

# Heb-Rex



## General Epistles & Revelation

By Ray Mondragon

# **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 12 - Mt 4:21, 10:2**

# LETTERS OF JOHN

➤ **Author -**                      **Apostle John**

# **JOHN the MAN**

**1. Personal - apostle**





**Bethsaida plain from NW**



An aerial photograph showing a landscape with a winding road, dense green trees, and large open fields. The road curves through the lower half of the image, with a small cluster of buildings or structures visible in the middle ground. The fields in the background are divided into sections of different colors, possibly representing different crops or land use. The overall scene is a mix of natural vegetation and human-made infrastructure.

**Bethsaida  
from NE**



# Bethsaida - “House of the Fisherman”





# **JOHN the MAN**

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

# Nof Ginosaur









# Capernaum







**Capernaum  
Synagogue**



**Tell Samaria  
(1Kg 12:25-30)  
from south**

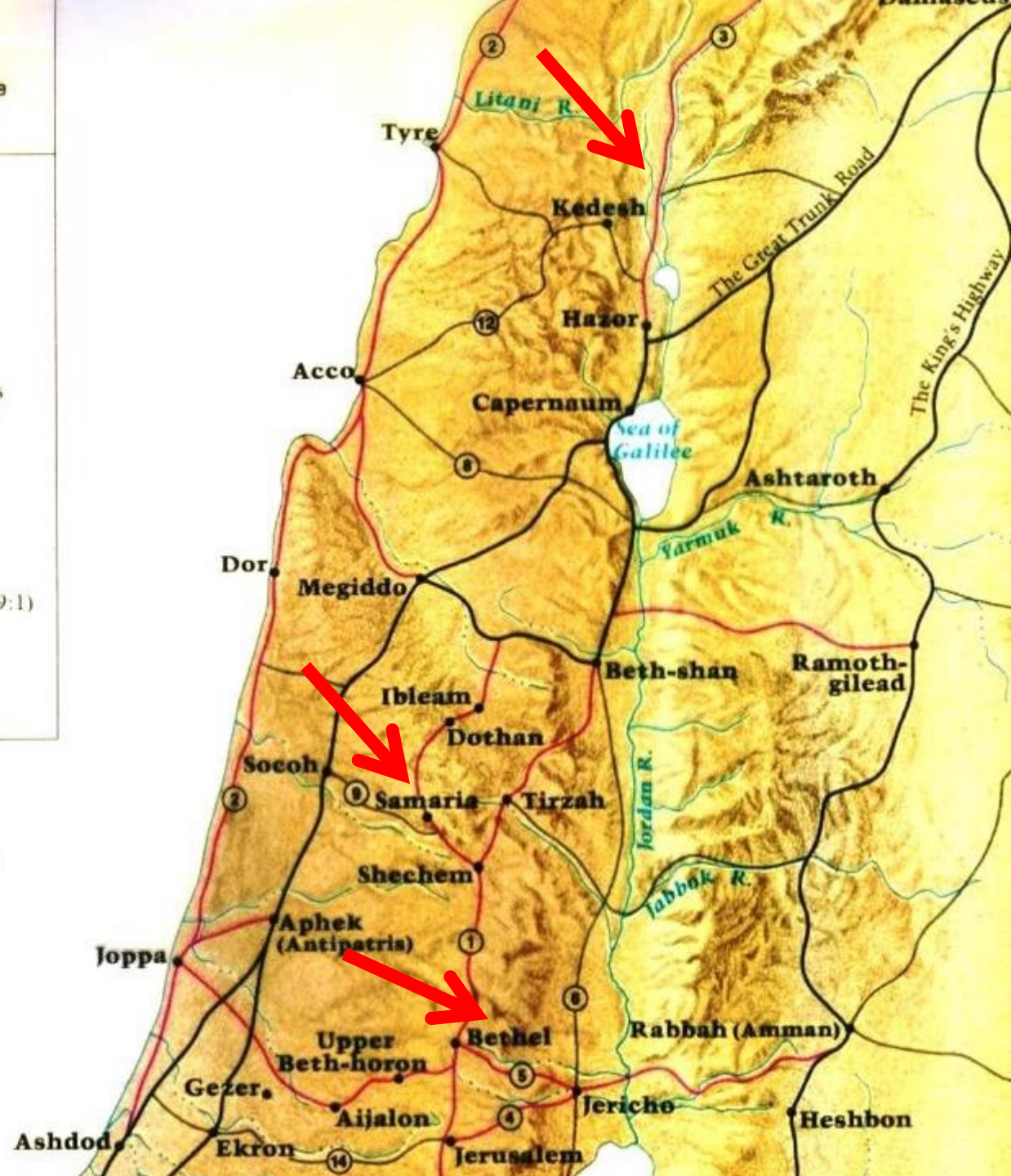




- city
- international artery
- regional thoroughfare
- secondary roadway

- ① Central ridge road
- ② Coast road
- ③ Beqa' valley road
- ④ Jericho road
- ⑤ Joppa-Amman road
- ⑥ Rift valley road
- ⑦ Road of the wilderness (Pilgrims' Highway in post-biblical times)
- ⑧ Acco valley road
- ⑨ Ephraim lateral road
- ⑩ Beersheba bay road
- ⑪ Road to Moab
- ⑫ Way of the Sea (Isa 9:1)
- ⑬ Arabah road
- ⑭ Sorek valley road
- ⑮ Guvrin valley road

