

# New Testament Overview

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## I John – Jude

(I Jn 4:16)

### INTRODUCTION

1. Good Afternoon
  - a. Greeting...
2. Series of lessons covering the "New Testament Overview."
  - a. We have looked at Matthew – II Peter so far.
  - b. Tonight we will look at I John – Jude.
3. With that in mind let us examine each of these four books.

### I. I John

#### A. History

1. Written by the apostle John.
  - i. Circa 90-100 A.D.
  - ii. Written most likely in Ephesus.
2. Letter is written in a sermon format rather than a letter.
3. Written to refute Gnosticism.
  - i. Matter is inherently evil.
  - ii. Must have a superior mystical knowledge.
  - iii. Jesus would not have come in the flesh.

#### B. Outline

1. **(1:1-4)** Purpose for writing
2. **(1:5-2:29)** God is light
3. **(3:1-5:12)** God is love
4. **(5:13-21)** Conclusion

#### C. Lessons Learned

1. Love matters.
  - i. Love God
    - a. **I Jn 4:16** "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."<sup>1</sup>
    - b. **Ho 11:4** "I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them."
  - ii. Love the brethren
    - a. **I Jn 3:14** "We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death."
    - b. **Ps 16:3** "As for the saints who are on the earth, "They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.""
    - c. **I Pt 3:8** "Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous"

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<sup>1</sup> All Scriptures are taken from the NKJV unless otherwise noted.

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2. Hope Can Feel Secure
  - i. Can know we have salvation
    - a. **I Jn 5:13** "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."
    - b. **Ro 8:15-17** "For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."
    - c. **II Pt 1:10-11** "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

## II. II John

### A. History

1. Written by the apostle John
  - i. Circa 90-100 A.D.
  - ii. Written most likely in Ephesus.
2. Letter was written to either a specific Xian woman & her family or to a local congregation and its members.
  - i. We don't need to be positive about it to understand it.
3. John wrote this letter to admonish the Xians to stay true to the commands of God.

### B. Outline

1. **(1-3)** Greeting
2. **(4)** Theme (Follow God's commandments)
3. **(5-11)** Exhortation and caution
4. **(12-13)** Closing remarks

### C. Lessons Learned

1. Treat one another well.
  - i. **II Jn 4** "I rejoiced greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as we received commandment from the Father."
2. Refrain from being led astray.
  - i. **II Jn 10-11** "If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; 11 for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds."

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- ii. **Ro 16:17-18** "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple."
- iii. **Ti 3:10-11** "Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, 11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned."

## III. III John

### A. History

- 1. Written by apostle John.
  - i. Circa 90-100 A.D.
  - ii. Likely written in Ephesus.
- 2. Written to Gaius a faithful Xian brother.
  - i. Written as a temporary substitute for an impending visit.
- 3. Was written to encourage a great Xian man Gaius to keep up the good work.
  - i. Even with the selfishness of those around him Gaius was flourishing as a Xian man.

### B. Outline

- 1. **(1)** Greeting
- 2. **(2-8)** Commendations of Gaius
- 3. **(9-11)** Condemnation of Diotephes
- 4. **(12)** Recommendation of Demetrius
- 5. **(13-14)** Closing remarks

### C. Lessons Learned

- 1. Encourage Xian Behavior
  - i. **III Jn 2** "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."
  - ii. **Ph 2:4** "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."
  - iii. **Ga 6:6** "Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches."

## IV. Jude

### A. History

- 1. Written by the brother of James.
  - i. James was prominent in Jerusalem.
    - a. **Ac 15**
  - ii. Jude was also the half-brother of Jesus.
    - a. **Mt 13:55**
  - iii. Written around 66-80 AD
- 2. Jude wrote to a generic audience of Xians who were facing evil influences from men who were subverting the faith.
- 3. Jude wanted to warn them of the false teachers and stir them up to withstand the evil influences.

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## B. Outline

1. (1-2) Greeting
2. (3-4) Theme "Stand up and defend the faith"
3. (5-16) Description of the false teachers
4. (17-23) Admonitions to the faithful
5. (24-25) Closing benediction

## C. Lessons Learned

1. Stand up for Christ.
  - i. Defend Him at all times.
  - ii. **Jd 3-4** "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."
  - iii. **I Pt 3:15** "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear"
  - iv. **Ac 6:8-10** "And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. 9 Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen. 10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke."
  - v. **Ac 9:22** "But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ."

## CONCLUSION

1. One prevailing theme with this section of books is that of being aware of false teachers.
  - a. Make sure today you have not been believing a lie.
  - b. That includes my preaching, don't take my word for it prove all things.
    - i. **I Th 5:21**
2. That includes your own self.
  - a. Make sure you have not been deceiving yourself following after false thoughts and ideas.
  - b. Make sure you are right about everything...especially salvation.
3. Invitation
  - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent by confessing your sins to God that He may forgive you and dedicate your life/time back to Him.
    - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin...9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

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- b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required to become a child of God or Christian according to God and God only.
- i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
  - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
  - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
  - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
  - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
  - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**