English: 1 John, 1 Peter, 2 John, 2 Peter, 3 John, Jude

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## 1 Peter

### Chapter 1

**1** Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the foreigners of the dispersion, the chosen ones, throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. **2** This is according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience and for the sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. May grace be to you, and may your peace increase.

**3** May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be praised! In his great mercy, he has given us new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **4** This is for an inheritance that will not perish, will not become stained, and will not fade away. It is reserved in heaven for you. **5** You are protected by God's power through faith for the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **6** In this you greatly rejoice, even though now, for a little while, you may have to suffer all kinds of trials. **7** This is for the proving of your faith, which is more precious than gold that perishes, even though it is tested by fire. This happens so that your faith will be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revealing of Jesus Christ. **8** You have not seen him, but you love him. You do not see him now, but you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory. **9** You are now receiving for yourselves the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls. **10** Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to come to you, searched diligently and examined carefully, **11** inquiring into what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he testified beforehand about the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. **12** It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told to you by those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.

**13** So gird up the loins of your mind. Be sober. Put your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed. **14** As obedient children, do not conform yourselves to the desires that you followed when you were ignorant. **15** But as the one who called you is holy, you, too, be holy in your whole behavior. **16** For it is written, "Be holy, because I am holy." **17** So if you call "Father" the one who judges impartially and according to each person's work, conduct yourselves in fear during your time here as foreigners. **18** You know that it was not with perishable silver or gold that you have been redeemed from the futile behavior that you inherited from your ancestors, **19** but by the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. **20** Christ was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but now he has been revealed to you in these last times. **21** Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. **22** You made your souls pure by obedience to the truth. This was for the purpose of sincere brotherly love; so love one another earnestly from a pure heart. *[*[1](#fn-060-001-022-1)*]***23** You have been born again, not from perishable seed, but from imperishable seed, through the living and remaining word of God. **24** For,

"All flesh is like grass,

and all its glory is like the wild flower of the grass.

The grass dries up, and the flower falls off,

**25** but the word of the Lord remains forever."

This word is the gospel that was preached to you.

#### Footnotes

1:22 *[*[1](#ref-fn-060-001-022-1)*]*Some important and ancient Greek copies read,

### Chapter 2

**1** Therefore put aside all evil, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all slander. **2** As newborn infants, long for pure spiritual milk, so that through it you may grow in salvation, **3** if you have tasted that the Lord is kind. **4** Come to him who is a living stone that has been rejected by people, but that has been chosen by God as valuable to him. **5** You also are like living stones that are being built up to be a spiritual house in order to be a holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. **6** Scripture contains this:

"See, I am laying in Zion a cornerstone,

chosen and valuable.

Whoever believes in him

will not be ashamed."

**7** The value, then, is to you who believe. But to those who do not believe,

"The stone that was rejected by the builders,

this has become the head of the corner,"

**8** and,

"A stone of stumbling

and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word—which is what they were appointed to do. **9** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's possession, so that you would announce the wonderful actions of the one who called you out from darkness into his marvelous light. **10** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God. You did not receive mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**11** Beloved, I exhort you as foreigners and exiles to abstain from fleshly desires, which fight against your soul. **12** Your conduct among the Gentiles should be honorable, so that when they slander you as evildoers, they may be eyewitnesses of your good deeds and give glory to God on the day when he appears.

**13** Be subject to every human authority for the Lord's sake. Obey both the king as supreme **14** and also the governors, who are sent for the punishment of evildoers and to praise those who do good. **15** For this is God's will, that in doing good you silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. **16** As free people, do not use your freedom as a covering for wickedness, but be like servants of God. **17** Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

**18** Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect. Be subject not only to the good and gentle masters, but also to the malicious ones. **19** For it is praiseworthy if, because he is conscious of God, a person endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. **20** For how much credit is there if you sin and then endure while being afflicted? But if you have done good and then you suffer while being punished, this is worthy of praise from God. **21** For it is to this that you were called, because Christ also suffered for you. He left an example for you to follow in his steps.

**22** "He committed no sin,

neither was any deceit found in his mouth."

**23** When he was insulted, he gave no insult in return. When he suffered, he did not threaten back, but he gave himself over to the one who judges justly. **24** He himself carried our sins in his body on the tree so that we would die to sin and live for righteousness. By his bruises you have been healed. **25** All of you had been straying like lost sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and overseer of your souls.

