



THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE

The First Epistle of John

Book Summary:

The letter of 1 John was written by the apostle John, who walked with Jesus during his earthly ministry. He wrote several other books in the Bible. The letter was written around A.D. 85–90 while John was living in Ephesus. John wrote to Christian believers who likely resided in Asia Minor. The letter's theme emphasizes love for one another and addresses false teachings. Gnosticism denied the humanity and deity of Jesus, and John directly combats these ideas. John addresses the assurance of salvation and living in God's light. He also highlights the sharp contrast between the world's system and God's, urging believers to love the Father and not the world.



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Memory Verse for August 2025:

1 John 1:7 (KJV)

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.

What to Look For:

- Notice how God's commands flow out of his character. Who does John describe God as, and what commands does he connect with these characteristics?
- What are the signs of a true believer?
- Note the key differences between the world and God. What false teachings does John appear to be addressing?
- How could these false teachings impact the believers' confidence in their eternal life, and what practical dangers does this lack of confidence create?

Selected Reading

- Week 1: 1 John 1:1–2:14
- Week 2: 1 John 2:15–3:10
- Week 3: 1 John 3:11–4:21
- Week 4: 1 John 5:1–21

Questions to Consider:

- Do you connect God's commands with his character?
- Is there ongoing sin in your life that you've accepted?
- Do you have love for fellow believers, especially those who are hard to love?
- Can others see that you walk in the truth and the light?