

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY
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I. INTRODUCTION

A. The Problem(s) of the New Testament: The contemporary reader enters an “alien” world

1. The Problem of Reading the NT
2. The Problem of Interpreting the NT
3. The Problem of Seeing the Relevance of the NT to a Contemporary Believer

B. The Historical Background of the NT

1. The Jewish Background: The Second Temple Period in Palestine (c. 538 BC {BCE} - AD {CE} 70)

a. The Persian Period (c. 538-332 BC)

- 1) The Dominance of the Persian Empire (c. 538-404 BC)
- 2) The Weakening of the Persian Empire (c. 404-332 BC)

b. The Hellenistic Period (332-142 BC)

- 1) Alexander the Great (332-323 BC)
- 2) The Ptolemies of Egypt (320-198 BC)
- 3) The Seleucids of Syria (198-142 BC)

c. The Maccabean/Hasmonean Period (166-63 BC)

- 1) The Maccabean Revolt (166-142 BC)
- 2) The Hasmonian Rule (142-63 BC)

d. The Roman Period (63 BC onward)

- 1) The Rise of Antipater and his Sons (63-37 BC)
- 2) The Reign of Herod the Great (37-4 BC)

- 3) The Rule of Herod's Sons and Grandson, Herod Agrippa I (4 BC-AD 44)
- 4) The Rule of Roman Governors (AD 6 onward)

The Five Major Crises of the Jews in the Second Temple Period
1. The Reestablishment of an Israelite population in the Persian province of Yehud and the Rebuilding of the Temple and Renewal of proper Temple Worship in Jerusalem in the midst of continuing Opposition (cf. Ezra 4) [536-424 BC]
2. The Collapse of the Persian Empire and the Influence of Hellenism after Alexander the Great [332-168 BC]
3. The violent Persecution by Antiochus IV Epiphanes (cf. Dan 8, 11) [168-164 BC]
4. The Domination of Palestine by Rome [63 BC-AD 70]
5. The Roman Destruction of the Jewish State and the Second Temple [AD 66-73]

2. The Roman Background

a. The Prelude to the Roman Empire: The Conquests of Rome

- 1) Macedonia (168 BC)
- 2) Achaia (146 BC)
- 3) Asia (133 BC)
- 4) Syria (66 BC)
- 5) Palestine (63 BC)
- 6) Galatia (25 BC)

b. The Roman Emperors of the NT Era

- 1) (Octavian) Augustus (27 BC - AD 14)
- 2) Tiberius (AD 14-37)
- 3) Caligula (AD 37-41)
- 4) Claudius (AD 41-54)
- 5) Nero (AD 54-68)
- 6) Galba (AD 68)
- 7) Otho (AD 69)
- 8) Vitellius (AD 69)
- 9) Vespasian (AD 69-79)
- 10) Titus (AD 79-81)
- 11) Domitian (AD 81-96)

C. The Structure of the NT

1. The Canonical Structure

HISTORY	LETTERS		PROPHECY
Matthew Mark Luke John Acts	PAULINE	NON-PAULINE	Revelation
	Romans-Philemon	Hebrews-Jude	
NT 60%	22%	12%	
	34%		6%
OT & NT 13.2%	4.9%	2.6%	
	7.5%		1.3%

2. The Literary Relationships of the NT

MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
James	Peter (2) Jude	Acts Romans Corinthians (2) Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians Thessalonians (2) Timothy (2) Titus Philemon Hebrews	John (3) Revelation

D. The Literary Genres of the NT

1. Historical Narrative (The Gospels & Acts)
2. Epistles (Romans-Revelation)
3. Prophecy (Revelation)

E. The Message of the NT

1. God Fulfilled His Promises concerning the Messiah / Christ
2. God Is at Work during This Age in the Church which Is United to the Messiah / Christ