### Chapter 3

**1** In the same way, you who are wives should submit to your own husbands. Do this so even if some men are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word, through their wives' behavior, **2** having been eyewitnesses of your respectful, pure behavior. **3** Do not let your adornment be outward—the braiding of hair, and putting on of gold ornaments, or the clothing you wear. **4** Instead, let your adornment be the inner person of the heart with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious before God. **5** For this is how holy women long ago who hoped in God adorned themselves, by submitting to their husbands. **6** In this way Sarah obeyed Abraham and called him her lord. You are now her children if you do what is good and if you are not afraid of trouble.

**7** In the same way, you husbands should live with your wives according to understanding, as with a weaker container, a woman. You should give them honor as fellow heirs of the grace of life. Do this so that your prayers will not be hindered.

**8** Finally, all of you, be likeminded, compassionate, loving as brothers, tenderhearted, and humble. **9** Do not pay back evil for evil or insult for insult. On the contrary, continue to bless, because for this you were called, that you might inherit a blessing.

**10** "The one who wants to love life

and see good days

should stop his tongue from evil

and his lips from speaking deceit.

**11** Let him turn away from what is bad and do what is good.

Let him seek peace and pursue it.

**12** The eyes of the Lord see the righteous,

and his ears hear their prayers.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

**13** Who is the one who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? **14** But even if you suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not fear their threats. Do not be troubled. **15** Instead, set apart the Lord Christ in your hearts as holy. Always be ready to give an account to anyone who asks about the hope you have— **16** however, with meekness and respect. Have a good conscience so that in whatever you are spoken of as evil the people who slander your good life in Christ may be put to shame. **17** It is better, if it should be God's will, that you suffer for doing good than for doing evil. **18** Christ also suffered once for sins. He who is righteous suffered for us, who were unrighteous, so that he would bring us to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but he was made alive by the Spirit. **19** By the Spirit, he went and preached to the spirits who are now in prison. **20** They were disobedient when the patience of God was waiting in the days of Noah, in the days of the building of an ark, and God saved a few people—eight souls—by means of the water. **21** This is a symbol of the baptism that saves you now—not as a washing away of dirt from the body, but as the appeal of a good conscience to God—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. **22** Christ is at the right hand of God. He went into heaven. Angels, authorities, and powers must submit to him.

### Chapter 4

**1** Therefore, because Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same intention. For whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin. **2** As a result, such a person, for the rest of his time in the flesh, no longer lives for men's desires, but for God's will. **3** For the time that has passed is enough for you to do the desire of the Gentiles, living in sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, drunken celebrations, having wild parties, and committing lawless acts of idolatry. **4** They think it is strange that you do not join with them in these floods of reckless behavior, so they speak evil about you. **5** They will give an account to the one who is ready to judge the living and the dead. **6** For this purpose the gospel was preached also to the dead, so that, although they have been judged in the flesh as humans, they may live in the spirit the way God does.

**7** The end of all things is coming near. Therefore be of sound mind, and be sober in your thinking for the sake of prayers. **8** Above all things, have fervent love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Be hospitable to one another without complaining. **10** As each one of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's grace in its various forms. **11** If anyone speaks, let it be with God's words. If anyone serves, let it be from the strength that God supplies. Do these things so that in all ways God would be glorified through Jesus Christ. May there be to Jesus Christ glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**12** Beloved, do not regard as strange the testing in the fire that has come upon you, as if something strange were happening to you. **13** Instead, however much you experience the sufferings of Christ, rejoice, so that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. **14** If you are insulted for Christ's name, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. **15** But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or a meddler. **16** Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; instead, let him glorify God with that name. **17** For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God. If it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who disobey God's gospel?

**18** And

"If it is difficult for the righteous to be saved,

what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

**19** Therefore let those who suffer because of God's will commit their souls to the faithful Creator in well-doing.

### Chapter 5

**1** I am exhorting the elders among you, I, who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and am also one who will share in the glory that will be revealed: **2** Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God would have you serve—not for shameful profit but eagerly. **3** Do not act as lords over those allotted to you. Instead, be examples to the flock. **4** Then when the Chief Shepherd is revealed, you will receive an unfading crown of glory. **5** In the same way, you younger men, submit to the older men. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility and serve one another.

For God is opposed to the proud,

but he gives grace to the humble.

