

Name _____

Sacred Scripture

Directed Reading Guide

Part 2C The Catholic Letters

Date _____

Directions: Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it.

Page 282 *Letters to an Entire Church*

1. What are three reasons that James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1, 2, and 3 John, and Jude are categorized as Catholic Letters?

2. True or False? Like some of the Pauline letters, the Catholic Letters were written by pseudonymous writers.

Pages 282 – 284 *The Letter of James*

3. Although the actual author of James is _____, it bears the name of the “_____,” the pillar of the _____ church who was martyred in AD 62. The Letter resembles an epistle, or _____ more than a letter, and its focus is not so much on the role of _____, but on the response of the _____.

4. The Letter begins with a series of _____ that invite the believer to an _____, responding both to _____ and blessings with _____. One of the main themes is God’s _____ for the poor and the need for _____ to care for the poor.

5. According to James, what is the measure of true religion?

6. Another important theme in James is the requirement of _____ in addition to _____. St. Paul taught that a person would be _____ according to his or her good works, but also taught that we didn’t earn _____ through these _____ because only _____ has earned our Salvation.

7. What is the critical response to our acceptance of the Salvation that Jesus earned for us?

8. True or False? James taught that it was useful to wish warmth and food for the cold and hungry while doing nothing about it.

9. James reveals how the _____ Church carried out the Lord’s directive to _____. It instructs the sick to request _____, who would pray, _____ on them in prayer, and _____ them with oil. This practice, part of the rite of the _____, expresses the confidence of the Church that God hears our _____, and is able to _____ the mind, heart, and even the body, according to _____.

Pages 285 – 286 *The First Letter of Peter*

10. Today's _____ classifies the First Letter of Peter as pseudonymous, written by a _____ in Rome to some communities in southern _____, perhaps sometime between AD 70–90. The letter was composed to the chosen in the _____, living in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia— names of Roman _____ in modern day _____ and Syria.
11. What is a central theme in the First Letter of Peter?
12. First Peter returns to the theme of _____ repeatedly. True _____ who try to live a good and _____ life can find themselves misunderstood and even _____ by their neighbors and this letter appeals to anyone enduring _____ at the hands of others, especially when trying to do or be _____ and good.
13. True or False? The message of 1 Peter is intended to imply that God prefers that people suffer and it encourages us to join our own sufferings with those of Christ for the sake of others.

Pages 287 – 288? *The Letter of Jude and the Second Letter of Peter*

14. True or False? Second Peter borrows heavily from the Letter of Jude.
15. _____ holds that the Judas mentioned as the author of the Letter of Jude was a _____ of Jesus; however, it is a pseudonymous work. The letter speaks strongly against _____ who have come into the _____ and who are deviating from the _____ and engaging in various acts of _____.
16. The Second Letter of _____ is also a pseudonymous work, which is likely the last _____ work written. Like _____, it is also concerned with Christians who were beginning to distort the _____ they received. It assures the readers that _____ these false teachers.
17. True or False? According to the Letter of Jude, the essential message for Christians of every generation is that no one is entitled to tamper with the core and eternal truths of the faith.
18. Jude points out three examples that God's response to false belief has been severe punishment. What are these three examples?
- a)
- b)
- c)

19. Why is remaining true to the faith of the Apostles important, according to the Letter of Jude?
20. The _____ Letter of Peter encourages its readers to _____ to the true teaching of the _____ and to continue to live the _____. The author addresses the problem of those who were beginning to deny the _____ because the Apostles were _____ and the Lord had not _____.

Pages 289 – 291 *The First, Second, and Third Letters of John*

21. True or False? The three Letters of John come from the same tradition established by the author of John's Gospel, repeating his important themes and ideas.
22. The First Letter of John was written with a sense of _____ to bolster communities _____ by false teachings. The particular brand of _____ that infected the communities for whom the letter was addressed was _____, which denied the _____.
23. True or False? The prologue to the First Letter of John is very similar to the prologue of the Book of Genesis, calling to mind the beginning of things and the Logos that comes from the Father.
24. What theme is common to 1 John and other New Testament writings?
25. True or False? Docetists denied the Resurrection because they believed the body was an illusion and that they only way to be saved was to deny the body.
26. What commandment of Jesus is repeated in 1 John?
27. What is the primary concern of 2 John?
28. The Third Letter of John is addressed to Gaius, from _____. It is sent to encourage him to remain helpful to the _____. The trouble was that another _____, Diotrephes, was behaving poorly, not only failing to _____ to letters from the Presbyter and _____ to receive missionaries or help them on their way, but actually _____ from the local church.
29. Who does the Presbyter plan to send to Gaius, hoping that he be received by the local church?
30. What does 3 John offer us a glimpse of?

Pages 292 – 295 *The Revelation to John*

31. The Book of _____ is the last book of the _____, and is perhaps the least read and _____, primarily because it is so highly _____. The dominant _____ form is apocalyptic writing which was popular in _____ circles between 200 BC and AD 200.
32. Explain the basic message of apocalyptic writing.
33. The author of Revelation is a _____ named John who was _____ to the island of _____ because he publicly preached the _____. The prophet claims that the Lord sent him _____ to unveil what is going to take place in the future: the _____.
34. True or False? John of Patmos is the same person who wrote the Gospel of John and the letters of John.
35. When was Revelation to be read and what was its message?
36. True or False? In essence, John pulled back the veil that separated the earth from the very throne room of God in the Heavens, and the presence of Jesus, who had been slain but now lived.
37. True or False? Many of the depictions of Heaven seem very liturgical and resemble Jewish ritual, while at other times they are clearly Christian in appearance.
38. Explain the symbolic meaning of the 144,000 white-robed survivors of the persecution.
39. Revelation was written to wavering _____ to encourage them to remain faithful during times of _____, false teaching, and _____. The first generation readers had no trouble _____ what was meant and those who suggest that modern _____ and people are the meaning behind the visions are _____.
40. Explain Revelation's second theme for Christians.
41. The prosperity brought by the _____ was very seductive, and the letters to the _____ churches indicates that some believers were succumbing to _____. While they were praised for their love, _____, and endurance, even in facing _____, some were chastised for not having the love they once had and being _____ in their faith.

42. True or False? One of the most important warnings of the Revelation of John to its readers was for them to not surrender to the allure of lust.
43. What is one of the constants about religion?