

since all these things will be destroyed like this, what kind of people ought you to be in holy living and godliness, <sup>3:12</sup>looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, which will cause the burning heavens to be dissolved, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? <sup>3:13</sup>But, according to his promise, we look for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>3:14</sup>Therefore, beloved, seeing that you look for these things, be diligent to be found in peace, without blemish and blameless in his sight. <sup>3:15</sup>Regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also, according to the wisdom given to him, wrote to you; <sup>3:16</sup>as also in all of his letters, speaking in them of these things. In those, there are some things that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unsettled twist, as they also do to the other Scriptures, to their own destruction. <sup>3:17</sup>You therefore, beloved, knowing these things beforehand, beware, lest being carried away with the error of the wicked, you fall from your own steadfastness. <sup>3:18</sup>But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

## John's First Letter

<sup>1:1</sup>That which was from the beginning, that which we have heard, that which we have seen with our eyes, that which we saw, and our hands touched, concerning the Word of life <sup>1:2</sup>(and the life was revealed, and we have seen, and testify, and declare to you the life, the eternal life, which was with the Father, and was revealed to us); <sup>1:3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us. Yes, and our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son, Jesus Christ. <sup>1:4</sup>And we write these things to you, that our joy may be fulfilled.

<sup>1:5</sup>This is the message which we have heard from him and announce to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>1:6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him and

walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth. <sup>1:7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. <sup>1:8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>1:9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>1:10</sup>If we say that we haven't sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not sin. If anyone sins, we have a Counselor<sup>a</sup> with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. <sup>2:2</sup>And he is the atoning sacrifice<sup>b</sup> for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world. <sup>2:3</sup>This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commandments. <sup>2:4</sup>One who says, "I know him," and doesn't keep his commandments, is a liar, and the truth isn't in him. <sup>2:5</sup>But whoever keeps his word, God's love has most certainly been perfected in him. This is how we know that we are in him: <sup>2:6</sup>he who says he remains in him ought himself also to walk just like he walked.

<sup>2:7</sup>Brothers, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. <sup>2:8</sup>Again, I write a new commandment to you, which is true in him and in you; because the darkness is passing away, and the true light already shines. <sup>2:9</sup>He who says he is in the light and hates his brother, is in the darkness even until now. <sup>2:10</sup>He who loves his brother remains in the light, and there is no occasion for stumbling in him. <sup>2:11</sup>But he who hates his brother is in the darkness, and walks in the darkness, and doesn't know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

<sup>2:12</sup>I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

<sup>2:13</sup>I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, little children, because you

<sup>a</sup>2:1 Greek Parakleton: Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, and Comfortor.

<sup>b</sup>2:2 "atoning sacrifice" is from the Greek "hilasmos," an appeasing, propitiating, or the means of appeasement or propitiation—the sacrifice that turns away God's wrath because of our sin.

know the Father.

<sup>2:14</sup>I have written to you, fathers, because you know him 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.

<sup>2:15</sup>Don't love the world, neither the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him. <sup>2:16</sup>For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, isn't the Father's, but is the world's. <sup>2:17</sup>The world is passing away with its lusts, but he who does God's will remains forever.

<sup>2:18</sup>Little children, these are the end times, and as you heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen. By this we know that it is the final hour. <sup>2:19</sup>They went out from us, but they didn't belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would have continued with us. But they left, that they might be revealed that none of them belong to us. <sup>2:20</sup>You have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.<sup>c</sup> <sup>2:21</sup>I have not written to you because you don't know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. <sup>2:22</sup>Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the Antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son. <sup>2:23</sup>Whoever denies the Son, the same doesn't have the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also.

<sup>2:24</sup>Therefore, as for you, let that remain in you which you heard from the beginning. If that which you heard from the beginning remains in you, you also will remain in the Son, and in the Father. <sup>2:25</sup>This is the promise which he promised us, the eternal life. <sup>2:26</sup>These things I have written to you concerning those who would lead you astray. <sup>2:27</sup>As for you, the anointing which you received from him remains in you, and you don't need for anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is no lie, and even as it taught you, you will remain in him. <sup>2:28</sup>Now, little children, remain in him, that when he appears, we may have boldness, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. <sup>2:29</sup>If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of him.

<sup>c</sup>2:20 Or, "know what is true." Or, "know all things."

<sup>3:1</sup>Behold, how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! For this cause the world doesn't know us, because it didn't know him.

<sup>3:2</sup>Beloved, now we are children of God, and it is not yet revealed what we will be. But we know that, when he is revealed, we will be like him; for we will see him just as he is.

<sup>3:3</sup>Everyone who has this hope set on him purifies himself, even as he is pure. <sup>3:4</sup>Everyone who sins also commits lawlessness. Sin is lawlessness. <sup>3:5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away our sins, and in him is no sin. <sup>3:6</sup>Whoever remains in him doesn't sin. Whoever sins hasn't seen him, neither knows him.

