

# New Testament Survey

NTS.11

*"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

## The Epistles of John & Jude



# Logistics & Learning Objectives:

1. Learning Objectives. Participants will gain a high level understanding of:
  - a. John's epistles
  - b. Jude's epistle
  - c. Warnings to the Christian Church
2. For more information please visit [www.studioscriptura.com](http://www.studioscriptura.com)

## The New Testament Survey

seeks to presents Christianity's core tenets and doctrines for all that are interested in learning about Christianity. We seek to provide tools for believers to build a strong foundation and thereby help them bolster their faith in Christ. We seek to be purposeful and diligent in teaching the foundations of our beliefs, so we can earnestly contend for our faith.



# Key Sources:

1. **New King James Version. 1988. Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers.**

# 1, 2 & 3 John

1. John was the last of the twelve to survive and his epistles are meant to be read as pastoral letters to a number of congregations.
2. Takes up a number of themes and keeps returning to them in slightly different connections - as such appears a bit more haphazard than other epistles.
3. "Virtually all agree that John lays down three tests for the true believer: (1)believe that Jesus truly is the Christ come in the flesh, and (2)this belief must work itself out in righteous living as (3) your love of others is evidenced by good works.
4. John (like, Paul, Peter, James, and Jude) warns against the dangers inherent in traveling preachers that are actually false teachers, liars, deceivers, and antichrists



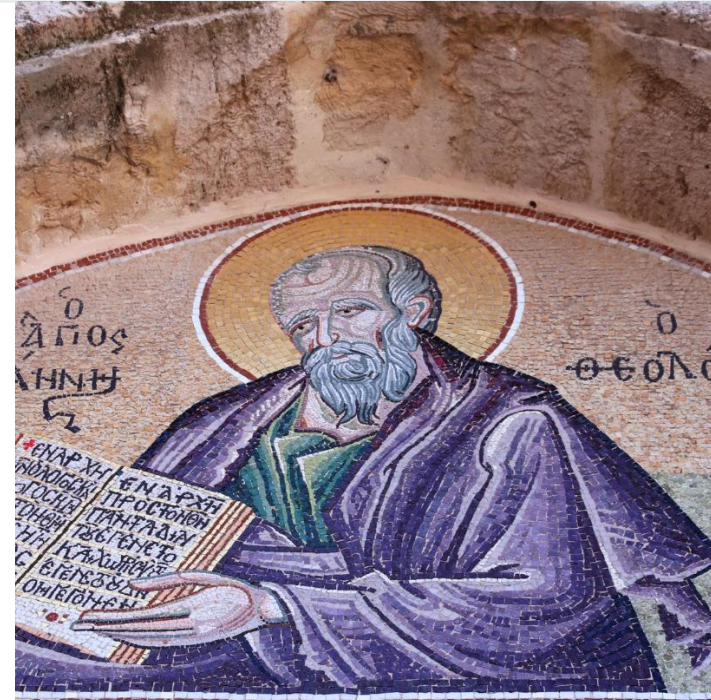
## 1, 2 & 3 John *(continued)*



5. A reading of the fourth gospel and 1 John reveals many striking similarities in vocabulary, syntax, and themes: light and darkness, life and death, truth and falsehood, love and hate.
6. We read the phrase "one another" nine (9) times in these these brief epistles.
7. Some time has elapsed between the publication of the fourth gospel and that of the epistles,
8. There is evidence that John, the son of Zebedee, moved to Ephesus at the time of the Jewish War (A.D. 66–70) and that he he then died in exile on Patmos.

# 1, 2 & 3 John *(continued)*

9. The Johannine Epistles open a window into the New Testament church toward the end of the apostolic age.
10. Context - Appears John is writing to build up believers against nascent gnosticism:
  - a. Gnosticism is concerned with deliverance from the flesh by the acquisition of knowledge.
  - b. He reassures the faithful and explains in straightforward terms the differences between Christianity and Gnosticism - faith v. endless pursuit of knowledge
  - c. He gives believers grounds for their assurance and confidence before God at a time when they were being made to feel spiritually inferior.



