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*Simply teaching the Word simply*

# Through The Bible

## Session 46

The Hebrew Christian Epistles:  
1, 2 & 3 John, Jude

*From the miracle of our origin to the mystery of our destiny*

# New Testament

Gospels & Acts - 5

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Acts

**7 Churches**

**Pastoral**

Paul's Epistles - 13

Romans

1, 2 Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

1, 2 Thessalonians

1, 2 Timothy

Titus

Philemon

**"Prison Epistles"**

Prophetic - 1

Revelation

Hebrew-Christian Epistles - 8


Hebrews

James

1, 2 Peter

1, 2, 3 John

Jude



# The First Epistle of John

# 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle of John

- Written toward the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century
  - After John had returned from Patmos
- By now Gnosticism had crept into the church
  - Gnostics claimed to have *additional knowledge*
  - They made a distinction between Jesus and ‘the Christ’
  - “The Christ” was a divine emanation which came upon Jesus at His baptism
  - According to them, Jesus *did* die, but the Christ *did not* die.
- John confronts this heresy

# 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle of John

- John contrasts truth and error:
  - 1. Light vs. Darkness 1:5-2:11
  - 2. The Father vs. The World 2:12-2:17
  - 3. Christ vs. the Antichrist 2:18-2:28
  - 4. Good works vs. Evil works 2:29-3:24
  - 5. Holy Spirit vs. Error 4:1-4:6
  - 6. Love vs. Pious pretence 4:7-4:21
  - 7. Born of God vs. Born of the Flesh 5:1-5:21
- John seems to now use a heptatic structure
  - Writing in groups of 7's
  - Seen throughout this letter and John's Gospel

# 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle of John

- John highlights 7 tests as evidence of a true Christian:
  - 1. Profession 1:5-2:11
  - 2. Desire 2:12-2:17
  - 3. Doctrine 2:18-2:28
  - 4. Conduct 2:29-3:24
  - 5. Discernment 4:1-4:6
  - 6. Motive 4:7-4:21
  - 7. New birth 5:1-5:21

# 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle of John

- 7 Marks of a Christian:

- 1. Love 4:7–21
- 2. Obedience to Sound doctrine 5:1-3
- 3. Faith that overcomes the world 5:4, 5
- 4. The Witness of the Spirit 5:6–12
- 5. Assurance through the Word 5:13
- 6. Confidence in prayer 5:14–17
- 7. Knowledge of spiritual realities 5:18–20



# 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle of John

- Practical instructions regarding our walk:
  - 1. We are not to walk in Darkness 1:6
  - 2. We are to walk in the Light. 1:7
  - 3. We are to walk in Humility. 1:8–10.
  - 4. We are to walk with the Advocate. 2:1–2.
  - 5. We are to walk under Commandment. 2:3–8
  - 6. We are to walk in Love. 2:9–17.
  - 7. We are to walk in Truth 2:18–28

# 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle of John

- John's reasons for writing:
  - 1. To declare what he had seen 1:3
  - 2. That our joy might be full 1:4
  - 3. That we would not sin 2:1
  - 4. To encourage fathers, young men, children 2:13-17
  - 5. To reject lies and embrace truth 2:21-24
  - 6. To warn us of seducers 2:26
  - 7: That we may know we have eternal life! 5:13

# Chapter 1

<sup>1</sup> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

<sup>2</sup> (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

1 John 1:1-2

- This is an eye witness account!

# Chapter 1

*3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

*4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.*

**1 John 1:3-4**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Reason for writing: To declare what he had seen
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reason: That our joy might be full

# Chapter 1

5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:5

- God is not like a light, He is Light

# Light

## Verse 3

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אֹר  
וַיִּהְיֶה אֹר וַיִּהְיֶה אֹר

'owr      hayah      'owr      hayah      Eloheim      amar

light      be      light      be      Eloheim      Said  
(God)

Genesis 1:3

*And God said, 'Let light be light'*

*And God said, 'Let The Light illuminate'*

# Light

I **form** the light, and **create** darkness: I make peace,  
and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

Isaiah 45:7

יצר yatsar

(mould into a form)

KJV - earthen,  
fashion, form,  
frame, make, potter,  
purpose.

