

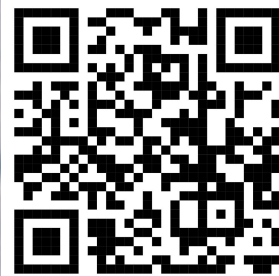
THROUGH THE BIBLE



1-3 John

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October 29, 2025

<https://www.joshuataallent.com/bible/>



1-3 John



- A. About (Authorship, Genre, Situation)
- B. Timeline

- A. Remain - Reside
- B. God is LIGHT
- C. God is LOVE
- D. Walking
- E. Exalts God
- F. Right Behavior - "Fruit"/Behavior Tests
- G. Right Belief
- H. Rich Rewards
- I. The Bible Project Outline

A. 1 John 1
B. 1 John 2
C. 1 John 3
D. 1 John 4
E. 1 John 5
F. 2 John
G. 3 John

OVERVIEW & CONTEXT

THE AUTHOR
 "THE ELDER" → THE DISCIPLE JESUS LOVED
 (SEE 2 & 3 JOHN) (SEE JOHN 21:20-24)



JOHN
 - SON OF ZEBEDEE?
 - THE ELDER?



OVERSEEING HOUSE CHURCHES
 (PROBABLY IN EPHESUS)

THE CRISIS
 • A GROUP LEFT THE CHURCH & DENIED JESUS AS MESSIAH & SON OF GOD (SEE 1 JOHN 2:10-23, 7:1-3)
 • THEY'VE GENERATED HOSTILITY (1 JOHN 3:4-10)
 • JOHN WROTE THESE FOR DAMAGE CONTROL & TO ASSURE THE CHURCHES.



THE LETTERS OF 1:2:3

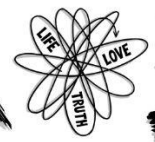
JOHN

KNOWING JESUS = KNOWING THE GOD OF LOVE

THE UNIQUENESS OF
1 JOHN
 • NOT A LETTER, BUT A POETIC SERMON
 • ALL THE KEY IDEAS CAME FROM JESUS' FINAL SPEECH IN JOHN chs.13-17

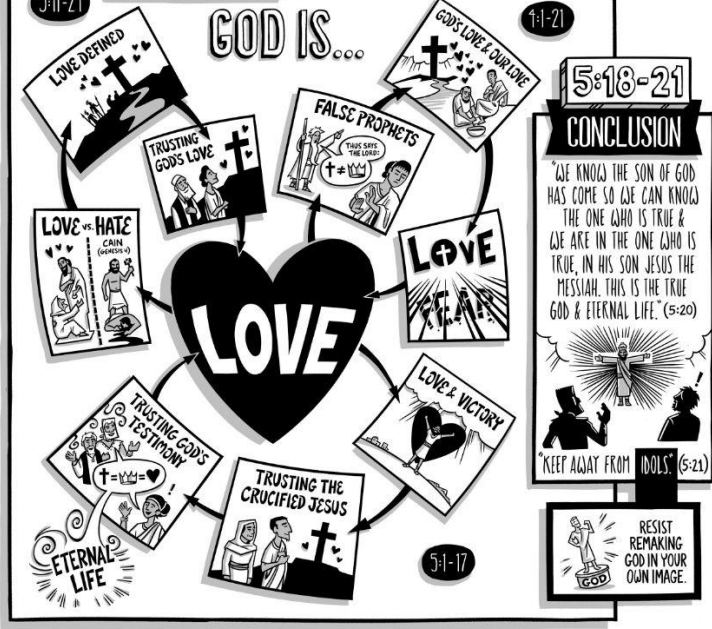
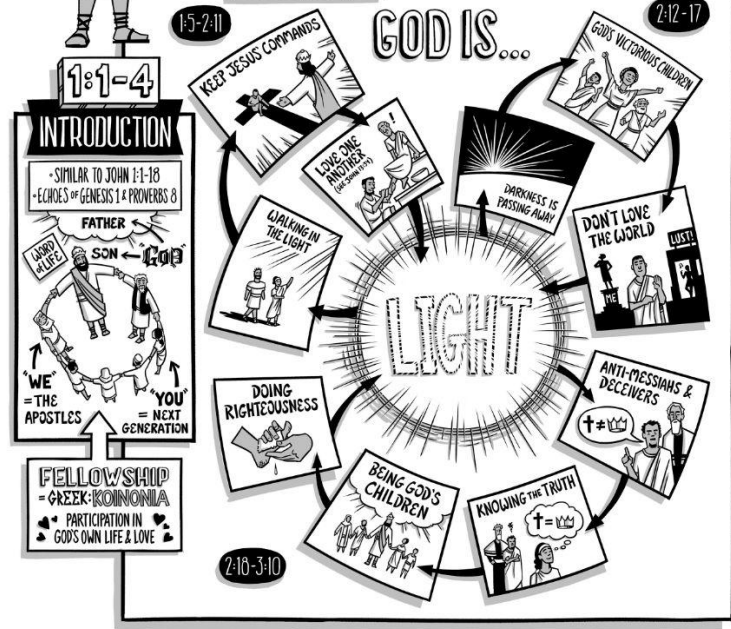
~~NOT LINEAR~~
 1 AND 2, THEREFORE, BUT NOT 4, THUS, 5...

