

## One Year Bible – Week 50

### **Summary: 2 & 3John / Jude / Revelation Reading**

Jude is most likely a half brother of Jesus. His letter is one of exhortation and a denunciation of false teachers.

The book of 2John is likely written to a house church and addresses secessionists who are attacking from outside. It is similar to the challenge addressed in 1John whose attackers were from within.

3John seems to be addressing the same general problem as in 1 & 2John but it seems the secessionists have taken over one of the house churches.

There are many perspectives on the book of Revelation among Christian scholarship. Historically the book of Revelation is attributed to the apostle John while in exile on the island of Patmos. Most scholars would place the setting during A.D. 90's during the intense persecution of Christians under the Roman rule Domitian. John writes to encourage 7 churches in Asia Minor to endure persecution and be assured of God's ultimate victory.

### **Summary: Hosea / Joel / Amos Reading**

The prophet Hosea lived in the tumultuous times of the waning years of the Northern Kingdom of Israel before its fall to Assyria. Hosea was a contemporary of Isaiah and Micah. Hosea covers the faithlessness and sins of the people, priests, and leaders (ch 4-7), false worship (ch 8-11:11), and finally Israel's history as deserving of judgment (ch 11:12-14).

Not much is known about the prophet Joel or the time which this book was written. What is clear is that Joel is writing to a threatened people and encourages them to repent and trust in the Lord.

Amos is a prophet from the southern kingdom of Judah with a message to the northern kingdom of Israel. His message is one of accusation of the foreign nations, Israel, and Judah.

### **Things to Look for and Questions to Ponder as You Read:**

- *OT* – The profound love and grace of our God is seen throughout the Bible time and time again. In the midst of devastation and judgment, God appeals to his people to repent. Read Joel 2:12-13. Hear the call that God gives. Hear the offense of the people. The people's hearts are not yielded to God and that is what God wants. Yet he still gives them chance upon chance wanting that they would repent and surrender their whole hearts to him. Are we any different now? – *Dec 9*

### **Small Group Questions:**

- 1) *NT* – Read 2John 5-6. Who is the object of love as understood from these verses? How does this picture of love affirm or challenge your picture of love in the Christian faith? Read John 14:15 & 1Jn 5:3. How would you summarize love for God from these verses? What challenges do you see for living consistently with the truth of these verses? Are there ways you can improve in this area of your spiritual walk? – *Dec 6*
- 2) *OT* – Read Hos 6:6. God is speaking here through the prophet Hosea. How would you rephrase what God is communicating here in verse 6 (read some of the surrounding verses to gain some of the feel of what is being said)? This verse is quoted by Jesus in Matthew 9:13 & 12:7. How does Jesus' reference to this verse illuminate what God is saying in this verse? In what way(s) does this verse inform the way we live out our faith today? – *Dec 7*
- 3) *NT* – Read Jude 17-25. What word would you use to describe the general feel of these verses? What is Jude encouraging his readers to remember? What is he encouraging them to do or be like? Is there any word or phrase in verses 24-25 that sticks out to you? Why? – *Dec 8*

### **Journal the Psalms this week:**

Read Psalm 127:1-2. How would you summarize these two verses? What does the Psalmist say is the cause of vain effort? What exactly is being rebuked and what is being promised in verse 2? Journal your answers to these questions and other thoughts you may have about this verse. – *Dec 8*

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### **Reading Schedule:**

Hos = Hosea / 2 & 3Jn = 2 & 3 John / Rev = Revelation / Ps = Psalms /  
Pr = Proverbs



Dec 6 – Hos 4:1-5:15 / 2Jn 1:1-13 / Ps 125:1-5 / Pr 29:9-11  
Dec 7 – Hos 6:1-9:17 / 3Jn 1:1-14 / Ps 126:1-6 / Pr 29:12-14  
Dec 8 – Hos 10:1-14:9 / Jude 1:1-25 / Ps 127:1-5 / Pr 29:15-17  
Dec 9 – Joel 1:1-3:21 / Rev 1:1-20 / Ps 128:1-6 / Pr 29:18  
Dec 10 – Amos 1:1-3:15 / Rev 2:1-17 / Ps 129:1-8 / Pr 29:19-20  
Dec 11 – Amos 4:1-6:14 / Rev 2:18-3:6 / Ps 130:1-8 / Pr 29:21-22  
Dec 12 – Amos 7:1-9:15 / Rev 3:7-22 / Ps 131:1-3 / Pr 29:23