ברא

bara (create out of  
nothing)

# The Light of the world

- Light was pre-existent in the person of Jesus Christ
- God commanded the Light to shine
- The Light simply then illuminated
- Jesus Christ – the pre-existent One – who is the Light, created all things



# Symmetry of Design

- Each particle has an antiparticle

particle + antiparticle  annihilation + photon

- Physicists suggest this is a reversible reaction
- The implication...
- Light could have created matter!

# Chapter 1

- 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
- 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
- 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:6-10

# Chapter 2

<sup>1</sup> My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

<sup>2</sup> And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

# Chapter 2

**15** Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

**16** For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

**17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 John 2:15-17

# Chapter 3

I Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

1 John 1:1-4

# Chapter 3

*2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

*3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

*4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

*1 John 3:2-4*

# Chapter 3

<sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

<sup>24</sup> And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

1 John 3:23-24

# Chapter 4

<sup>1</sup> Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

<sup>2</sup> Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

1 John 4:1-2



# Chapter 4

3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1 John 4:3-4

# Chapter 5

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:4-5

# Chapter 5

<sup>6</sup> This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

<sup>7</sup> For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

<sup>8</sup> And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

1 John 5:6-8

# Chapter 5

<sup>6</sup> This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

<sup>7</sup> For there are three that testify:

<sup>8</sup> the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

1 John 5:6-8

# “The Johanan Comer”

- Effectively omitted in many modern versions
- NIV footnote says:


*a7, 8 Late manuscripts of the Vulgate testify in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one.  
8 And there are three that testify on earth: the (not found in any Greek manuscript before the sixteenth century)*

- *Not found in any Greek manuscript before the 16th C.*
- It is quoted by Cyprian, at Carthage, in 250AD
- It is part of the text for Latin manuscript ‘R’
  - *which dates to 100 years before Sinaiticus and Vaticanus*

# Chapter 5

<sup>13</sup> These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

1 John 5:13



# The Second Epistle of John

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of John

To the Elect Lady

- Practical: Walk in Love

- The Divine insistence on love

4, 5

- The Human expression of love

6



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle of John

To the Elect Lady

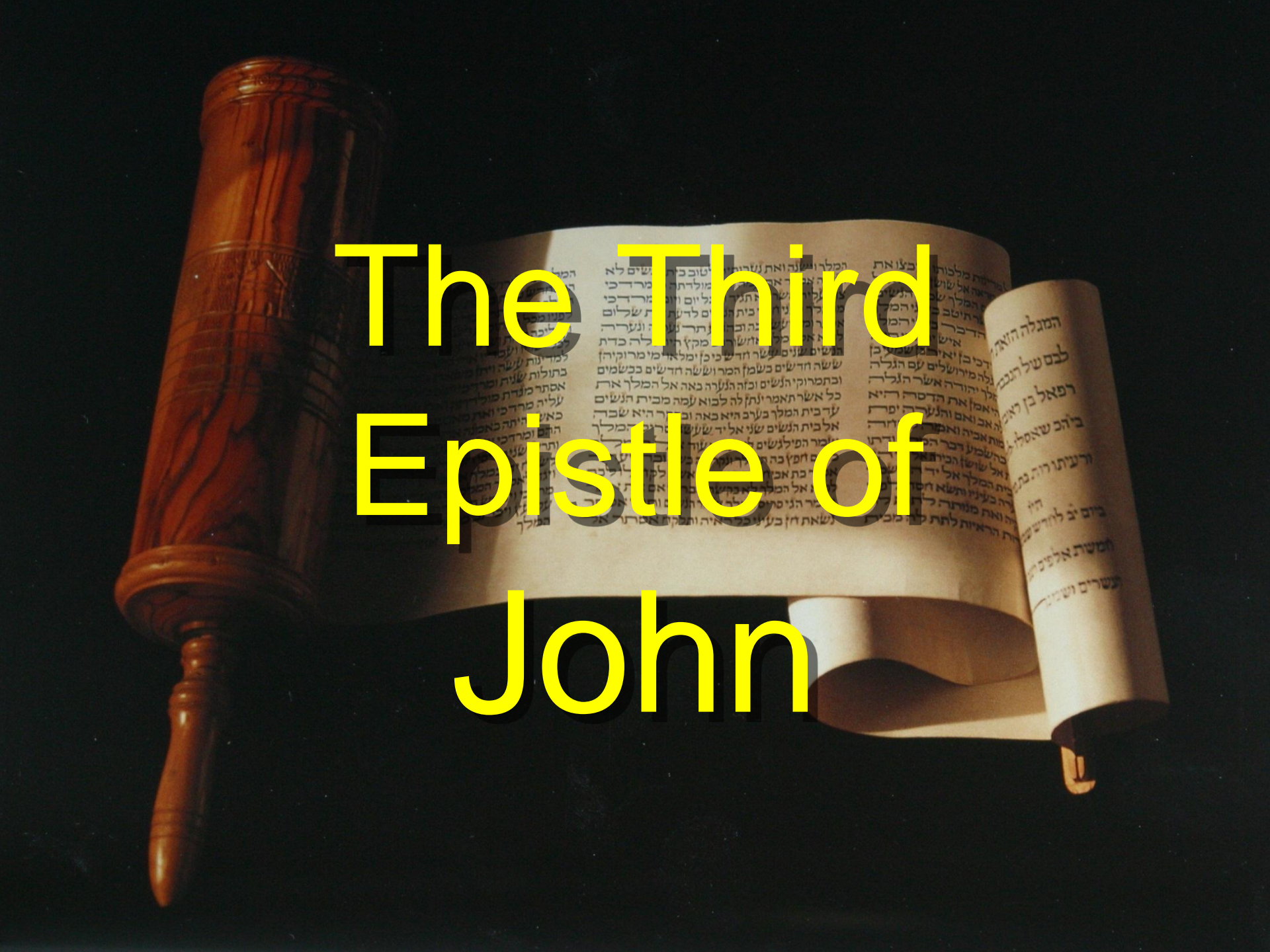
- **Practical: Walk in Love**
  - The Divine insistence on love 4, 5
  - The Human expression of love 6
- **Doctrinal: Watch Against Error**
  - Warning against false teaching 7-9
  - Warning against false charity 10, 11
  - Parting comments 12, 13

