b	4- b	4- c
5- b	5- c	5- b	5- b	5- b	5- b	5- c	5- a
6- c	6- d	6- c	6- b	6- a	6- c	6- a	6- b
7- a	7- d	7- a	7- a	7- c	7- a	7- d	7- c
8- d	8- b	8- c	8- c	8- b	8- b	8- f	8- b
9- b	9- a	9- b	9- b	9- c	9- a	9- b	9- a
10- b	10- a	10- a	10- a	10- a	10-b	10- d	10-a
11- c	11- b	11- b	11- d		11-c	11- c	11-c
12- a	12- c	12- a	12- a		12-a	12- d	12-b
13- b	13- a	13- b	13- b			13- e	13-a
14- b	14- c	14- c	14- b			14- a	14-c
15- a	15- b	15- b	15- c			15- c	15-b
16- d			16- e				16-c
17- c			17- e				17-d
18- a			18- a				18-a
19- d			19- The				19-d
20- b			Father,				20-b
21- c			the				
22- a			Word,				
23- c			the Holy				
24- b			Spirit				
25- a			20- e				

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