"AMPLIFICATION"
 • CYCLICAL REPETITION
 • HYPERBOLE
 • STARK CONTRASTS



1:5-3:10 THIS IS THE MESSAGE...

3:11-5:17 THIS IS THE MESSAGE...



2 JOHN
 DEAR CHURCH,
 IF THE 'DECEIVERS' COME TO YOUR CHURCH...
 ...DON'T OFFER THEM SUPPORT.

3 JOHN
 DEAR GAULS,
 WELCOME THE BROTHERS...
 ...DON'T BE LIKE DIOTREPHES.

ABOUT 1-3 JOHN

The Big Idea

Following Jesus means entering into a way of life that is permeated with God's own life and love, beginning now and carrying on into eternity. To know Jesus is to know the creative God of life-giving and self-giving love.

About 1 John

Authorship - Likely John who authored the Gospel of John

Genre - Homily (sermon)

Situation - Idolatry, Gnosticism, Heresy, Compromise

About 2 John

Authorship - "The Elder" (Likely John)

Genre - Letter, private correspondence to "Elect Lady"

Situation - Warning to a house church

About 3 John

Authorship - "The Elder" (Likely John)

Genre - Letter of recommendation for traveling missionary, to Gaius

Situation - Counter influence of another house church leader

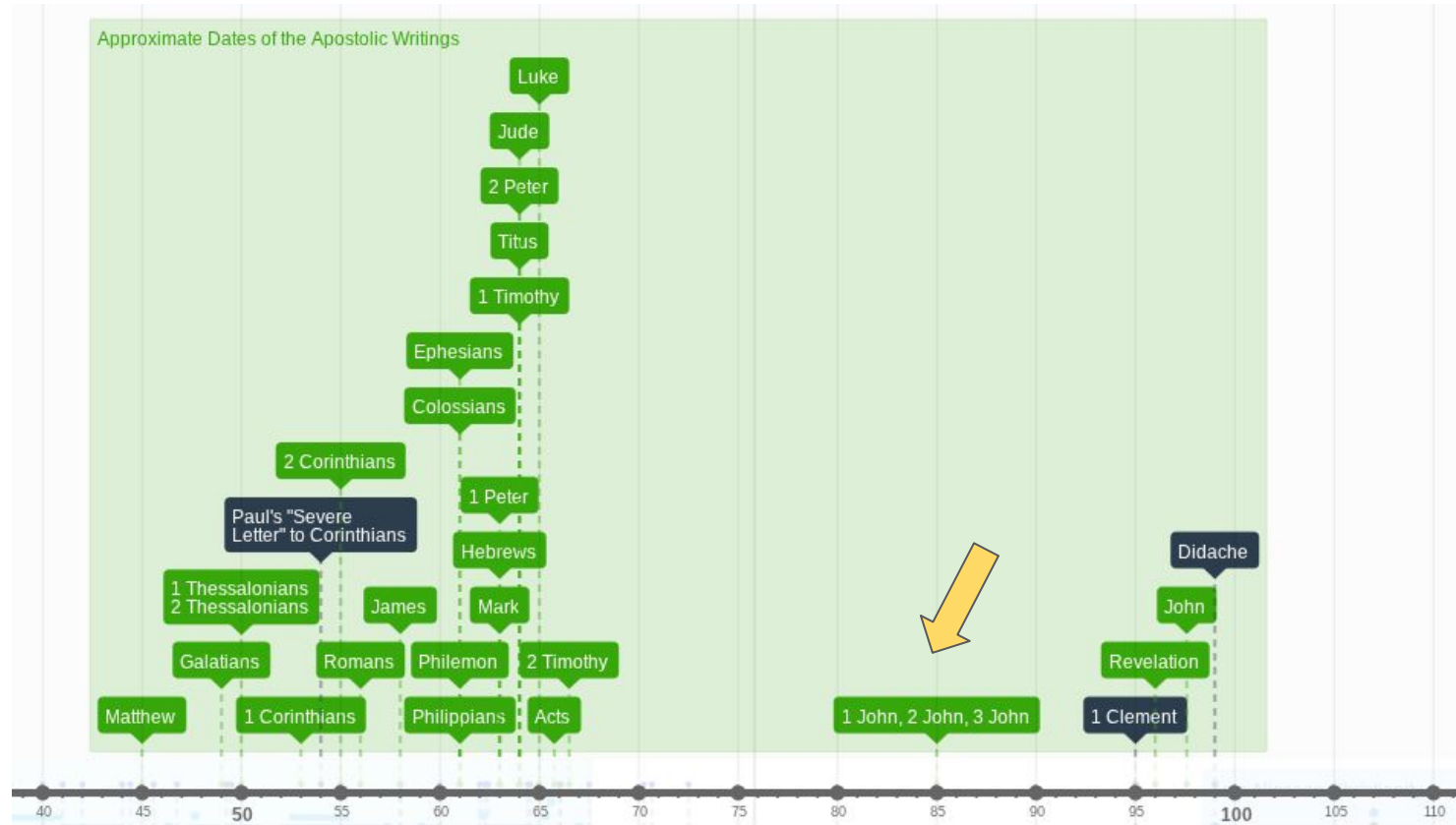
Wolves

Many false prophets have gone out into the world (1 John 4:1).

Jesus warned of false prophets in the Sermon on the Mount, comparing them to wolves: "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves" (Matt 7:15). Paul likewise compared false teachers to wolves: "I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock" ([Acts 20:29](#)). This picture shows a wolf at Haibar Nature Reserve in the Negev..



