

HOW TO READ THE BIBLE



RECAP

- ▶ Our goal is to know God's Story. To know God is to know & love His movements throughout history – His creativity, His redemption, & His promised restoration.
- ▶ Remember, to know Him is to love Him, to love Him is to obey Him, & to obey Him is to know Him.

HEBREWS

Genre: Epistle • Written by Unknown around 64-68 AD

- ▶ God is the God of **Fulfillment**
- ▶ This letter was written by an unknown author to a **Jewish** community (where some were Christians & some were not) between 64-68 AD as an invitation to stand fast in the faith & trust Christ.
- ▶ The Book of Hebrews shows the superiority of **Christianity** over the Judaic system under the Law of Moses.
- ▶ Because Jesus is utterly **supreme**, Christians should stick with Him alone whatever happens.
- ▶ Summary Verse >> Hebrews 1:1-3 | Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high...
- ▶ The basic theme of Hebrews is found in the word "**better**," in describing the superiority of Christian both His person and His work.
 - ▶ Christ provides a better **revelation** than the angels & the Torah (1-2)
 - ▶ A better **leadership** & rest than Moses & the Promised Land (3-4)
 - ▶ A better **hope** through a better priesthood & a better covenant than the Levitical priesthood & even Melchizedek (5-7)
 - ▶ A better **sacrifice** & covenant (8-10)
 - ▶ Better promises (8:6)
 - ▶ Better possessions (10:34)
 - ▶ A better **resurrection** (11:35)

1 JOHN

Genre: Epistle • Written by John around 90 AD

- ▶ God is the God of **Love**
- ▶ John writes a letter to Christians about keeping Jesus' **commands**, loving one another, & important things they should know.
- ▶ Summary >> 1 John 1:7 | But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, & the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- ▶ According to this epistle, John wrote to add to his readers' **joy** (1:4), to help them guard against sin (2:1), to confirm the truth that the faithful have overcome the evil one (2:12-14), and to strengthen their faith in Christ and assure them of eternal life (5:13).

2 JOHN

Genre: Epistle • Written by John around 90 AD

- ▶ God is the God of **Truth**
- ▶ The one who knows the truth loves God, through obeying his commands, loving his people and not being **hospitable** to the false teacher.
- ▶ Summary >> 2 John 8 | Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.
- ▶ In this letter John basically tells the church that if **deceivers** coming in denying Jesus as Messiah, don't offer them your support.

3 JOHN

Genre: Epistle • Written by John around 90 AD

- ▶ God is the God of **Discernment**
- ▶ The one who walks in the truth will be in **partnership** with Christians, and not reject them.
- ▶ Summary >> 3 John 11 | Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.
- ▶ In this letter, John wrote directly a brother in Christ named Gaius to encourage him to welcome those who believed in Jesus as the Messiah & not to be unwelcoming like Diotrephes.



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