**6** Therefore humble yourselves under God's mighty hand so that he may exalt you in due time. **7** Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. **8** Be sober, be watchful. Your adversary the devil is walking around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. **9** Stand against him. Be strong in your faith. You know that your brotherhood in the world is enduring the same sufferings. **10** After you suffer for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will perfect you, confirm you, strengthen you, and establish you. **11** To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**12** I regard Silvanus as a faithful brother, and I have written to you briefly through him. I am exhorting you and I am testifying to you that what I have written is the true grace of God. Stand in it. **13** The woman who is in Babylon, who is chosen together with you, greets you. Also Mark, my son, greets you. **14** Greet one another with a kiss of love.

May peace be to you all who are in Christ.

## 2 Peter

### Chapter 1

**1** Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have received the same precious faith as we have received, faith in the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

**2** May grace and peace increase in measure in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. **3** By his divine power, all things for life and godliness have been given to us through the knowledge of him who called us through his own glory and excellence. **4** Through these he gave us precious and great promises, so that you might be sharers in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world that is caused by evil desires. **5** For this reason, do your best to add goodness to your faith, and to goodness add knowledge, **6** to knowledge add self-control, to self-control add endurance, to endurance add godliness, **7** to godliness add brotherly love, and to brotherly love add love. **8** If these things are in you and grow in you, they will keep you from being barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** But whoever lacks these things is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten he has been cleansed from his past sins. **10** Therefore, brothers, do your best to make your calling and election sure, for if you do these things, you will not stumble. **11** In this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**12** Therefore I will always be ready to remind you of these things, although you know them, and although you are strong in the truth you now have. **13** I think it is proper for me, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by way of reminder. **14** For I know that the putting off of my tent will be soon, because our Lord Jesus Christ has revealed this to me. **15** I will make every effort to see that after my departure you may always be able to remember these things. **16** For we did not follow cleverly invented myths when we made known to you the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. **17** For he received honor and glory from God the Father when a voice was brought to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with him I am well pleased." **18** We ourselves heard this voice brought from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. **19** For we have the prophetic word made more certain, to which you would do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. **20** Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. **21** For no prophecy was ever brought by the will of man, but men spoke from God when they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

### Chapter 2

**1** False prophets came to the people, and false teachers will also come to you. They will secretly bring with them destructive heresies, and they will deny the master who bought them. They are bringing quick destruction upon themselves. **2** Many will follow their sensuality, and through them the way of truth will be slandered. **3** In their greed they will exploit you with deceptive words. Their condemnation has been coming for a long time, and their destruction is not asleep. **4** For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but delivered them into hell to be kept in chains of darkness until the judgment, *[*[1](#fn-061-002-004-1)*]***5** and if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, along with seven others when he brought a flood on the world of the ungodly. **6** and if he reduced the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes and condemned them to destruction as an example of what is to happen to the ungodly, **7** but delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the sensual behavior of lawless people— **8** for that righteous man, who was living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds— **9** if the Lord did these things, then he knows how to rescue godly men out of trials and how to hold unrighteous men in custody so they can be punished on the day of judgment. **10** This is especially true for those who walk after the corrupt desires of the flesh and who despise authority. Bold and self-willed, they do not tremble when they blaspheme the glorious ones. **11** Angels have greater strength and power, but they do not bring insulting judgments against them to the Lord. **12** But these people are like unreasoning animals, born for capture and destruction. They do not know what they insult. In destruction they also will be destroyed, **13** suffering harm as a reward for doing harm. They think that luxury during the day is a pleasure. They are stains and blemishes. They enjoy their deceitful actions while they are feasting with you. *[*[2](#fn-061-002-013-2)*]***14** They have eyes full of adultery; they are never satisfied with sin. They entice unstable souls into wrongdoing, and they have their hearts trained in greed. They are cursed children! **15** They have abandoned the straight way and have gone astray, following the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to receive payment for unrighteousness. *[*[3](#fn-061-002-015-3)*]***16** But he obtained a rebuke for his own transgression—a mute donkey speaking in a human voice stopped the prophet's insanity. **17** These men are springs without water and mists driven by a storm. The gloom of thick darkness is reserved for them. **18** They speak with vain arrogance. Through the lusts of the flesh, through sensuality, they entice people who are trying to escape from those who live in error. **19** They promise freedom to them, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For a man is a slave to whatever overcomes him. **20** If they have escaped the corruptions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. **21** It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than to have known it and to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them. **22** This proverb is true for them: "A dog returns to its own vomit, and a washed pig returns to the mud."