3. God Will Fulfill His Kingdom Promises through the Messiah / Christ to Israel and the Church in the Future

II. THE GOSPELS AND ACTS

A. An Introduction to the Gospels and Acts

1. Essential Features of the Gospel and Acts
 - a. The Four Gospels and Acts Comprise close to 60% of the NT
 - b. The Four Gospels Gave Narrative Accounts of the Life of Jesus Christ
 - c. The Book of Acts Was a second volume written by Luke to Theophilus (cf. Acts 1:1 with Luke 1:1-4)
 - d. A Major Theme in the Gospels and Acts Is Jesus as the Promised Messiah of the OT and His Messianic Kingdom Presented to and Rejected by Israel (Matt 4:17; John 19:15; Acts 3:17-21; 7:51-60)
 - e. The Gospels and Acts Demonstrate that Salvation Is Necessary for Entrance into the Kingdom that Jesus Was Presenting (John 3:1-21)
2. What Is a Gospel? “Gospel” was in the titles attached to the historical narratives in early Church Tradition, probably based on Mark 1:1
 - a. Each of the Four Gospels (and Acts) Recorded Historical Events and Words
 - b. Each of the Four Gospels (and Acts) Used a Narrative (i.e., story style) to Communicate this History
3. Why Four Gospels? Each Gospel Writer Had a Unique Purpose and Unique Audience for their Narrative about Jesus Christ

GOSPEL	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
Date	AD 40-50	AD 64-68	AD 58-60	AD 80-90
Primary Audience	Jewish	Gentile	Gentile	Jewish
Purpose	Didactic	Evangelistic	Didactic	Evangelistic

4. The Overview of the Life of Jesus Christ
 - a. The Birth and Childhood of Jesus Christ
 - 1) The Background of Jesus
 - a) The Incarnate Word (John 1:1-18)
 - b) The Physical Descent (Matt 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38)

- 2) The Advent of Jesus
 - a) The Preceding Events (Luke 1:5-80; Matt 1:18-24)
 - b) The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-20; Matt 1:25)
- 3) The Infancy of Jesus (Luke 2:21-39; Matt 2:1-23)
- 4) The Childhood of Jesus (Luke 2:40-52)

- b. The Beginning of Jesus' Public Ministry
 - 1) The Preaching and Baptizing Work of John (Matt 3:1-12; Mark 1:2-8; Luke 3:1-20)
 - 2) The Baptism of Jesus (Matt 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-23)
 - 3) The Temptation of Jesus (Matt 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13)
 - 4) The Testimony of John the Baptist (John 1:19-36)
 - 5) The Ministry of Jesus to the First Passover (John 1:37-3:21)

- c. The Early Ministry of Jesus: The Year of Obscurity
 - 1) The Early Judean Ministry (John 3:22-4:2)
 - 2) The Early Samaritan Ministry (Matt 4:12; Mark 1:14a; Luke 3:19-20; 4:14a; John 4:3-42)
 - 3) The Early Galilean Ministry (Matt 4:17-24; 8:2-4, 14-17; Mark 1:14b-45; Luke 4:14b-5:16; John 4:43-54)

- d. The Great Galilean Ministry: The Year of Public Favor (Matt 5:1-8:1, 5-13; 8:18-14:36; Mark 2:1-6:56; Luke 5:17-9:17; John 5:1-6:71)

- e. The Last Year: The Year of Opposition (Matt 15:1-20:34; Mark 7:1-10:52; Luke 9:18-19:28; John 7:1-11:53)

- f. The Last Week (Matt 21:1-28:15; Mark 11:1-16:8; Luke 19:29-24:43; John 11:55-20:23)

- g. To the Ascension (Matt 28:16-20; Luke 24:44-53; John 20:24-21:25)

* Read further in: Robert L. Thomas & Stanley N. Gundry, *A Harmony of the Gospels*.
John MacArthur, *One Perfect Life*.

B. The Gospel of Matthew

1. Interesting Facts about the Gospel of Matthew
 - a. The favorite Gospel of the early church; considered the "first" Gospel
 - b. One of two Gospels written directly by one of Christ's Apostles
 - c. The major connecting link between the OT & NT; an emphasis on Jesus' fulfillment of God's messianic promises
 - d. The most heard, read, studied, and preached book of the NT throughout the history of the church
 - e. "The most important book ever written" E. Renan

2. Basic Facts concerning the Gospel of Matthew

- a. Who? The **author** according to the early church fathers was Matthew (9:9; 10:3). The first **audience** was the first-generation Christian Jews dispersed from Jerusalem (Acts 8:4).
- b. When? The book was written AD 35-50. Early church tradition seems to imply there were versions in Aramaic and Greek, though only the Greek version has survived.
- c. Where? The early church fathers located Matthew's writing in Palestine.
- d. Why? Matthew wrote to supply proof that Jesus was the Messiah predicted in the OT; although Israel had rejected His messianic claims and had turned Him over to Rome to be crucified, Jesus has been raised from the dead and one day will return to the earth to establish God's Kingdom.

