



NT SURVEY

3 Letters of
John

By
Ray Mondragon

Colosseum

LETTERS OF JOHN

- 1. Similarity - time, place, author**
- 2. 5 Johns in NT**

POSSIBILITIES

- 1. The Baptist - Mt 3:1, Lk 1:57-66**
- 2. Of Sanhedrin - Ac 4:5-6**
- 3. Father of Peter - Jn 1:42**
- 4. John-Mark - Ac 12:12**
- 5. One of Disciples - Mt 4:21, 10:2**

LETTERS OF JOHN

➤ **Author -** **Apostle John**

JOHN the MAN

- 1. Personal - apostle**
- 2. Character - humility**
- 3. Disciple - inner circle**
- 4. Ministry - extensive**
- 5. Tradition**

LETTERS OF JOHN

- **Author -** **Apostle John**
- **Occasion -** **85-95**

OCCASION

- 1. Between Persecutions of Nero & Domitian**
- 2. Near end of 1st century**
- 3. False teachers in their midst**
- 4. Possibility of insipient gnosticism**

FALSE TEACHERS

- 1. Gnosticism - higher knowledge
material evil & spiritual good
salvation by enlightenment**
- 2. Doceticism - only appeared human**
- 3. Cerinthianism - Christ spirit
inhabited human Jesus**



NT SURVEY

1JOHN

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“It is a style absolutely unique, supremely original, and full of charm and sweetness. Under the semblance of extreme simplicity, it hides unfathomable depths. It is to a great extent intelligible to the youngest child, to the humblest Christian; yet to enter into its full meaning exceeds the power of the deepest theologian.”

F. W. Farrar

“The simplicity of its language makes it intelligible to the simplest saint, while the profundity of its truths challenges the most accomplished scholar.”

Hiebert

AUTHORSHIP

➤ Internal Evidence

INTERNAL

- 1. No identification**
- 2. Intimate with audience**
- 3. Recognized as authority**
- 4. Same author as gospel**

AUTHORSHIP

- **Internal Evidence**
- **External Evidence**

EXTERNAL

- 1. Apostolic Fathers - Polycarp, Papias**
- 2. 2nd century - Irenaeus, Eusebius, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian**
- 3. 3rd century - Origen, Cyprian**
- 4. Muratorian canon, old Syriac**

AUTHORSHIP

- **Internal Evidence**
- **External Evidence**
- **Evidence Against**

1. JOHN

- **Author -** **Apostle John**
- **Audience -** **Christians of Asia**

AUDIENCE

- **Christians long time**
- **No OT quotes**
- **Most likely Asian churches**
- **Especially Ephesus**



