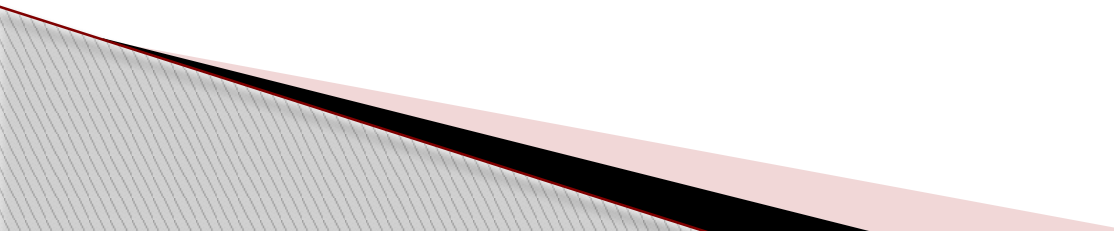


EPISTLES OF JOHN

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THANK YOU!

- ▶ Thank you for the food!
 - ▶ Thank you for the cards!
 - ▶ Thank you for the flowers and plants!
 - ▶ Thank you for the games!
 - ▶ I got socks!
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ABOUT THIS CLASS

- ▶ You will need:
 - a workbook
 - a good Bible translation
 - a concordance keyed to your Bible
 - a dictionary and atlas
- ▶ Software is faster!
- ▶ LOGOS logos.com
- ▶ WORDsearch WORDsearchbible.com
- ▶ Pocketbible (Laridian) Laridian.com
- ▶ Hebrew interlinear: HCSB
- ▶ Do the section for each week before class
- ▶ Workbook, powerpoint slides, and audio are up on the church website, usually 1-2 days after class and on the guardingthetruth website 1 day

WORD FOR THE JOURNEY

- ▶ **1 John 2:15-17** Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.
 - ▶ World: *kosmos*: the order of things here on earth
 - ▶ Love: *agape*: to put another's best interest first
- CHRISTIANS SHOULD NEVER PUT THE WORLD'S INTERESTS AHEAD OF GOD AND HIS INTERESTS

WHO WAS JOHN?

- ▶ Brother of James, son of Zebedee and Salome
- ▶ Salome may have been Mary's sister, making John Jesus' first cousin
- ▶ **John 19:25-27** Therefore the soldiers did these things. But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own *household*.
- ▶ **Luke 23:49** And all His acquaintances and the women who accompanied Him from Galilee were standing at a distance, seeing these things.

WHO WAS JOHN?

- ▶ **Mark 15:40-41** There were also *some* women looking on from a distance, among whom *were* Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the Less and Joses, and Salome. When He was in Galilee, they used to follow Him and minister to Him; and *there were* many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.
- ▶ **Matthew 27:55-56** Many women were there looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee while ministering to Him.
Among them was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

YOUNG AND OLD

- ▶ When John and his brother were younger, Jesus called them “sons of thunder”
- ▶ **Luke 9:52-56** ...they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him. But they did not receive Him, because He was traveling toward Jerusalem. When His disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?”
- ▶ Sixty years later, John’s gospel and epistles show us a much more sanctified John
- ▶ The other apostles were all dead by this time; Domitian may have tried to kill John in Rome in 92-94

WHAT HE HAD LEARNED



St. John In Oil

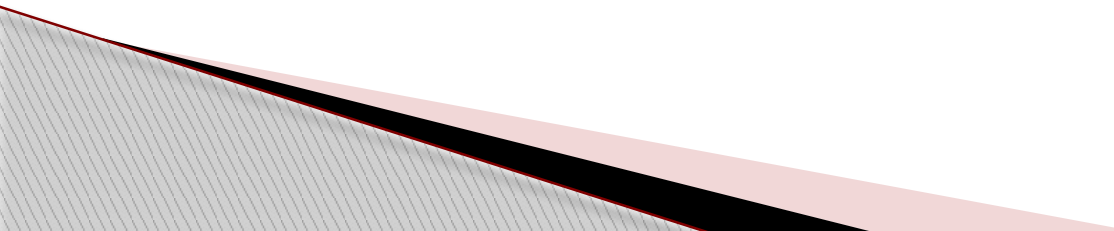
John was supposedly taken (or went) to Rome before his time in Patmos.

He was put in boiling oil while there but found it refreshing

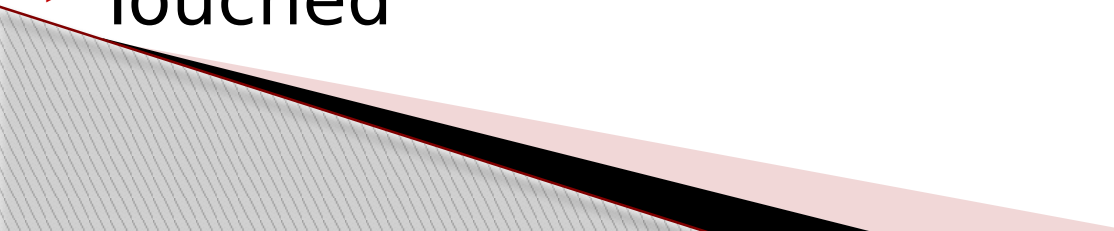
EXILED TO PATMOS



HERESIES CONFRONTED

- ▶ Persecution (economic and social) had caused a dispersion
 - ▶ Heresy was rampant; early church councils were faced with many decisions that were extremely difficult
 - ▶ **Judaizers** – Christianity is a sect of Judaism; to be Christian you have to be Jewish first; you must keep the Law
 - ▶ **Docetists** – believed that Jesus didn't have a physical body; since the body was evil, Jesus' apparent body was an illusion
 - ▶ **Gnostics** – there are many schools of gnostics; in general they believe more in salvation from knowledge rather than payment for sin; an unknowable God and a very knowable demiurge who created evil things
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FROM THE BEGINNING

- ▶ **1 John 1:1** What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—
 - ▶ Numbering himself among apostolic witnesses
 - ▶ Proclaimed what he knew to be truth about Jesus as an apostle who witnessed these things
 - ▶ Heard
 - ▶ Seen
 - ▶ Looked at
 - ▶ Touched
- 

WHAT HE HAD SEEN....

- ▶ **1 John 1:2** ...and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us—
- ▶ He had actually seen Jesus
- ▶ He had heard various things that Jesus had said
- ▶ He was testifying to what he had seen and heard
- ▶ Therefore, he felt it was very important to testify to what he had seen
- ▶ He felt it was important to proclaim life that was eternal and based on what the Father had said

WHAT WE HAVE HEARD

- ▶ **1 John 1:3**what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- ▶ He felt it was very important to testify concerning what he had seen and heard
- ▶ What he had seen and heard became what he proclaimed to those who were listening
- ▶ This created fellowship, not only with believers and John, but also with the Father and His son, Jesus Christ.

WE WRITE TO YOU

- ▶ **1 John 1:4** These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.
 - ▶ He was writing these things so that the joy became complete
 - ▶ Not just his own joy, but the joy of all who read and heard about it
 - ▶ So John was writing so they would understand that he had been with Jesus—he had actually seen and touched him – and he wanted to be sure that those who hadn't had the same opportunity were introduced to Jesus in a way that made sense to them
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