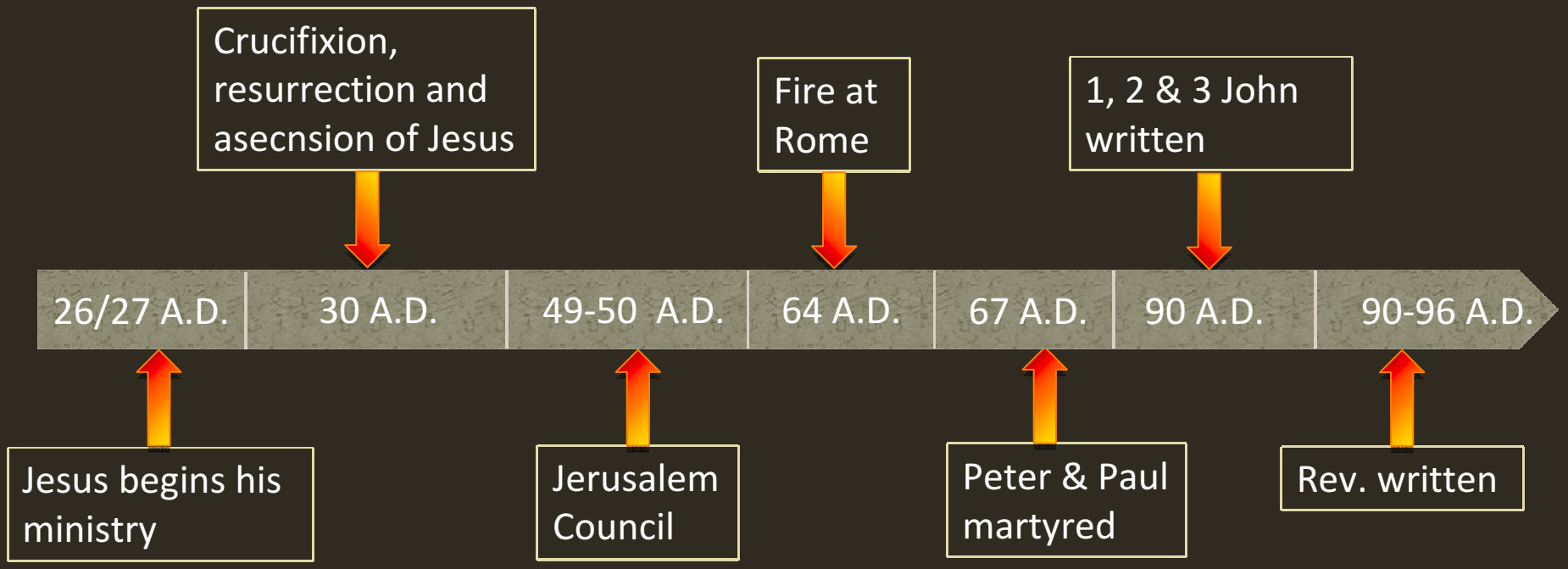
1 John

An Overview

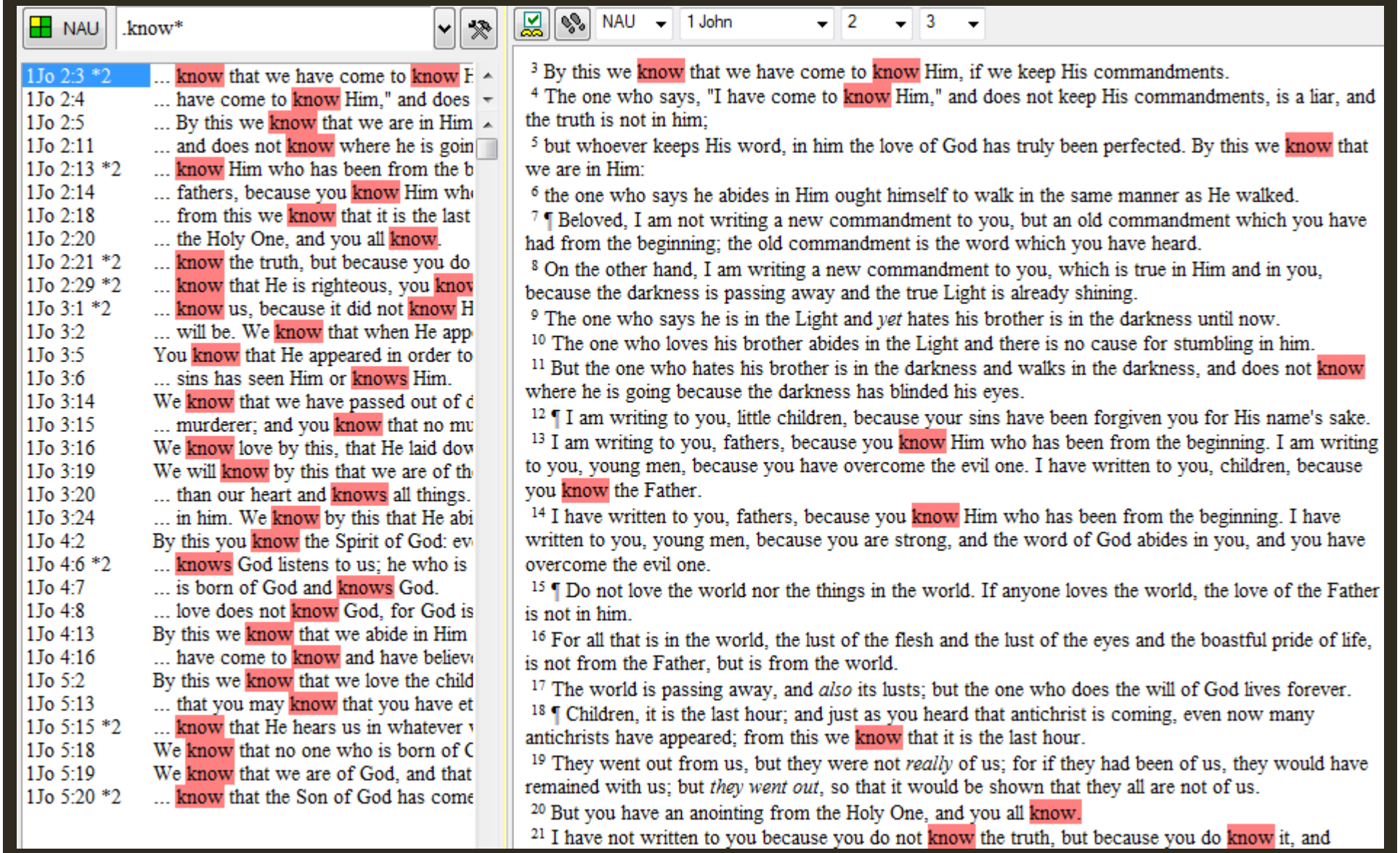


1 John... contents, style and emphasis

- Apostolic authority
- Shepherd's heart
- God
  - Word of Life
  - Light
  - Eternal life
  - Advocate
  - Propitiation
  - Love
  - Faithful
  - Righteous
- Life of intimacy with God
  - Abide
  - Keep
  - Know
- Sharp contrasts
  - Light and darkness
  - Truth and lie
  - Know and do not know
- Talks in absolutes
- Deception of Satan
- Subtlety of sin


Crucifixion, resurrection and asecnsion of Jesus
Fire at Rome
1, 2 & 3 John written
26/27 A.D.
30 A.D.
49-50 A.D.
64 A.D.
67 A.D.
90 A.D.
90-96 A.D.
Jesus begins his ministry
Jerusalem Council
Peter & Paul martyred
Rev. written

1 John 5:13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.*


NAU
.know*
1Jo 2:3 *2 ... know that we have come to know H
1Jo 2:4 ... have come to know Him," and does
1Jo 2:5 ... By this we know that we are in Him
1Jo 2:11 ... and does not know where he is goin
1Jo 2:13 *2 ... know Him who has been from the b
1Jo 2:14 ... fathers, because you know Him wh
1Jo 2:18 ... from this we know that it is the last
1Jo 2:20 ... the Holy One, and you all know.
1Jo 2:21 *2 ... know the truth, but because you do
1Jo 2:29 *2 ... know that He is righteous, you knov
1Jo 3:1 *2 ... know us, because it did not know H
1Jo 3:2 ... will be. We know that when He app
1Jo 3:5 You know that He appeared in order to
1Jo 3:6 ... sins has seen Him or knows Him.
1Jo 3:14 We know that we have passed out of d
1Jo 3:15 ... murderer; and you know that no mu
1Jo 3:16 We know love by this, that He laid dow
1Jo 3:19 We will know by this that we are of th
1Jo 3:20 ... than our heart and knows all things.
1Jo 3:24 ... in him. We know by this that He abi
1Jo 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: ev
1Jo 4:6 *2 ... knows God listens to us; he who is
1Jo 4:7 ... is born of God and knows God.
1Jo 4:8 ... love does not know God, for God is
1Jo 4:13 By this we know that we abide in Him
1Jo 4:16 ... have come to know and have believ
1Jo 5:2 By this we know that we love the child
1Jo 5:13 ... that you may know that you have et
1Jo 5:15 *2 ... know that He hears us in whatever
1Jo 5:18 We know that no one who is born of C
1Jo 5:19 We know that we are of God, and that
1Jo 5:20 *2 ... know that the Son of God has come
NAU
1 John
2
3
3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.
4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;
5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him:
6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.
7 ¶ Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard.
8 On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining.
9 The one who says he is in the Light and *yet* hates his brother is in the darkness until now.
10 The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.
11 But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
12 ¶ I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name's sake.
13 I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.
14 I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.
15 ¶ Do not love the world nor 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 and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.
17 The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.
18 ¶ Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour.
19 They went out from us, but they were not *really* of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but *they went out*, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.
20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.
21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and