John the
Apostle writes
from Patmos

Cyclades
Paros
Naxos
Islands

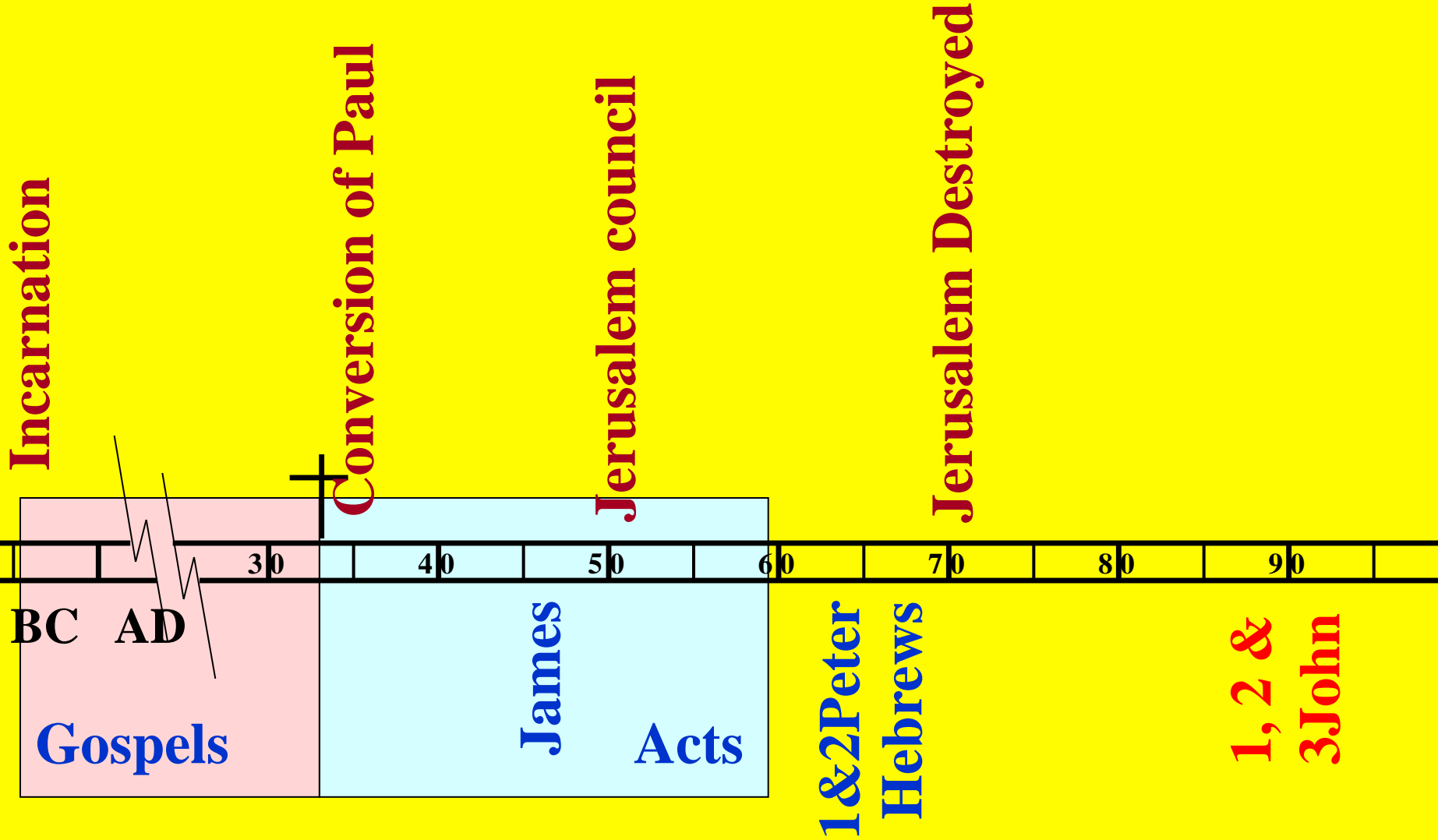
Halicarnassus

Pergo

1. JOHN

- **Author -** **Apostle John**
- **Audience -** **Christians of Asia**
- **Occasion -** **85-95**

NT HISTORY



1. JOHN

- **Author -** **Apostle John**
- **Audience -** **Christians of Asia**
- **Occasion -** **85-95**
- **Location -** **Ephesus**



Ephesus



John the
Apostle writes
from Patmos

Trogyllium
Miletus
Patmos

Halicarnassus

Cos

Cyclades
Paros
Naxos
Islands

Ikaria

Delos

Tinos

Andros

Chios

Skiros

Lesbos

Mytilene

Assos

Adramyttium

Troas

Abydos

Imbros

Lemnos

Samothrace

Hellespont

Cyzicus

Nicaea

Prusa

Cotiaenum

Appia

Thyatira

Hermus R.

Smyrna

Sardis

Philadelphia

LYDIA

Ephesus

Tralles

Hierapolis

Laodicea

Colossae

CARIA

Maeander R.

Dalaman R.

PHRYGIA

BITHYNIA

MYSIA

ASIA

Marmara Sea

Simav R.

Sangarius R.

