

1st, 2nd, and 3rd John

- **Author and Date**
 - John the Beloved Disciple and author of the fourth Gospel.
 - According to most contemporary biblical scholars the letters were written around the same time that the apostle wrote his Gospel (i.e., AD 90).
 - In the second and third letters he refers to himself as ‘the elder’ (presbyter).
- **Themes**
 - Very similar in content to the fourth Gospel.
 - Light/Darkness, Life/Death, Truth/Falsehood
 - The Word, The Spirit, The World (in the hostile sense), Faith and Love
 - Our rebirth as children of God
 - Strict warnings against false teaching, heresy and dissent from the teaching of the apostles.
 - Of special concern is the teaching of the Gnostics (gnosis = knowledge). He emphasizes the reality of the incarnation.