3. The Essential Themes in the Gospel of Matthew

- a. Jesus was the Fulfillment of OT Messianic Predictions (1:22-23; 2:5-6, 15, 17-18, 23; 4:14-16; 8:17; 11:2-5; 12:17-21; 13:35; 21:4-5; 27:9-10)
- b. Jesus was the Son of David (1:1-17; cf. 2 Sam 7:8-16; Psa 2:7; 89:3-4, 19-20; Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; 11:1-5; Jer 23:5-6; Ezek 34:23-24)
- c. Jesus taught with authority (5:1-7:29; 10:5-11:1; 13:1-53; 18:1-19:2; 23:1-39; 24:1-26:2)
- d. Jesus' message centered on "The Kingdom of Heaven / God"
 - 1) Repentance was necessary for kingdom entrance (3:2; 4:17; 10:7)
 - 2) The presence of Jesus brought a manifestation of the Kingdom of God (11:4-5; 12:28)
 - 3) Israel rejected Jesus' messianic claims (9:34; 12:22-32; 26:65-66; 27:20-26); thus the manifestation of the kingdom departed with Him
 - 4) Jesus will return to establish the kingdom in the future (5:3-12; 24:29-31)

4. The Literary Structure of the Gospel of Matthew [see the outlines]

C. The Gospel of Mark

1. Interesting Facts about the Gospel of Mark

- a. The shortest of the four canonical Gospels with the least unique content
- b. Generally ignored until 1800; considered an abridgement of Matthew and Luke
- c. A majority of contemporary NT scholars consider Mark to be the earliest of the four Gospels (Markan priority) and the most historically accurate of the four
- d. Early Church tradition stated that Mark's account was based on Peter's preaching
- e. Mark's Gospel is the most vivid; mostly narrative, with the fullest accounts of the events narrated including Jesus' gestures and emotions; only three major

discourses of Jesus (Mark 4, 9, 13); a key term is “immediately” (41x); a key grammatical feature is historical present (151x)

f. Mark’s Gospel was written in simple Greek with a Latin flavor

2. Basic Facts concerning the Gospel of Mark

- a. Who? The **author** according to the early church fathers was John Mark (see Acts 12:12, 25; 13:5, 13; 15:37, 39; Col 4:10; 2 Tim 4:11; Phile 24; 1 Pet 5:13). The first **audience** was Roman unbelievers who heard this message through Roman Christians.
- b. When? The book was written AD 65-68 during the persecution directed against the Roman Christians by the Roman Emperor, Nero.
- c. Where? The early church fathers located Mark’s writing in Rome.
- d. Why? Mark wrote to demonstrate that Jesus was the Jewish Messiah who was the Son of God (1:1); Mark’s hearers were challenged to believe in Jesus and follow Him.

3. The Essential Themes in the Gospel of Mark

- a. The gospel (a verbal proclamation) was about Jesus (1:1, 14-15; 8:35; 10:29; 13:10; 14:9; [16:15])
- b. Jesus was both the Jewish Messiah (1:1; 8:29) and the Son of God (1:1; 15:39)
- c. Jesus was both to be believed (1:15; 2:5; 4:40; 5:34, 36; 9:23, 24, 42; 10:52; 11:22, 23, 24, 31; 13:21; 15:32; [16:13, 14, 16, 17]) and followed (1:18; 2:14, 15; 3:7; 5:24; 6:1; 8:34; 9:38; 10:21, 28, 32, 52; 15:41; [16:17])
- d. Jesus demonstrated His authority over Satan (1:13; 3:23, 26; 4:15; 8:33), the demons (1:34, 39; 3:15, 22; 6:13; 9:38; 16:9, 17), and the unclean spirits (1:23, 26, 27; 3:11, 30; 5:2, 8, 13; 6:7; 7:25; 9:25)
- e. Jesus’s own disciples were slow to understand who Jesus truly was and what He was teaching (4:40-41; 6:51-52; 7:17-18; 8:21, 33; 9:10, 32; 10:14)

4. The Literary Structure of Mark [see the outline]

D. The Gospel of Luke

1. Interesting Facts about the Gospel of Luke

- a. The longest of the four canonical Gospels; the longest book in the NT
- b. Early Church tradition attributed the authorship of this Gospel to Paul’s ministry companion, Luke (cf. Acts 16:8-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-28:16)
- c. Luke wrote in elegant Greek with the vocabulary and grammar of an educated man
- d. While Luke was not an eyewitness of Jesus’ ministry, he carefully investigated and gathered his information from those who were eyewitnesses (Luke 1:1-2)