## 1, 2 & 3 John (continued)



- d. Full-blown Gnosticism is an amalgam of Jewish, Christian, and pagan deviations - an amorphous movement and is quite diverse in its manifestations.
- e. Its full bloom is experienced in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD
- f. Docetism also comes into play. It asks: "How can a spirit-being, 'Christ', the 'Son of God' (good by definition), actually become flesh, which is evil by definition?"

1 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, concerning the Word of life 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us 3 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.

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.

1 John 1

## CHAPTER 2

MY little children, these things write I unto you, that ye should not sin. And if any man sin, we have compassion on him.



2 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

1 John 2

6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

26 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.

walk in darkness, we  
the truth:  
walk in the light, as he  
we have fellowship one  
and the blood of Jē'sus  
Son cleanseth us from all  
we say that we have no sin,  
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is  
we confess our sins, he is  
and just to forgive us our  
and to cleanse us from all un-  
righteousness.  
10 If we say that we have not  
sinned, we make him a liar, and his  
word is not in us.

CHAPTER 2

MY little children, these things  
write I unto you, that ye  
And if any man sin, we have  
propitiation for

2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

1 John 3

## CHAPTER 1

**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;

2 (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;)

That which we have seen and declare we have seen and fellowship with us: fellowship is with the Son Jē'sus

7 But if we walk in the light, as he who is in the light, and walk in darkness, we do not the truth:

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.

## CHAPTER 2

**MY** little children, these things write I unto you, that ye shall not sin. And if any man sin, we have compassion on him.



7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 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.

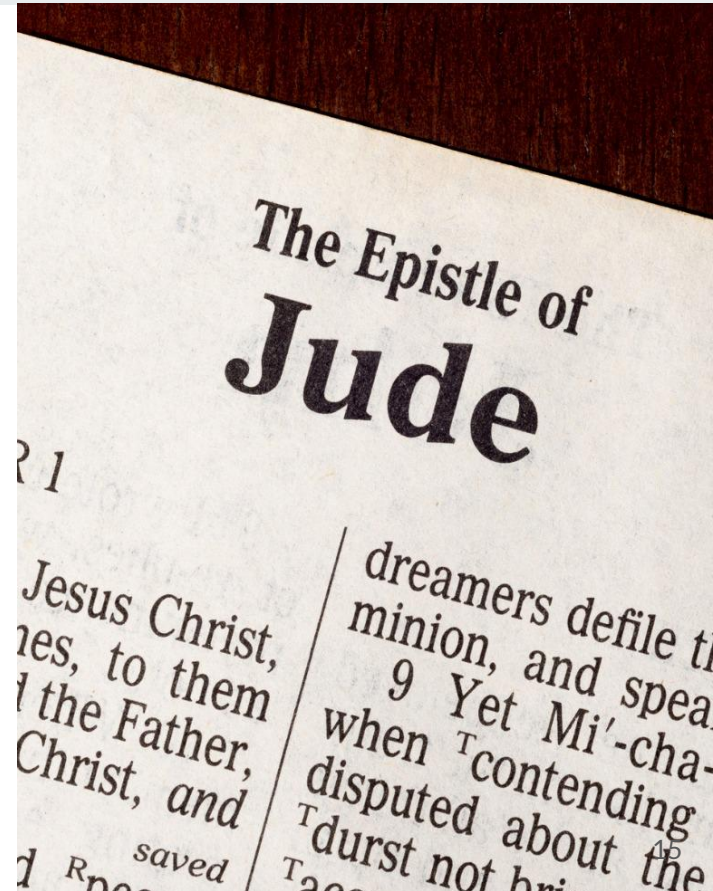
19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.