#### Footnotes

2:4 *[*[1](#ref-fn-061-002-004-1)*]*Some important and ancient Greek copies read, 2:13 *[*[2](#ref-fn-061-002-013-2)*]*Some ancient copies of the Greek text read, 2:15 *[*[3](#ref-fn-061-002-015-3)*]*Many modern translations read

### Chapter 3

**1** Beloved, this is now the second letter that I have written to you, and in both of them they are reminders to stir up your sincere mind **2** so that you will recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command of our Lord and Savior given through your apostles. **3** Know this first, that mockers will come in the last days. They will mock and proceed according to their own desires. **4** They will say, "Where is the promise of his return? From when our fathers fell asleep, all things have stayed the same, since the beginning of creation." **5** They deliberately forget that long ago by the word of God the heavens and the earth came to exist out of water and through water, **6** through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. **7** By the same word the heavens and the earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly people.

**8** It should not escape your notice, beloved, that one day with the Lord is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. **9** The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some consider slowness to be. Rather, he is patient toward you. He does not desire for any of you to perish, but for everyone to come to repentance. **10** However, the day of the Lord will come as a thief: The heavens will pass away with a loud noise. The elements will be burned with fire, and the earth and the deeds in it will be laid bare. *[*[1](#fn-061-003-010-1)*]***11** Since all these things will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people should you be? You should live holy and godly lives. **12** You should expect and hasten the coming of the day of God. On that day, the heavens will be destroyed by fire, and the elements will be melted in great heat. **13** But according to his promise we are waiting for the new heavens and the new earth, where righteousness will dwell.

**14** Therefore, beloved, since you expect these things, do your best to be found spotless and blameless before him, in peace. **15** Also, consider the patience of our Lord to be salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul wrote to you, according to the wisdom that was given to him. **16** Paul speaks of these things in all his letters, in which there are things that are difficult to understand. Ignorant and unstable men distort these things, as they also do the other scriptures, to their own destruction. **17** Therefore, beloved, since you know about these things beforehand, guard yourselves so that you are not led astray by the deceit of lawless people and you lose your own faithfulness. **18** But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May the glory be to him both now and to the day of eternity. Amen!

#### Footnotes

3:10 *[*[1](#ref-fn-061-003-010-1)*]*It is uncertain which Greek word is intended for the last word of verse 10, either

## 1 John

### Chapter 1

**1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched, concerning the Word of life— **2** the life was made known, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father, and which has been made known to us. **3** That which we have seen and heard we declare also to you, so you also will have fellowship with us. Our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. **4** Also, we are writing these things to you so that our joy will be complete. *[*[1](#fn-062-001-004-1)*]*

**5** This is the message that we have heard from him and are proclaiming to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. **6** If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from every sin. **8** If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar, and his word is not in us.

#### Footnotes

1:4 *[*[1](#ref-fn-062-001-004-1)*]*Some important ancient Greek copies read,

### Chapter 2

**1** Children, I am writing these things to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the one who is righteous. **2** He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world. **3** We know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. **4** The one who says "I know God" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. **5** But whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God has been perfected. By this we know that we are in him: **6** whoever says that he remains in God should himself also walk just as he walked.

**7** Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you heard. **8** Yet I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Christ and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. **9** The one who says that he is in the light and hates his brother is in the darkness until now. **10** The one who loves his brother remains in the light and there is no occasion for stumbling in him. **11** But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness; he does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

**12** I am writing to you, children, because your sins are forgiven because of his name. **13** I am writing to you, fathers, because you know the one who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.

**14** I have written to you, fathers, because you know the one who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one. **15** Do not love the world or the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For everything that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the arrogance of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. **17** The world and its desire are passing away. But whoever does the will of God will remain forever.

**18** Children, it is the last hour. Just as you heard that the antichrist is coming, now many antichrists have come. By this we know that it is the last hour. **19** They went out from us, but they were not from us. For if they had been from us they would have remained with us. But when they went out, that showed they were not from us. **20** But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know. **21** I did not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it and because no lie is from the truth. **22** Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? That person is the antichrist, since he denies the Father and the Son. **23** No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son also has the Father. **24** As for you, let what you have heard from the beginning remain in you. If what you heard from the beginning remains in you, you will also remain in the Son and in the Father. **25** This is the promise he gave to us—eternal life. **26** I have written these things to you about those who would lead you astray. **27** As for you, the anointing that you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you everything and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, remain in him.

**28** Now, children, remain in him so that when he appears we will have boldness and not be ashamed before him at his coming. **29** If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born from him.