- e. Luke related his narrative to world history (Luke 1:5; 2:1-2; 3:1-2; 13:1-5)
- f. Luke & Acts have been the center of more contemporary debate than any other NT book, primarily because of Luke's claim to be a careful historian

2. Basic Facts concerning the Gospel of Luke

- a. Who? The **author** was Luke, the beloved physician (Col 4:14; Phile 24; 2 Tim 4:11). The first **audience** was a man named Theophilus (1:3), a Gentile convert to Christianity who probably held a position in the government of the Roman Empire.
- b. When? The book was written AD 58-60.
- c. Where? Luke was either in Caesarea or Rome when this book was completed and sent to Theophilus.
- d. Why? Luke wrote to assure Theophilus that what he had been taught about Jesus and salvation was accurate and therefore true.

3. The Essential Themes in the Gospel of Luke

- a. The overarching theme of the Gospel was that all that had taken place in the life of Jesus was according to the plan of God
 - 1) The *dei* ("it is necessary; i.e., it must be or happen") motif (2:49; 4:43; 9:22; 11:42; 12:12; 13:14, 16, 33; 15:32; 17:25; 18:1; 19:5; 21:9; 22:7, 37; 24:7, 26, 44)
 - 2) The Fulfillment of Scripture (4:21; 18:31; 21:22; 22:37; 23:46)
 - 3) The Determination of God (22:22)
- b. Jesus was the Lord (2:11; 5:8; 7:13; 10:41; 11:1; 17:5, 6) and Savior (1:47; 2:11) who had come to bring God's salvation (1:69, 71, 77; 6:9; 7:50; 8:12, 36, 48, 50; 9:24, 56; 13:23; 17:19; 18:26, 42; 19:9-10; 23:35, 37, 39) to all men with whom God was pleased (2:14)
- c. Jesus was Israel's Messiah (1:68-75) whose Kingdom will include Gentiles (2:32; 13:22-30)
- d. The Holy Spirit was especially involved with events concerning Jesus (1:15, 35, 41, 67; 2:25, 26, 27; 3:16, 22; 4:1, 14, 18; 10:21; 11:13; 12:10, 12)
- e. Luke had a special interest in the outcasts of society
 - 1) The Poor (4:18; 6:20; 7:22; 14:13, 21; 16:20, 22; 18:22; 19:8; 21:2,3)
 - 2) Tax Gatherers (5:29, 30; 7:29, 34; 15:1; 18:10, 11, 13; 19:2)
 - 3) Women (1:5, 13, 18, 24, 28, 42; 3:19; 4:26; 7:28, 37, 39, 44, 50; 8:2, 3, 43, 47; 10:38; 11:27; 13:11, 12, 21; 14:20, 26; 15:8; 16:18; 17:32; 18:29; 20:28, 29, 32, 33; 22:57; 23:27, 49, 55; 24:22, 24)
 - 4) Gentiles (2:32; 7:9; 12:30; 18:32; 21:10, 24, 25; 23:2; 24:47) & Samaritans (10:30-37; 17:11-19)

4. The Literary Structure of the Gospel of Luke [see the outline]

E. The Gospel of John

1. Interesting Facts about the Gospel of John

- a. The last Gospel written; the second most favorite Gospel throughout Church history
- b. One of two Gospels written directly by one of Christ's apostles; the author refers to himself as the "beloved" disciple (21:24; cf. 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7, 20)
- c. Over 90% of the content of John is not recorded in any of the three other Gospels
- d. John's recording of Passovers (2:13; [5:1]; 6:4; 11:55") is the key to the chronology of Christ's ministry
- e. John emphasizes the ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem and Judea rather than Galilee
- f. John is characterized by its recording of lengthy discourses by Jesus (3:1-15; 4:4-26; 5:19-47; 6:26-70; 7:14-39; 8:12-59; 10:1-21; 13:31-16:33), but no extended parables

2. Basic Facts concerning the Gospel of John

- a. Who? The **author** according to the early church was John the apostle. The first **audience** was Jewish unbelievers, probably in the Roman province of Asia.
- b. When? The final copy of book was written AD 75-95.
- c. Where? The early church fathers located John's writing in Ephesus.
- d. Why? John wrote to demonstrate that the Messiah, the Son of God was Jesus, and belief in Jesus resulted in eternal life (20:30-31).