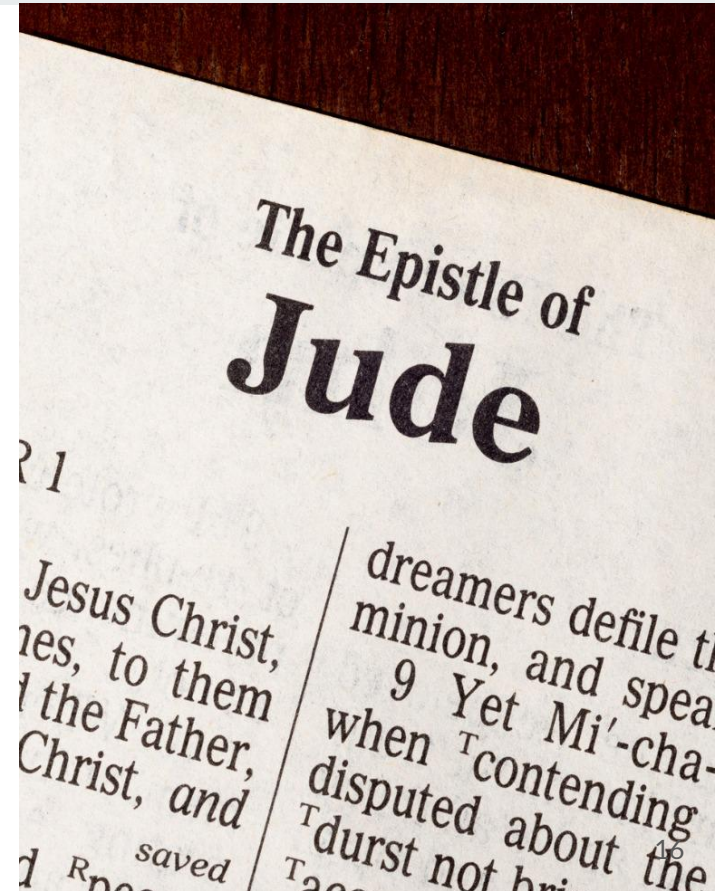
# Jude

1. We date Jude in the middle-to-late 60s AD.
2. The largest part of the body of the letter is given to warning believers of the danger of false teachers.
3. "Jude uses several illustrations or quotations from the Old Testament and Jewish writers to describe or pronounce condemnation on the false teachers and refers to false teachers with the word "these".



## Jude (continued)

4. *These* false teachers “have secretly slipped in among” the believers. Jude’s description of them is dominated by condemnation of their licentious lifestyle. They are boastful (v. 16), selfish (v. 12), scornful of authority (vv. 8–10), greedy (v. 12), and sexually immoral (vv. 4, 8). Claiming to be leaders of the community, they have nothing of substance to offer in their teaching (vv. 12–13).
5. Five men with the name loudas/Jude are mentioned in the New Testament: (1) “Judas Iscariot,” Jesus’ betrayer; (2) “Judas the Galilean,” an infamous revolutionary (Acts 5:37); (3) “Judas son of James,” one of the Twelve (Luke 6:16; Acts 1:13); (4) “Judas, also called Barsabbas,” an early Christian prophet (Acts 15:22, 27, 32); and (5) a brother of Jesus named “**Judas**” (Mark 6:3; Matt. 13:55).







# The Epistle of Jude

1 Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: 2 Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

3 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. 4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 As Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Jesus Christ

dreamers defile  
minions

# Epistle of

# Jude

16 These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. (See also Matthew 23)

24 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, 25 To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

Jesus Christ

dreamers defile  
minions

1. Which aspects of John's and Jude's epistles impacted you the most? Why?
2. What is the evidence in your life of: belief that Jesus truly is the Christ come in the flesh, righteous living, and love for fellow Christians.
3. How can you become more discerning in order to identify false teachers?
4. How can/should you more earnestly contend for our Christian faith?

So What &  
Now What?