Pergo

Free city

Ephesus Street



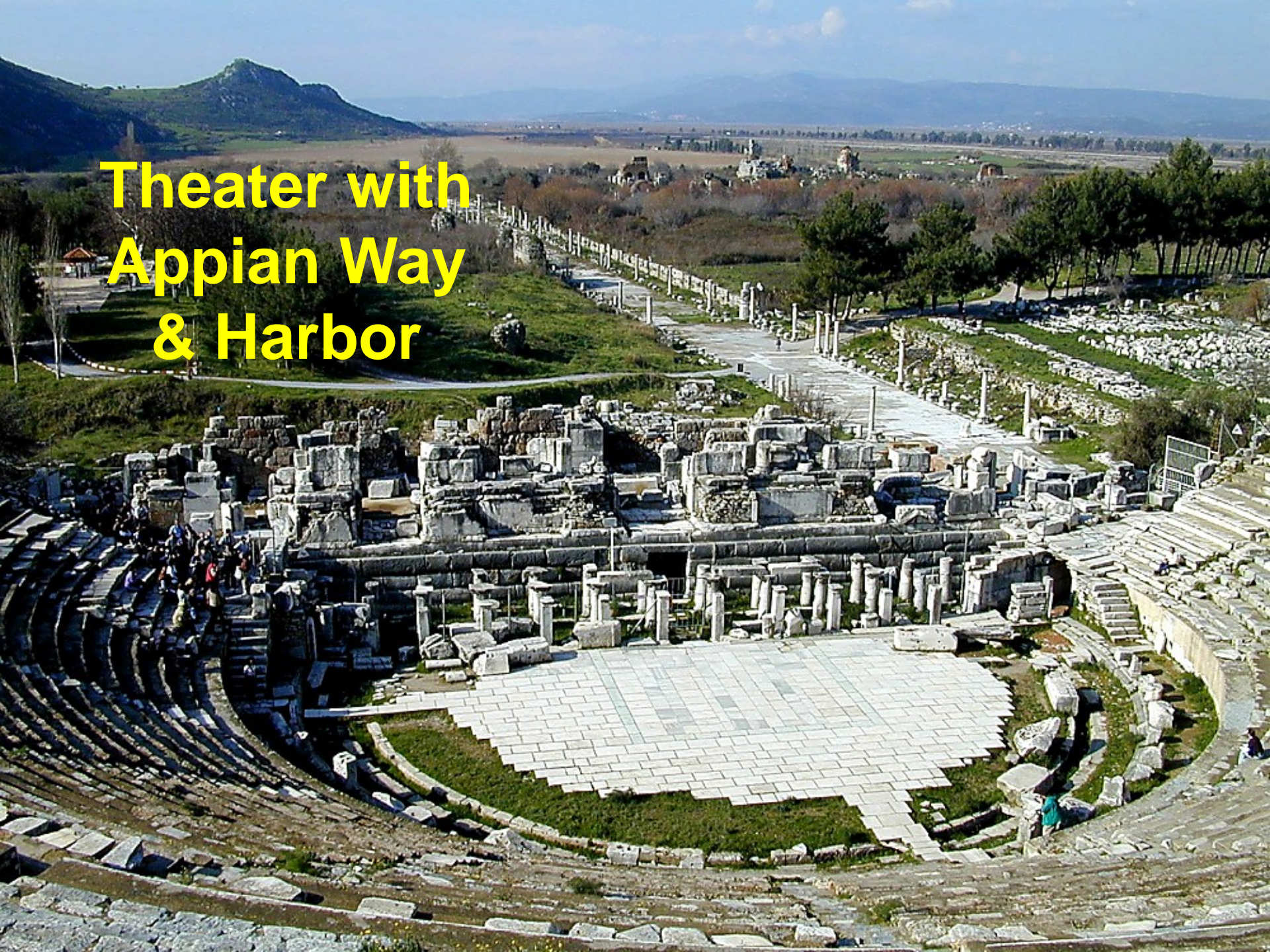




Library of Celsus



Theater with Appian Way & Harbor



1. JOHN

- **Author -** **Apostle John**
- **Audience -** **Christians of Asia**
- **Occasion -** **85-95**
- **Location -** **Ephesus**
- **Purpose -** **Edification**

PURPOSE

**To edify them by
emphasizing fellowship to
our Lord**

(1:3-4, 2:1, 5:13)

CHARACTERISTICS

1. Unique Language & Style

UNIQUENESS

- 1. Simple yet profound**
- 2. Tone of authority**

**“He thinks in terms of
ultimates - his colors are white
and black; there is no grey”**

Scroggie

UNIQUENESS

- 1. Simple yet profound**
- 2. Tone of authority**
- 3. Hebrew parallelism**
- 4. No OT quotes**
- 5. Calm serenity**
- 6. Use of antithesis**

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Unique Language & Style**
- 2. Similarity of 1John & John**

1 John & John

- 1. 1:1 - Jn 1:1**
- 2. Similar style**
- 3. Common words**
- 4. Common phrases**

COMMON PHRASES

- ✓ 1:6 - do the truth Jn 3:21
- ✓ 1:8 - truth not in us 8:44
- ✓ 2:1 - paraclete 14:16
- ✓ 2:11 - to walk in darkness 8:12
- ✓ 2:16 - to be of the world 8:23
- ✓ 2:28 - to abide in Him 6:56
- ✓ 3:1-2 - children of God 1:12
- ✓ 3:8 - to be of the devil 8:44
- ✓ 3:14 - to pass out of death into life 5:24

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Unique Language & Style**
- 2. Similarity of 1John & John**
- 3. Symphonic Structure**
- 4. Emphasis on Fellowship**

OUTLINE

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| I. Fellowship's Relations | 1:1-2:17 |
| II. Fellowship Tested | 2:18-4:6 |
| III. Fellowship Manifested | 4:7-5:21 |

OUTLINE

- I. Fellowship's Relations 1:1-2:17**
 - A. Introduction 1:1-4**
 - B. With the Father 1:5-10**
 - C. With Christ 2:1-6**
 - D. With Believers 2:7-11**
 - E. With the World 2:12-17**

OUTLINE

- I. Fellowship's Relations 1:1-2:17**
- II. Fellowship Tested 2:18-4:6**
 - A. Threat of Lies 2:18-29**
 - B. Threat of Sins 3:1-12**
 - C. Threat of Neglect 3:13-24**
 - D. Threat of false spirits 4:1-6**