<sup>3:7</sup>Little children, let no one lead you astray. He who does righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

<sup>3:8</sup>He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. To this end the Son of God was revealed, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

<sup>3:9</sup>Whoever is born of God doesn't commit sin, because his seed remains in him; and he can't sin, because he is born of God. <sup>3:10</sup>In this the children of God are revealed, and the children of the devil. Whoever doesn't do righteousness is not of God, neither is he who doesn't love his brother.

<sup>3:11</sup>For this is the message which you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;

<sup>3:12</sup>unlike Cain, who was of the evil one, and killed his brother. Why did he kill him? Because his works were evil, and his brother's righteous. <sup>3:13</sup>Don't be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you.

<sup>3:14</sup>We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. He who doesn't love his brother remains in death. <sup>3:15</sup>Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.

<sup>3:16</sup>By this we know love, because he laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

<sup>3:17</sup>But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and closes his heart of compassion against him, how does the love of God remain in him? <sup>3:18</sup>My little children, let's not love in word only, neither with the tongue only, but in deed and truth.

<sup>3:19</sup>And by this we know that we are of the truth, and persuade our hearts

before him, <sup>3:20</sup>because if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. <sup>3:21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have boldness toward God; <sup>3:22</sup>and whatever we ask, we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do the things that are pleasing in his sight. <sup>3:23</sup>This is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, even as he commanded. <sup>3:24</sup>He who keeps his commandments remains in him, and he in him. By this we know that he remains in us, by the Spirit which he gave us.

<sup>4:1</sup>Beloved, don't believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>4:2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, <sup>4:3</sup>and every spirit who doesn't confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God, and this is the spirit of the Antichrist, of whom you have heard that it comes. Now it is in the world already. <sup>4:4</sup>You are of God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is he who is in you than he who is in the world. <sup>4:5</sup>They are of the world. Therefore they speak of the world, and the world hears them. <sup>4:6</sup>We are of God. He who knows God listens to us. He who is not of God doesn't listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

<sup>4:7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God, and knows God. <sup>4:8</sup>He who doesn't love doesn't know God, for God is love. <sup>4:9</sup>By this God's love was revealed in us, that God has sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>4:10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son as the atoning sacrifice<sup>d</sup> for our sins. <sup>4:11</sup>Beloved, if God loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another. <sup>4:12</sup>No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God remains in us, and his love has been perfected in us.

<sup>4:13</sup>By this we know that we remain in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>4:14</sup>We have seen and testify that the

Father has sent the Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>4:15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him, and he in God. <sup>4:16</sup>We know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and he who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. <sup>4:17</sup>In this love has been made perfect among us, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment, because as he is, even so are we in this world. <sup>4:18</sup>There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear has punishment. He who fears is not made perfect in love. <sup>4:19</sup>We love him, because he first loved us. <sup>4:20</sup>If a man says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who doesn't love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? <sup>4:21</sup>This commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should also love his brother.

<sup>5:1</sup>Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. Whoever loves the Father also loves the child who is born of him. <sup>5:2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep his commandments. <sup>5:3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. His commandments are not grievous. <sup>5:4</sup>For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: your faith. <sup>5:5</sup>Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>5:6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>5:7</sup>For there are three who testify<sup>e</sup>: <sup>5:8</sup>the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and the three agree as one. <sup>5:9</sup>If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is God's testimony which he has testified concerning his Son. <sup>5:10</sup>He who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. He who doesn't believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>5:11</sup>The testimony is this, that God gave to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>5:12</sup>He who has the Son has the life. He who doesn't have God's Son doesn't have the life. <sup>5:13</sup>These

<sup>d</sup>4:10 "atoning sacrifice" is from the Greek "hilasmos," an appeasing, propitiating, or the means of appeasement or propitiation—the sacrifice that turns away God's wrath because of our sin.

<sup>e</sup>5:7 Only a few recent manuscripts add "in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth"

things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

<sup>5:14</sup>This is the boldness which we have toward him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us. <sup>5:15</sup>And if we know that he listens to us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions which we have asked of him.