### Chapter 3

**1** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God, and this is what we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it did not know him. *[*[1](#fn-062-003-001-1)*]***2** Beloved, we are now children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we will be. We know that when Christ appears, we will be like him, for we will see him just as he is. **3** Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself just as he is pure. **4** Everyone who sins is committing acts of lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness. **5** You know that Christ was revealed in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. **6** No one who remains in him will keep on sinning. No one who continues to sin has seen him or known him. **7** Children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does righteousness is righteous, just as Christ is righteous. **8** The one who commits sin is from the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this reason the Son of God was revealed, so that he would destroy the devil's works. **9** Whoever has been born from God does not continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him. He cannot continue to sin because he has been born of God. **10** In this the children of God and children of the devil are revealed: Whoever does not do what is righteous is not from God, neither is the one who does not love his brother. **11** For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another. **12** We should not be like Cain, who was from the evil one and murdered his brother. Why did he kill him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

**13** Do not be amazed, my brothers, if the world hates you. **14** We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. **15** Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer. You know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him. **16** By this we know love, because Christ laid down his life for us. We also ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **17** But whoever has the world's goods, sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart of compassion from him, how does the love of God remain in him? **18** My children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in actions and truth. **19** It is by this we know that we are from the truth, and we assure our hearts before him. **20** For if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows all things. **21** Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. **22** Whatever we ask we will receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do the things that are pleasing before him. **23** This is his commandment: that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he gave us this commandment. **24** The one who keeps God's commandments remains in him, and God remains in him. By this we know that he remains in us, by the Spirit whom he gave to us.

#### Footnotes

3:1 *[*[1](#ref-fn-062-003-001-1)*]*Some important and ancient Greek copies leave out,

### Chapter 4

**1** Beloved, do not believe every spirit. Instead, test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2** By this you will know the Spirit of God—every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, **3** and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming, and now is already in the world. *[*[1](#fn-062-004-003-1)*]***4** You are from God, children, and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. **5** They are from the world; therefore what they say is from the world, and the world listens to them. **6** We are from God. Anyone who knows God listens to us. He who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

**7** Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. **8** The person who does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** Because of this the love of God was revealed among us, that God has sent his only Son into the world so that we would live because of him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and that he sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. **11** Beloved, if God so loved us, we also should love one another. **12** No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is perfected in us. **13** By this we know that we remain in him and he in us, because he has given us some of his Spirit. **14** Also, we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. **15** Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God. **16** Also, we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in this love remains in God, and God remains in him. **17** Because of this, this love has been made perfect among us, so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because as he is, just so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love. Instead, perfect love throws out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. But the one who fears has not been made perfect in love. **19** We love because God first loved us. **20** If anyone says, "I love God" but hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. **21** Also, this is the commandment we have from him: Whoever loves God must also love his own brother.

#### Footnotes

4:3 *[*[1](#ref-fn-062-004-003-1)*]*Some important and ancient Greek copies read,

### Chapter 5

**1** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born from God, and whoever loves a father also loves the child born from him. **2** This is how we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and obey his commandments. **3** For this is love for God: that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. **4** For everyone who is born from God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. **5** Who is the one who overcomes the world? The one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. **6** This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. He came not only by water, but also by water and blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. **7** For there are three that testify: **8** the Spirit, the water, and the blood. These three are in agreement. *[*[1](#fn-062-005-008-1)*]***9** If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater. For this is the testimony of God that he has testified concerning his Son. **10** Anyone who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. **11** And the testimony is this: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **12** The one who has the Son has life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**13** I have written to you these things so that you will know that you have eternal life—to you who believe in the name of the Son of God. **14** Also, this is the confidence we have before him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. **15** Also, if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask of him—we know that we have whatever we have asked of him. **16** If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not result in death, he must pray, and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not result in death. There is a sin that results in death; I am not saying that he should pray about that. **17** All unrighteousness is sin, but there is sin that does not result in death.

**18** We know that whoever has been born from God does not sin. But the one who was born from God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. **19** We know that we are from God, and we know that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. **20** But we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true. Also, we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This one is the true God and eternal life. **21** Children, keep yourselves from idols.

#### Footnotes

5:8 *[*[1](#ref-fn-062-005-008-1)*]*Some important and ancient Greek copies read,

## 2 John

### Chapter 1

**1** From the elder to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth—and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth— **2** because of the truth that remains in us and will be with us forever.

