

Introduction

· John is the 3rd largest contributor to the NT

1 A Biography Of John

- Younger brother of James and son of Zebedee.
- One of the first disciples Jesus called.
- Probably the youngest of the twelve.
- Jesus called him and his brother, 'the sons of thunder.'
- Known as 'the beloved disciple'.
- The only disciple to stand at the foot of the cross.
- Jesus entrusted the welfare of His own mother Mary to John.
- First disciple to arrive at the empty tomb.
- Became the superintendent minister of 'the seven churches'.
- Writes his gospel, 3 letters and the book of Revelation.
- Banished to the prison island of Patmos.
- Only disciple of the original 12 to die a martyrs death.

2 General Comments Re: The Book

- Authorship confirmed by Polycarp.
- Book consists of 5 chapters and 105 verses.
- The Theme: The Basis Of Our Fellowship With God.

3 Outline Of The Book

- The **CONDITIONS** Of The Fellowship (Ch 1).
- The **OBEDIENCE** Of The Fellowship (Ch 2).
- The **LOVE** Of The Fellowship (Ch 3 & 4).
- The **ASSURANCE** Of The Fellowship (Ch 5).
- God Is **Light** (Ch 1 & 2).
- God Is **Love** (Ch 3 & 4).
- God Is Life (Ch 5).

4 Reasons For Writing The Book

- 12 times John uses the terms 'I write to you' or 'I have written to you'.
- 1 John is a 'back to basics' of Christianity.

5 The 'We Know' Apostle

- John uses the little phrase 'we know' 17 times.
- There are important things he wants us all to know.

6 John's Teaching Regarding The World

- See (2:15-17) and (5:4).
- The ideologies, thinking contrary to Word of God and pursuit and accommodation of sinful pursuits/pleasures.
- The believer and the church is to be separate from the world.

7 Antichrist

- People talk about the coming of a singular future 'antichrist'.
- John is the only writer to use the word 'antichrist'.
- He says antichrist was already at work in his day and there were many of them.

Finally

Read through the 105 verses and note what John says about: -

- · Lies, liars and lying.
- · The devil/wicked one.
- How to identify one who is 'born of God.'

Teaching Biblically • Thinking Biblically • Living Biblically