<sup>5:16</sup>If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life for those who sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death. I don't say that he should make a request concerning this. <sup>5:17</sup>All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not leading to death. <sup>5:18</sup>We know that whoever is born of God doesn't sin, but he who was born of God keeps himself, and the evil one doesn't touch him. <sup>5:19</sup>We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. <sup>5:20</sup>We know that the Son of God has come, and has given us an understanding, that we know him who is true, and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

<sup>5:21</sup>Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

## John's Second Letter

<sup>1</sup>The elder, to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth; and not I only, but also all those who know the truth; <sup>2</sup>for the truth's sake, which remains in us, and it will be with us forever: <sup>3</sup>Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

<sup>4</sup>I rejoice greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, even as we have been commanded by the Father. <sup>5</sup>Now I beg you, dear lady, not as though I wrote to you a new commandment, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. <sup>6</sup>This is love, that we should walk according to his commandments. This is the commandment, even as you heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it. <sup>7</sup>For

many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who don't confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the Antichrist. <sup>8</sup>Watch yourselves, that we don't lose the things which we have accomplished, but that we receive a full reward. <sup>9</sup>Whoever transgresses and doesn't remain in the teaching of Christ, doesn't have God. He who remains in the teaching, the same has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup>If anyone comes to you, and doesn't bring this teaching, don't receive him into your house, and don't welcome him, <sup>11</sup>for he who welcomes him participates in his evil works.

<sup>12</sup>Having many things to write to you, I don't want to do so with paper and ink, but I hope to come to you, and to speak face to face, that our joy may be made full. <sup>13</sup>The children of your chosen sister greet you. Amen.

## John's Third Letter

<sup>1</sup>The elder to Gaius the beloved, whom I love in truth.

<sup>2</sup>Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be healthy, even as your soul prospers. <sup>3</sup>For I rejoiced greatly, when brothers came and testified about your truth, even as you walk in truth. <sup>4</sup>I have no greater joy than this, to hear about my children walking in truth.

<sup>5</sup>Beloved, you do a faithful work in whatever you accomplish for those who are brothers and strangers. <sup>6</sup>They have testified about your love before the assembly. You will do well to send them forward on their journey in a way worthy of God, <sup>7</sup>because for the sake of the Name they went out, taking nothing from the Gentiles. <sup>8</sup>We therefore ought to receive such, that we may be fellow workers for the truth.

<sup>9</sup>I wrote to the assembly, but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, doesn't accept what we say. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words. Not content with this, neither does he himself receive the brothers, and those who would, he forbids and throws out of the assembly. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, don't imitate that which is evil, but that which is good. He who does good is of God. He who does evil hasn't seen God. <sup>12</sup>Demetrius has the testimony of all, and of the

truth itself; yes, we also testify, and you know that our testimony is true.

<sup>13</sup>I had many things to write to you, but I am unwilling to write to you with ink and pen; <sup>14</sup>but I hope to see you soon, and we will speak face to face. Peace be to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

## The Letter from Jude

<sup>1</sup>Jude,<sup>a</sup> a servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and kept for Jesus Christ: <sup>2</sup>Mercy to you and peace and love be multiplied.

<sup>3</sup>Beloved, while I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I was constrained to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. <sup>4</sup>For there are certain men who crept in secretly, even those who were long ago written about for this condemnation: ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into indecency, and denying our only Master, God, and Lord, Jesus Christ.

<sup>5</sup>Now I desire to remind you, though you already know this, that the Lord, having saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who didn't believe. <sup>6</sup>Angels who didn't keep their first domain, but deserted their own dwelling place, he has kept in everlasting bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day. <sup>7</sup>Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them, having, in the same way as these, given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the punishment of eternal fire. <sup>8</sup>Yet in the same way, these also in their dreaming defile the flesh, despise authority, and slander celestial beings. <sup>9</sup>But Michael, the archangel, when contending with the devil and arguing about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him an abusive condemnation, but said, "May the Lord rebuke you!" <sup>10</sup>But these speak evil of whatever things they don't know. What they understand naturally, like the creatures without reason, they are destroyed in these

things. <sup>11</sup>Woe to them! For they went in the way of Cain, and ran riotously in the error of Balaam for hire, and perished in Korah's rebellion. <sup>12</sup>These are hidden rocky reefs in your love feasts when they feast with you, shepherds who without fear feed themselves; clouds without water, carried along by winds; autumn leaves without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; <sup>13</sup>wild waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved forever. <sup>14</sup>About these also Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with ten thousands of his holy ones, <sup>15</sup>to execute judgment on all, and to convict all the ungodly of all their works of ungodliness which they have done in an ungodly way, and of all the hard things which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." <sup>16</sup>These are murmurers and complainers, walking after their lusts (and their mouth speaks proud things), showing respect of persons to gain advantage.

<sup>17</sup>But you, beloved, remember the words which have been spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>They said to you that "In the last time there will be mockers, walking after their own ungodly lusts." <sup>19</sup>These are they who cause divisions, and are sensual, not having the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>But you, beloved, keep building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. <sup>22</sup>On some have compassion, making a distinction, <sup>23</sup>and some save, snatching them out of the fire with fear, hating even the clothing stained by the flesh.

<sup>24</sup>Now to him who is able to keep them<sup>b</sup> from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory in great joy, <sup>25</sup>to God our Savior, who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

<sup>a</sup>1 or, Judah

<sup>b</sup>24 TR and NU read "you"