## 2 John

*7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.*

*8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.*

2 John 7-8

An open scroll with Hebrew text is shown against a dark background. The scroll is unrolled, revealing several lines of text in a traditional Hebrew script. To the left of the scroll is a large, ornate wooden handle, likely made of a dark wood like mahogany or rosewood, with a turned design. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the scroll and the grain of the wood. The overall composition is centered, with the scroll and handle occupying most of the frame.

# The Third Epistle of John

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Epistle of John

- Gaius: Service in Truth and Love 2-8

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Epistle of John

- Gaius: Service in Truth and Love 2-8
- Diotrephes: Evil by pride and strife 9-11

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Epistle of John

- Gaius: Service in Truth and Love 2-8
- Diotrephes: Evil by pride and strife 9-11
- Commendation of one
  - Demetrius 12
  - Parting words 13,14



# The Epistle of Jude

# The Epistle of Jude

## Contend for the Faith

- **Why to Contend: Apostates** vv.3-16
  - Their subtle perversions
  - Their certain doom
  - Their impious ways
  - Their utter falsity
- **How to Contend: Resources** vv.17-23
  - Apostasy has been foretold
  - Build, Pray, Keep, Look...
  - Support those who contend



<sup>1</sup> Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:

<sup>2</sup> Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

<sup>3</sup> Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Jude 1-4

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jude 1-4

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own **habitation**, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

Jude 5-6

- Habitation Gr. Oiketerion
  - ‘dwelling place for the spirit’, lit; a body
- When does Scripture record this event?
- Genesis 6

<sup>5</sup> I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

<sup>6</sup> And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness **unto** the judgment of the great day.

Jude 5-6

- Lit: until **Gr. Eis**
  - ‘A point in time’
- They have been reserved for a particular point in time – during the judgment...

**14** And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

Jude 14

- 1<sup>st</sup> recorded prophecy of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming  
– recorded c.5000yrs ago

**15** To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.

**16** These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage.

Jude 15-16

<sup>24</sup> Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,  
and to present you faultless before the presence of his  
glory with exceeding joy,

<sup>25</sup> To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and  
majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever.

Amen.

Jude 24-25



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