Ye may know... **What?**

- 1 John 5:13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.*
- 1 John 2:20 *But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.*
- 1 John 2:29 *If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.*
- 1 John 3:5 *You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.*
- 1 John 3:14 *We know that we have passed out of death into life,*
- 1 John 5:19 *We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.*

Oida Vs. Gnosis

Oida

Vs

Gnosis

Meaning: 'to have seen', 'perceived'
-It is knowing from observation
-Associated with facts finding
Verses: John 19:35, 20:2; 1 Cor 6:2

AT Robertson: 'It is a settled intuitive knowledge'

Meaning: 'to come to know', 'recognize', 'to understand'
-It is the experiential knowledge
-Progressive knowledge
Verses: John 14:9, 10:14; Phil 3:10

1 John 5:13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

Gr. Oida

Gnosticism – Core beliefs

- Salvation/Intimacy with God through Enlightenment [supreme knowledge]
  - Visions
  - Angelic visitations
  - Trips to heaven
  - Spiritual experiences

Gnosticism – Core beliefs

John refutes…

- 1 John 1:5 *This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.*
- 1 John 3:14 *We know (Oida) that we have passed out of death into life…*
- 1 John 2:13-14 *I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. 14 I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.*
- 1 John 5:15 *And if we know (Oida) that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.*

Gnosticism – Core beliefs

- Matter is evil, spirit is good

  1) Docetism – Denied Jesus coming in flesh

[1]

> - do not believe in the blood atonement of Jesus Christ, because the doctrine of blood atonement presents a God who demands the human sacrifice of an innocent man, and any God who demands murder to appease justice is unworthy of worship or adoration.

[1] http://www.truegnosticchurch.org/tgc/basic_beliefs.html

Gnosticism – Core beliefs

John refutes…

- 1 John 4:2-3 *By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.*

- 1 John 1:1-3 *What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life-- 2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- 3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.*

- 2 John 1:7 *For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.*

Gnosticism – Core beliefs

- Matter is evil, spirit is good
  2) Cerinthianism – Christ came on Jesus on His baptism and departed before His death

<u>John refutes…</u>

- 1 John 5:6 *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.*

Gnosticism – Core beliefs

- Matter is evil, spirit is good

  3) Practice of sin in the body doesn't affect your spirit

> • do not believe in a devil which leads people into sin. Humankind has produced enough devils of its own without having to create the fictional variety in order to explain the evil that people do against each other. We are accountable to God for our acts of inhumanity towards each other. There is no devil to bring to account.

[1]

John refutes…

- 1 John 3:4 *Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness..*
- 1 John 3:8-9 *8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. 9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*

[1] http://www.truegnosticchurch.org/tgc/basic_beliefs.html

History repeats itself…the revival of Gnosticism



Nag Hammadi Library

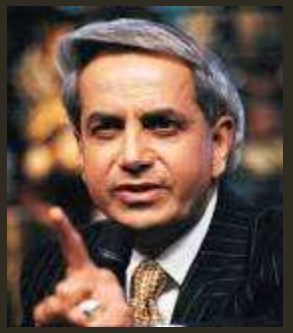
- Gospel of Thomas
- Epistle of Barnabas
- Apocalypse of Peter
- Gospel of Judas
- Gospel of Mary
- Gospel of Philip

Modern Gnostic practices…

- additional need for superior knowledge, visions, communications with angels etc…



Jesse Duplantis: *“I asked the angel (who took me to heaven), now, you kind of dumb question. I sad, ‘Where is the Holy Spirit”. The angel said, “He’s on earth”*