**Mediterranean Sea**





# Samaria

## Iron Age acropolis





# Samaria steps to Herodian temple





# Samaria

## Hellenistic Tower & Roman Theater





# **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 & Domition**
2. **Near end of 1<sup>st</sup> 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

By  
Ray Mondragon

Ephesus -  
Theater



**“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**



# 1. JOHN

➤ **Author -**

**Apostle John**



# **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**



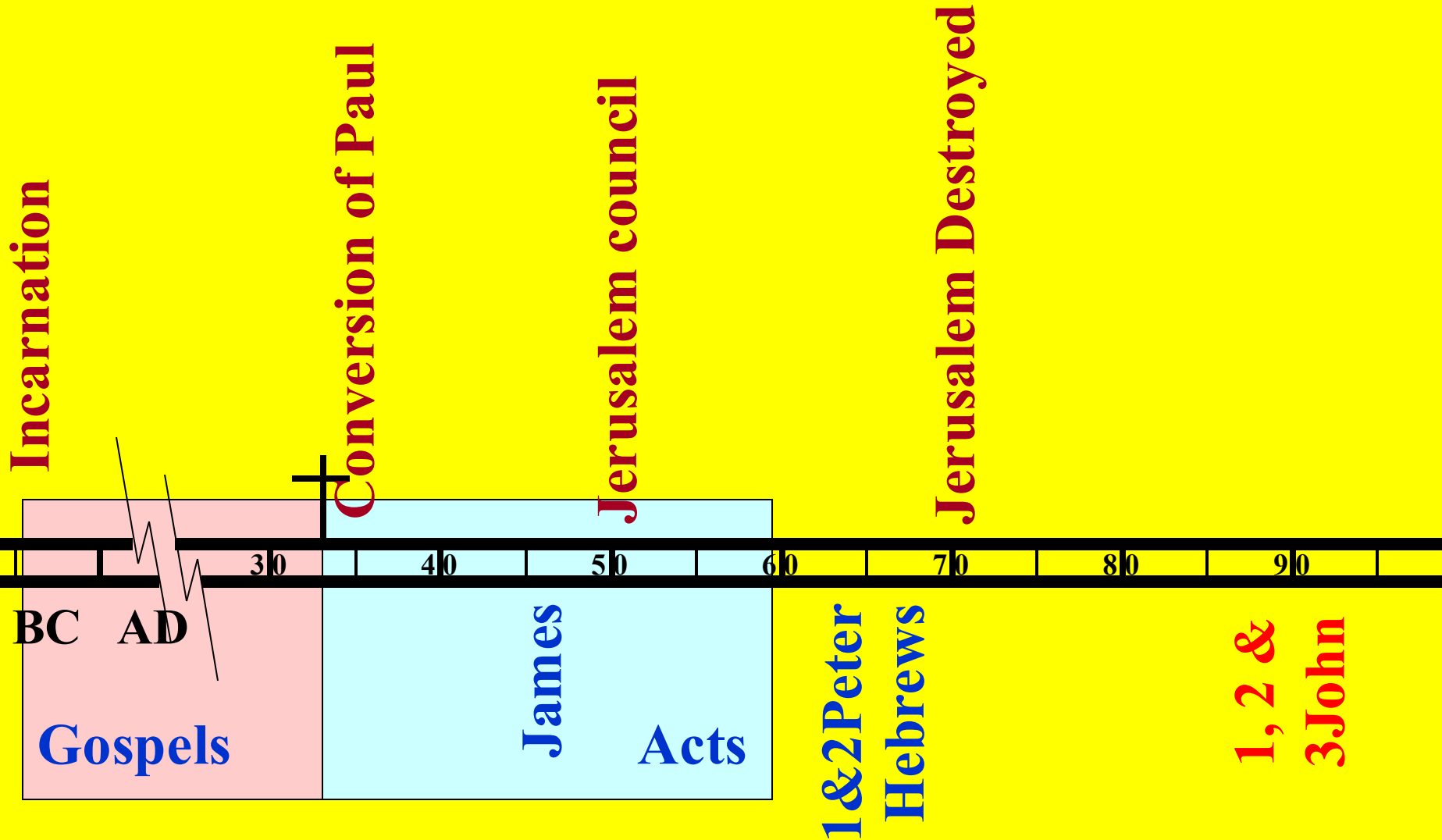
John the  
Apostle writes  
from Patmos



# **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



**Free city**

**Ephesus Street**











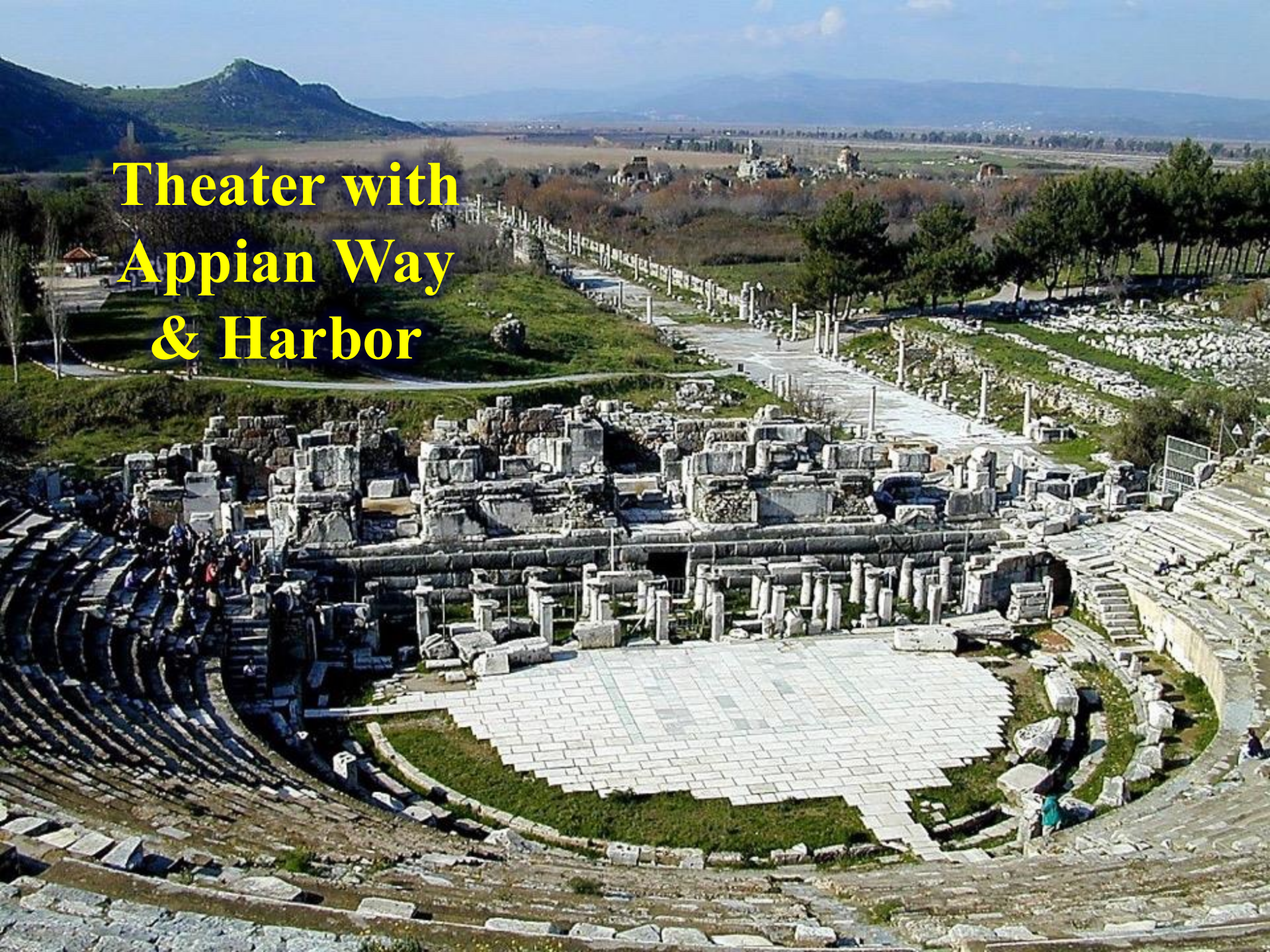


# Library of Celsus





# Theater with Appian Way & Harbor





# **1. JOHN**

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



# **MAJOR ISSUE**

## **➤ Lordship Salvation View**

**5:13 - tests for salvation**

**1:8, 2:8, 3:14, 18-19, 24, 4:13, 5:13, 18**

## **➤ Free Grace View**

**1:3-4, 2:1 - encouragement to stay in  
fellowship**

**threats to fellowship - spirits, world, sin**

# **PURPOSE**

**To edify them in the midst  
of false teaching by  
emphasizing fellowship  
with 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**

# **1John & 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 | 1:1-2:11 |
| II.  | Fellowship Tested      | 2:12-4:6 |
| III. | Fellowship Manifested  | 4:7-5:21 |





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