

# YE 2023 Review and the Letters of John

Class for Dec 31, 2023, 1 John Ch 1

***Logos Class. Mod 5 Room 1***

# Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Dec 31, 2023 – YE 2023 Review & Letters of John- 1 John Ch 1*
- *Jan 7, 2024 – 1 John Ch 2*
- *Jan 14, 2024 – 1 John Ch 3*
- *Jan 21, 2024 – 1 John Ch 4*
- *Jan 28, 2024 – 1 John Ch 5*

*I plan to continue both In-Person and Zoom in 2024*

# 2023 Year End Review

- *Class Started **June 30, 2019**, with about 25 hardy, adventurous souls, no bathroom nearby, and no internet. Some things have changed but not all.*
  - *If you want to hear the start of the class in audio format, go to the website and listen to the first 15 minutes or so of the first class. Gospel of John*
- *At the end of 2023, we have 100 “members” on roll*
  - *87 actual FRC members, and 13 “not yet” members.*
  - *We have had about 25 new members this year, and 31 visitors (only count 1<sup>st</sup> time)*
  - ***Thanks to Care Givers, Officers, Prayer Warriors, and everyone who serves the Lord in this class***
- *We added Zoom when the Covid 19 pandemic hit, and the classroom got internet*
- *This year we have studied:*
  - *Gospel of Matthew*
  - *Defending your Faith in today’s World*
  - *Book of Daniel*
  - *2 Christmas Lessons*
  - *Many ICYMI sessions on the Israel War, Prophecy updates, and Cultural happenings*
  - *Now starting the Letters of John – 1<sup>st</sup> John, 2<sup>nd</sup> John, and 3<sup>rd</sup> John*

# 2024 Outlook

- *Continue to Zoom as long as there is interest and a need*
- *Continue to take books of the Bible, both OT and NT to study*
- *Expect to continue ICYMI and updates as warranted and as you request.*
- *Vicki and I are excited to see what the Lord has in store for all of us this year.*
  - *New Building, New Friends*
  - *Deepening relationships, more understanding of God's Word*
  - *Fresh Opportunities*
  - *God's Hand visible in the world and in our lives*

*As brother Tommy Chupp would say **"Keep Looking Up"***

# Closing some details from Last Week

- *We didn't quite get through all I had planned but I wanted to bring back one thing that is important. Remember the Shepherds visit from the Angel?*

*Luke 2: 12*

***12** This will be a **sign to** you: You will find a baby wrapped in (swaddling) cloth and lying in a manger.”*

*This is exactly what they found, but what does it mean? What did the sign point to? What is a sign anyway? What does swaddling clothes mean to the Shepherds?*

*Temple Shepherds – Migdal Edar quick review*

*What was the great news to the shepherds that they shared with all they encountered*

# A Quick Outlook on Israel and other events

- *Increasingly polarizing support for Antisemitism and Hamas causes in both America and Abroad*
- *=> Increasing civil disobedience and terror threats everywhere*
- *Organizations like the United Nations, and the World Health Organization, as well as the Pope are pushing cease fire narratives for Israel. Condemning Israel while not mentioning the killing of Kurds by Turkey, the Muslim death tolls in Syria, the extermination of Christians and Jews in Africa*
- *Between 6000 and 8000 migrants are in Mexico heading for the US border. People we don't vet, don't track, no intention of assimilation, terrorists, criminals, gangs, and drugs and diseases are coming*
- *Election interference by people to get Trump off the ballot, out him in jail, or make his run for office impossible. Using "LawFare" to do it.*
- *War against Hamas nearing end, but northern front heating up. Attacking Churches, Mosques, Schools, Monasteries killing civilians and soldiers.*
- *Yemen, and violence in the area of Samaria and Judea increasing and being promoted by Iran*
- *Countries around the world are taking sides, breeding violence in Europe, Africa, South America, and America. Alliances of Russia, Turkey, Iran, and others are solidifying*

*Watch these things in 2024*

# Study of Letters of John

- *Background of time*
- *Background of John, his writings*
  - *Ephesus/ Patmos*
- *The Letters themselves: author, content, timing, and purpose*
  - *Heresies of the day*
  - *Gnostics*
  - *Docetism*
- *Relationship between Jesus and John*
- *John was an eyewitness to these events*

# Ephesus



*Home and Shrine of Mary in Ephesus*



*Tomb of Apostle John*



# Patmos



*Island of Patmos and Harbor*



*Entrance to the Cave on Patmos*

# 1 John Ch 1:1-4 The Incarnation of the Word of Life

*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**—**this** we proclaim concerning the **Word (Logos) of life**.*

*2 The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the **eternal life**, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.*

*3 We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have **fellowship** with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*

*4 We **write this** to make our (your) joy complete.*

# Gospel of John Ch1:1-5. *Word of Life*

***1 In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with **God**, and the **Word** was **God**.***

***2 He was with God in the beginning.***

***3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.***

***4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.***

***5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.***

# Christian Fellowship is grounded in 4 Principles

- 1. **The Testimony of God's Word** – without this undergirding us, we do not have Christian Fellowship*
- 2. **Fellowship is mutual** – It depends on the Unity of Believers in the Essentials of the Faith*
- 3. **Fellowship is renewed daily by the Holy Spirit** – The Holy Spirit living in us adds to the social, and spiritual relationship between believers and God. This “living” relationship with Christ and the Spirit accomplishes this*
- 4. **Christian Fellowship requires adherence to Truth.** In the case of these heresies, loyalty to Jesus and the Word, rather than the knowledge of man.*

# 1 John 1: 5-7. Light and Darkness

<sup>5</sup> *This is the **message** we have heard from him and declare to you: **God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.***

<sup>6</sup> *If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.*

<sup>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, his Son, purifies us from all (every) sin.***

# 1 John Ch 1:8-10 Sin and Forgiveness

***8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.***

***9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.***

***10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.***

# Next Week

- *Come back again*
- *Read 1 John Chapter 2*
- *Pray for each other...there is a lot going on*
- *Pray for Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem*
- *Pray for our country and its leaders*
- *Pray for our State and County and their leaders*
- *Pray for our Church, its Pastors, Teachers, and Members that we would be faithful to His Call and Direction*
- *Pray for a Healthy, Happy, Productive, and Safe 2024*