Benny Hinn: *"I've walked in the supernatural world. I've seen things you would never be able to understand...I've had individuals appear to me in my room. Not only angels." (HONOLULU CRUSADE Feb. 28, 1997)*



Kenneth Copeland: *Jesus told Copeland “A time is coming when there will be manifestation of angels more than usual, more than there has been in the past…many of you are going to have visitations from the spirit realm…many of you will have divinely appointed visions and dreams...”*

Modern Gnostic practices…

- additional need for superior knowledge, visions, communications with angels etc…

DGS Dhinakaran/Paul Dhinakaran: *“Sometimes I have seen Jesus (in heaven) discussing the events that are happening in this world with His apostle…”*

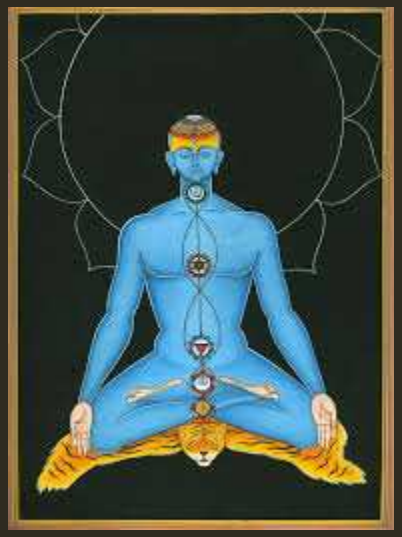


Joseph Smith: *"The Lord heard my cry in the wilderness, and while in the attitude of calling upon the Lord a pillar of light above the brightness of the sun at noonday came down from above and rested upon me and I was filled with the spirit of God and the Lord opened the heavens upon me and I saw the Lord."*



Modern Gnostic practices…

- Salvation through enlightenment



Yoga practices and Kundalini Yoga

Buddhism: *Enlightenment in the Buddhist sense has nothing to do with knowledge or intellect. Nor is it living in an otherworldly state of being "blissed out" or having visions or supernatural experiences.*



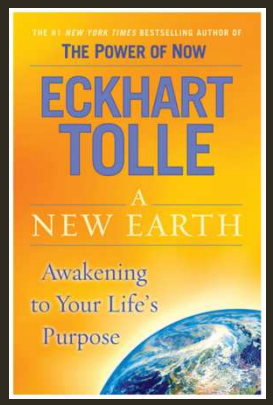
Modern Gnostic practices…

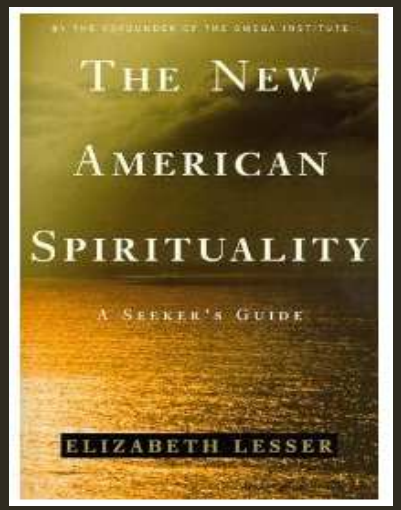
- Salvation through enlightenment

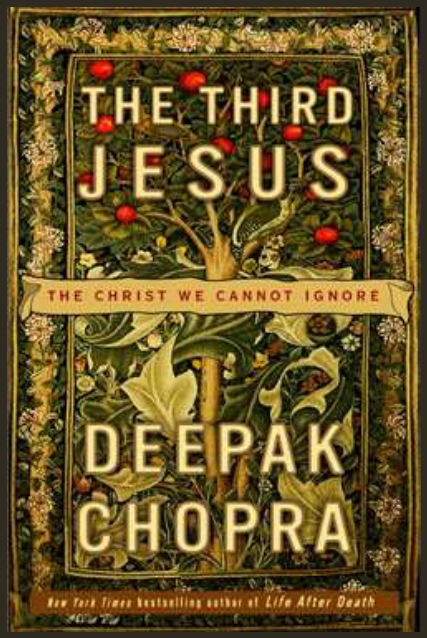
New American Spirituality

Sit quietly where you are, and close your eyes. Feel yourself breathing. Follow the breath on its journey into and out your body. Sit felling yourself breathe for a few minutes. Place your hand over your heart and feel the warmth…

~ Elizabeth Lesser







Ye may Know...Why?

- To combat the gnostic spirit in the church
  - God word is settled
  - Sin is NOT without consequence
- To test the spirits
- To enjoy deeper fellowship with God
- To love the Lord