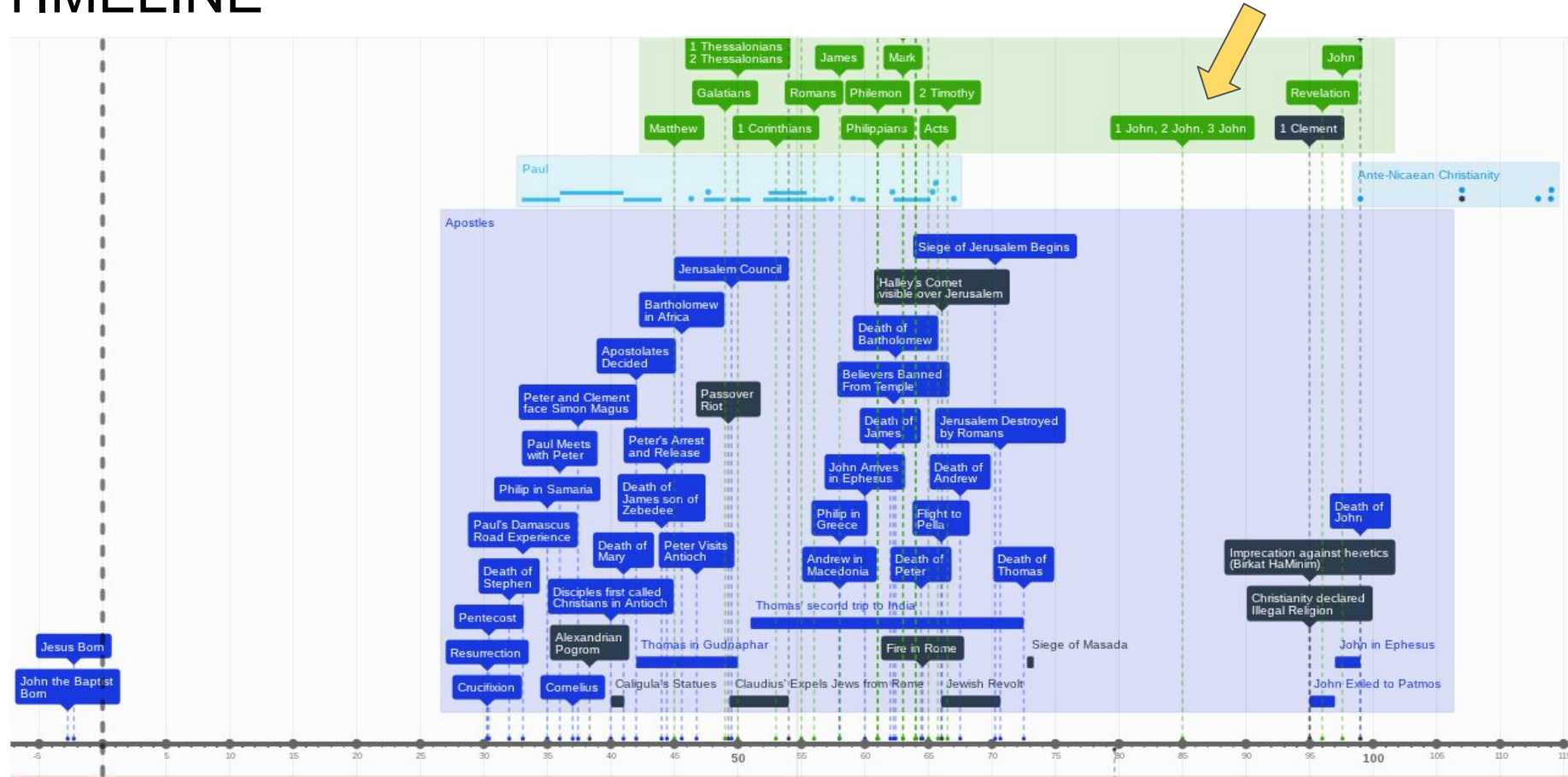
TIMELINE



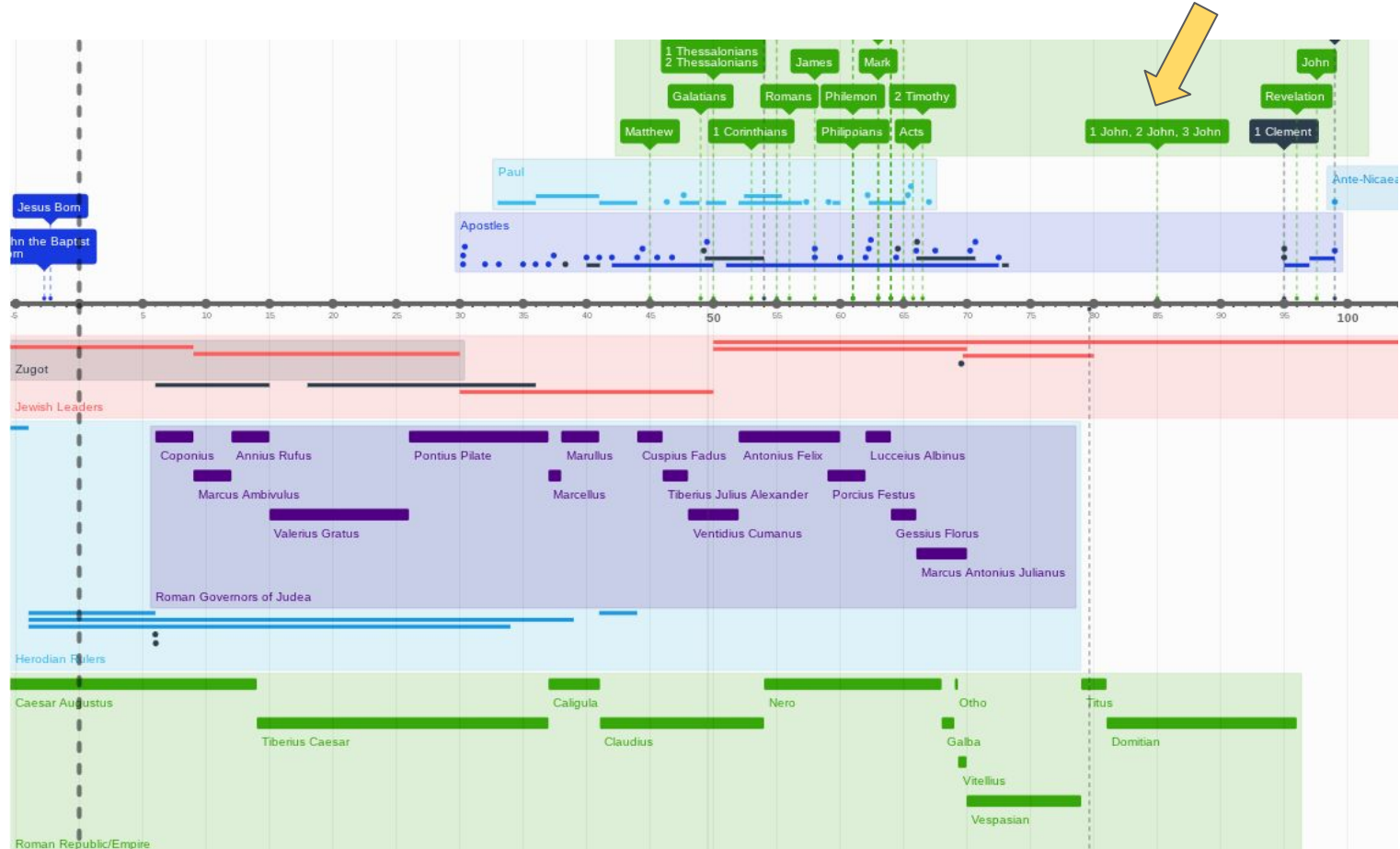
TTB: 1-3 John



TIMELINE



TIMELINE



TIMELINE

A Perishing World

*The world is passing away, as are its lusts
(1 John 2:17).*

If John wrote this letter late in his life, Domitian (reigned AD 81–96) may have been the sitting emperor. A temple to Domitian stood proudly in John's adopted hometown of [Ephesus](#). Today, it lies in ruins.



THEMES

THEMES

Remain - Reside

God is LIGHT

God is LOVE

Walking

Exalts God

Right Behavior -

“Fruit”/Behavior Tests

Right Belief

Rich Rewards

The Bible Project Outline

THEMES

Walking in the Way

And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments (2 John 6).



THEMES

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THEMES

Coming in the Flesh

Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God (1 John 4:2).



THEMES

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The Bible Project Outline

"Reward"

But that you may receive the full reward (2 John 8).



