

## Johannine Epistles

### I John

- Author: John, son of Zebedee
- Uses simple vocabulary - vocabulary of 303 words in all 3 Johannine letters

### I-3 John

- Date: after Gospel of John, 80s-90s

### I-3 John

- I John - letter to various groups
- 2 & 3 John - letters to individual

### I John

- Occasion
  - recent departure of false teachers (2:19), and the churches are in need of instruction

### I John

- False teachers:
  - I John 2:22-23; 30-31 - denial that Jesus is the Messiah
  - Do not know God
  - Do not conduct themselves ethically (not loving one another)
  - Reject apostolic witness (1:1-5)

## 1 John

- 1:1-4 - prologue
- 1:5-2:27 - True Believers
- 2:28-3:24 - Ethics
- 4:1-5:12 - Doctrine
- 5:13-21 - Epilogue

## 2 John

- the elect lady and her children
- a woman and her offspring?
- figurative reference to a church? - more likely (see vv. 5; 7-11)

## 2 John

- Occasion: return of delegation sent by the church to the apostle

## 3 John

- my dear friend Gaius
- letter of recommendation for Demetrius (vv. 11-12) and warning against Diotrephes (vv 9-10).