

BIBLE READING FOR 2023

WEEK #47

1 & 2 PETER, 1,2 & 3 JOHN & JUDE

11-19-23

Monday - 1 Peter 1-2

Wednesday - 2 Peter 1-3

Friday - 1 John 5 - Jude

Tuesday - 1 Peter 3-5

Thursday - 1 John 1-4

1 Peter was written by the apostle Peter to Christians scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia. When he gives greetings from Babylon most think that he is not in literal Babylon while writing this letter, but instead uses the name figuratively to represent the city of Rome. The letter was probably authored in A.D. 64 prior to the persecution that Nero brought upon the church.

The primary theme of this book is hope. Peter reminds the Christians of what wonderful things God has done for them in Christ and is preparing them for the challenges ahead. Because they had been born again in Christ Peter tells them to fulfill their duty as Christians and endure whatever trials they must face. He assures them that if they are faithful they are absolutely certain of eternal salvation in heaven.

An outline for 1 Peter: 1.) Born again to a living hope 1
2.) Christian living 2-4
3.) Elders and humility of Christians 5

2 Peter was also probably written from Rome by Peter during A.D. 64-66, sometime after his first letter. From 2 Peter 1:14 we understand he wrote this letter shortly before he died. We are not given the details of Peter's death in the Scriptures but according to tradition he is said to have died as a martyr in Rome. The dangers of being deceived by false teachers is the main thrust of Peter's second letter.

An outline of 2 Peter would be: 1.) Growth as a Christian 1
2.) Warnings about false teachers 2
3.) The coming of the day of the Lord 3

1 John, as well as 2 and 3 John, were anonymous letters but are accepted by most scholars to have been written by John the apostle. It appears all three books were probably authored in Ephesus around A.D. 90-95. The first of John's epistles has much to say about the deity of Christ. The book begins similarly to the Gospel of John in that both are dealing with the concept of the Word coming into the world as the Son of God in the flesh. The theme of the book is salvation made possible through Jesus the Christ.

An outline of 1 John: 1.) Fellowship with God and Jesus in the light 1-2
2.) Love God and one another 3-4
3.) Overcome the world with faith 5

2 John is a short letter addressed to "a lady and her children." Some understand this to be a literal woman and her children and others think it is a figurative term referring to a local church. Either way the theme of the book is loving and abiding with God by keeping His commandments.

An outline of 2 John: 1.) Walking in truth Verses 1-6
2.) Deceivers in the world Verses 7-13

3 John gives encouragement to its recipient Gaius, a faithful Christian. John also mentions an unfaithful individual by the name of Diotrephes and the trouble he has caused in the local church. He urges Gaius to imitate what is good and not what is evil.

An outline for 3 John: 1.) John commends Gaius Verses 1-8
2.) John condemns Diotrephes Verses 9-14

Jude, the next to last book of the New Testament, is the last of what we call the general epistles. It is widely accepted to be authored by Judas the brother (or half brother) of Christ. We do not know where the book was written or for sure when it was written. However, because it is similar in content to 2 Peter many feel it may have been authored around A.D. 65-70. Jude's message urges Christians to contend for the faith and condemns those that are false teachers.

An outline for Jude: 1.) Contend for the faith Verses 1-3
2.) Description of false teachers Verses 4-16
3.) Dealing with false teachers Verses 17-25

Questions for 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2 & 3 John and Jude:

- 1.) What were the things into which angels longed to look in 1 Peter 1:10-12?
- 2.) Who is talked about in 1 Peter 5:8 and how is he described?
- 3.) In 2 Peter 3:10, what great event is prophesied?
- 4.) How does John define the antichrist in 1 John 2:22?
- 5.) In Jude 17-18, who does Jude quote and what had they said?

Answers to questions for Week #46 – Amos, Obadiah & Jonah:

- 1.) Tekoa and he was among the shepherders.
- 2.) They had turned justice into poison and the fruit of righteousness into wormwood.
- 3.) Edom and Esau.
- 4.) Ninevah because their wickedness had come up before God.
- 5.) He was in the stomach of the fish and he prayed to God.