**3** Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

**4** I rejoice greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, just as we have received this commandment from the Father. **5** Now I plead with you, lady—not as though I were writing to you a new commandment, but one that we have had from the beginning—that we should love one another. **6** This is love, that we should walk according to his commandments. This is the commandment, just as you heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it. **7** For many deceivers have gone out into the world, and they do not confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. **8** Look to yourselves, that you do not lose the things for which we have labored, but so that you may receive a full reward. **9** Whoever goes on ahead and does not remain in the teaching of Christ does not have God. The one who remains in the teaching, this one has both the Father and the Son. **10** If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house and do not greet him. **11** For the one who speaks a greeting to him participates in his evil deeds.

**12** I have many things to write to you, but I did not wish to write them with paper and ink. However, I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that our joy will be complete.

**13** The children of your chosen sister greet you.

## 3 John

### Chapter 1

**1** The elder to beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.

**2** Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be healthy, just as it is well with your soul. **3** For I rejoiced greatly when brothers came and bore witness to your truth, just as you walk in truth. **4** I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my children walk in the truth.

**5** Beloved, you practice faithfulness whenever you labor for the brothers and for strangers **6** who have borne witness of your love in the presence of the church. You do well to send them off on their journey in a manner worthy of God, **7** because it was for the sake of the name that they went out, taking nothing from the Gentiles. **8** We therefore should welcome such as these so that we will be fellow workers for the truth.

**9** I wrote something to the congregation, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not receive us. **10** So if I come, I will call attention to the deeds he is doing, falsely accusing us with wicked words. Not satisfied with that, he not only refused to welcome the brothers himself, but he also stops those who want to welcome them and drives them out of the church. **11** Beloved, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the evildoer has not seen God. **12** Demetrius received a good testimony from everyone and by the truth itself. We also testify about him, and you know that our testimony is true.

**13** I had many things to write to you, but I do not wish to write them to you with pen and ink. **14** But I hope to see you soon, and we will speak face to face. **15** May peace be with you. The friends greet you. Greet our friends there by name.

## Jude

### Chapter 1

**1** Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James, to those who are called, beloved in God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ:

**2** May mercy and peace and love be multiplied to you.

**3** Beloved, while I was making every effort to write to you about our common salvation, I had to write to you to exhort you to struggle earnestly for the faith that was entrusted once for all to God's holy people. **4** For certain men have slipped in secretly among you. These men were marked out for condemnation. They are ungodly men who have changed the grace of our God into sensuality, and who deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

**5** Now I wish to remind you—although once you fully knew it—that the Lord saved a people out of the land of Egypt, but that afterward he destroyed those who did not believe. **6** Also, angels who did not keep to their own position of authority, but who left their proper dwelling place—God has kept them in everlasting chains, in utter darkness, for the judgment on the great day. **7** So also Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them gave themselves over to sexual immorality and perverse sexual acts. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire. **8** Yet in the same way, these dreamers also defile their bodies. They reject authority and they slander the glorious ones. **9** But even Michael the archangel, when he was arguing with the devil and disputing with him about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous judgment against him, but he said, "May the Lord rebuke you!" **10** But these people insult whatever they do not understand; and what they do understand naturally, like unreasoning animals, these are the very things that destroy them. **11** Woe to them! For they have walked in the way of Cain and have plunged into Balaam's error for profit. They have perished in Korah's rebellion. **12** These people are dangerous reefs at your love feasts, feasting with you fearlessly—shepherds who only feed themselves. They are clouds without rain carried along by winds; autumn trees, without fruit—twice dead, uprooted. **13** They are violent waves in the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of complete darkness has been reserved forever. **14** Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them, saying, "Look! The Lord is coming with thousands and thousands of his holy ones. **15** He is coming to execute judgment on everyone. He is coming to convict all the ungodly of all the works they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the bitter words that ungodly sinners have spoken against him." **16** These are grumblers, complainers, following their evil desires. Their mouths speak loud boasts, flattering others for profit.

**17** But you, beloved, remember the words that were spoken in the past by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. **18** They said to you, "In the last time there will be mockers who will follow their own ungodly desires." **19** It is these who cause divisions; they are worldly and they do not have the Spirit. **20** But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith, and pray in the Holy Spirit. **21** Keep yourselves in God's love, and wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that brings you eternal life. **22** Be merciful to those who doubt. **23** Save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

**24** Now to the one who is able to keep you from stumbling and to cause you to stand before his glorious presence without blemish and with great joy, **25** to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time, now, and forever. Amen.