THEMES

"Reward"

*But that you may
receive the full
reward (2 John 8).*



THEMES

Remain - Reside

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The Bible Project Outline

The Hope of
Resurrection

*And this is the
promise which
He Himself
made to us:
eternal life (1
John 2:25).*



HIGHLIGHTS

[illegible]

HIGHLIGHTS - 3 JOHN



REFERENCES & RESOURCES

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*Through the Bible (TTB) Website & Bible History Timeline by Joshua Tallent: <https://www.joshuatallent.com/bible/>
<https://time.graphics/line/728507>*

Images <https://www.bibleplaces.com>

IPV Commentary - New Testament, by Keener

Word studies and Word Clouds <https://www.blueletterbible.org/>

The Bible Project website <https://bibleproject.com/guides/>

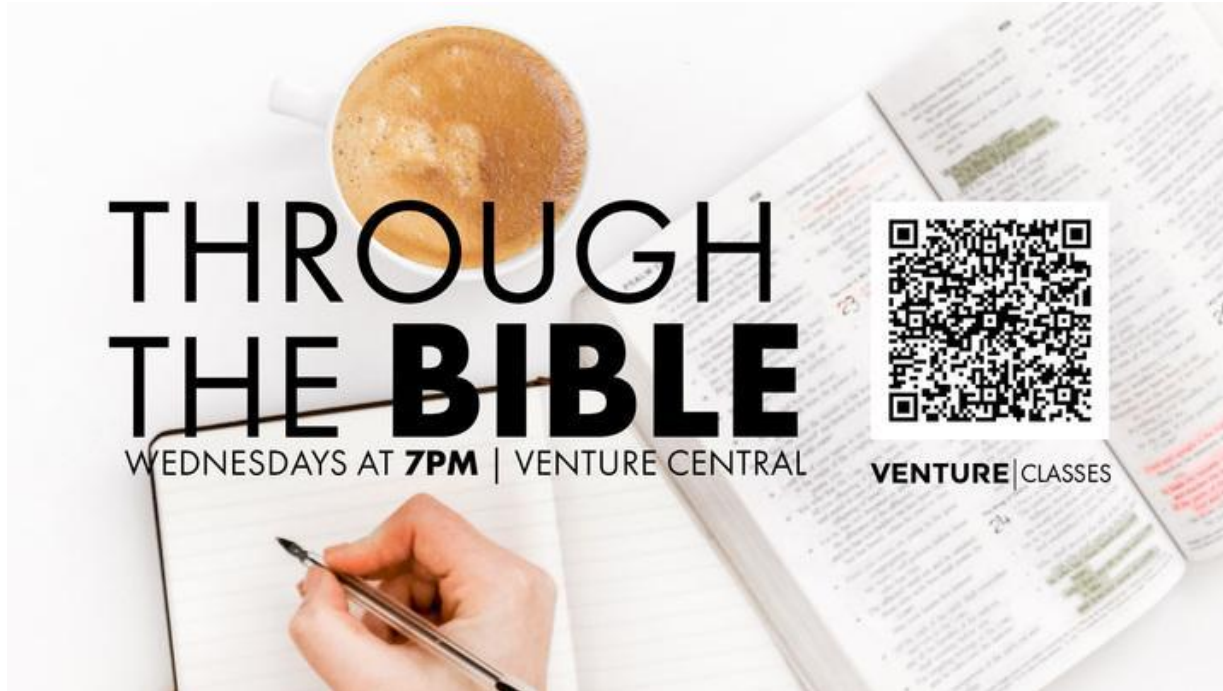
*Warren Wiersbe's Expository Outlines (Book)
Bible Hub (including Keil and Delitzsch OT Commentary)
What the Bible is All About by Henrietta Mears (Book)
She Reads Truth Bible (CSB version)*

*Sefaria website - A Living Library of Torah
<https://www.sefaria.org/>*

*Armstrong Institute of Biblical Archaeology
<https://armstronginstitute.org/>*



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