

THIS. IS. LOVE.
Introduction to 1, 2, 3 John
September 9, 2014

I. The Study

A. My Philosophy

1. What does it _____
2. What does it _____
3. How can I _____ it to my life
4. There is value in just knowing what is in this book

B. The Questions

1. Five days each week

II. Soundbite Theology

A. Well-Loved Verses

B. Our Privilege

III. John's Letters

A. Who

1. They are _____ 1, 2, 3 John
 - a. However, all three are technically _____
2. Traditionally attributed to John the _____
3. External evidence
 - a. The Gospel of John and 1 John
4. Internal evidence
 - a. The Gospel of John & 1 John were written by the _____ person

b. 1 & 2 John

c. 2 & 3 John

5. Follow the logic

a. The author of the _____ is the author of 1 John

b. The author of _____ is the author of 2 John

c. The author of _____ is the author of 3 John

d. The author of the Gospel of John is _____ the Apostle John

B. When

1. All three letters were written at about the _____

2. The Gospel of John was probably between A.D. _____

3. The letters of John were probably written between A.D. _____

C. Where

1. Written to _____ churches in and around _____

2. Probably written from _____

D. Why?

1. _____ teaching had infiltrated the church

2. Members of the churches began preaching _____

3. This led to a _____ in the church

IV. Purpose

A. Combat the _____

1. John is not arguing with the _____

2. He is trying to help church members _____ truth from heresy

B. Bolster the _____ of His Readers

1. They were _____ and _____ of what to believe

2. John wants them to know that they are the ones that know _____

a. They are the ones who have _____

V. The Opponents and Their Heresy

A. The Opponents

1. We cannot give a name or exact _____
2. They were former _____ of John's churches who had begun to preach _____

B. The Heresy

1. Focused on _____
 - a. They denied that Jesus was the _____
 - b. They denied that Jesus came in the _____
 - c. They denied that Jesus was the _____
2. Ethics
 - a. They boasted that they were "without _____"
 - b. They boasted that they have special _____ of and _____ with God
 - c. They claimed to walk in the _____
 - i. Yet they walked in _____
 - d. They boasted that they _____ God
 - i. Yet they _____ their brothers and sisters in Christ
3. They claimed to have a _____, mystical religion
 - a. One that allowed them to have special _____
4. They claimed that Jesus could not have been fully _____ and fully _____
5. In truth, they were _____ and _____

VI. Themes

A. Based on the Purpose

1. Discerning _____ from _____
2. _____ of salvation

B. Other Themes

1. The _____
2. _____
3. _____

VII. Profoundly Contemporary Letters

A. Our Churches

1. Are still being _____ by people who would lead us astray

2. There is still a need for _____ of truth and heresy

B. Recent Example

C. Theology _____

1. A right view of _____ matters
2. A right view of _____ matters
3. A right view of how we are to _____ as individuals and corporately matters

D. These Letters of John and Jude

1. Are all about helping us _____ the truth
 - a. About _____
 - b. About _____
 - c. About living _____
2. Then helping us know how to _____ _____ _____