3. The Essential Themes in the Gospel of John

- a. Through the testimony of "signs" (2:11, 18, 23; 3:2; 4:48, 54; 6:2, 14, 26, 30; 7:31; 9:16; 10:41; 11:47; 12:18, 37; 20:30), the Gospel demonstrates that Messiah, the Son of God was Jesus

SIGN		SPEECH	
2:1-11	Water to Wine	New Birth	3:1-15
4:46-54	Royal Official Son Healed	Living Water	4:5-42
5:1-18	Impotent Man Healed	Witnesses to Jesus	5:19-47
6:1-21	5,000 Fed [Walking on Water]	Bread from Heaven	6:22-59
9:1-41	Blind Man Healed	Light of the World The Good Shepherd	8:12-59 10:1-21
11:1-16, 38-44	Lazarus Raised	The Resurrection & Life	11:17-29
2:18-22; 20:1-29	Jesus Resurrected	Farewell Discourse	13:31-16:33

- b. Jesus was fully God (1:1; 5:19-23; 7:16-18; 8:58; 10:25-39; 14:9), yet fully man (8:40; 10:33)
- c. Belief in Jesus was the only way to become a child of God (1:12-13) and receive eternal life (20:31)

4. The Literary Structure of the Gospel of John [see the outline]

F. The Book of Acts

1. Interesting Facts about the Book of Acts

- a. Acts is a sequel (volume 2) to the Gospel of Luke (volume 1; cf. Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-2)
- b. Acts is the second longest book in the NT; the Gospel of Luke is the longest
- c. Luke was the author of more content in the NT (about 27 %) than any other human writer
- d. Luke was the only Gentile author in all of Scripture
- e. About 25-30% of Acts consists of speeches
- f. While Acts was read throughout church history, mainly for background to the NT letters, it has only become a major focus of preaching in the past 100 years

2. Basic Facts concerning the Book of Acts

- a. Who? The **author** was Luke, the beloved physician (Col 4:14; Phile 24; 2 Tim 4:11). The first **audience** was a man named Theophilus (1:1), a Gentile convert to Christianity who probably had held a position in the government of the Roman Empire.
- b. When? The book was written in AD 62
- c. Where? Luke was in Rome when this book was completed and sent to Theophilus.
- d. Why? Luke wrote to assure Theophilus that the gospel that he had heard through the Pauline ministry was the same message preached by Jesus and Peter to Israel and that it was God's plan for the gospel to go to the Gentiles.

3. The Essential Themes of the Book of Acts

- a. The overarching theme of Acts was that all that had taken place through the ministry of the Apostles was according to the plan of God
 - 1. The *dei* ("it is necessary; i.e., it must happen") motif (1:16, 21; 3:21; 4:12; 5:29; 9:6, 16; 14:22; 15:5; 16:30; 17:3; 18:21; 19:21, 36; 20:35; 21:22; 23:11; 24:19; 25:10, 24; 26:9; 27:21, 24, 26)
 - 2. The Fulfillment of Scripture (3:18; 13:27; 26:22-23)
 - 3. The Determination of God (2:23; 10:42; 17:26, 31)
 - 4. The Appointment of God (3:20; 10:41; 22:14; 26:16)
- b. The gospel message was based on the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus and called for repentance and faith for salvation (2:22-40; 3:11-26; 4:8-

- 12; 10:28-43; 13:17-41; 14:15-17; 17:22-31)
- c. Israel rejected the apostolic message (7:54-8:1a; 13:46; 22:22-23; 28:23-27), but the Gentiles received it (10:44-11:18; 13:47-48; 28:28)
- d. Gentiles did not need to be circumcised and keep the Mosaic Law for salvation (14:24-15:35)

4. The Literary Structure of the Book of Acts [see the outline]

III. THE EPISTLES OF THE NT

A. The Introduction to the NT Epistles

1. The final 40% of the NT is a collection of letters sent to different churches (and individuals) by apostles or apostolic representatives
2. The NT Letters speak of the Church(es) as comprised of Citizens of the coming Kingdom (Phil 3:20; Col 1:13; 1 Thes 2:12) who will enter (inherent) the Kingdom when it is established when Jesus Christ returns (1 Cor 6:9-10; 15:50; Gal 5:21; Eph 5:5; 2 Thes 1:5; Jam 2:5; 2 Pet 1:11)
3. The NT Letters blend truths about what God has done for believers in Jesus Christ (verbal indicatives) with corresponding responsibilities (verbal imperatives) that believers have as Kingdom citizens living in the present evil age (Rom 12:1-2; Eph 4:1)

B. The Character of the Letters

1. Established the "Presence" of an absent writer (1 Cor 5:3-5; Col 4:16; 1 Thess 5:27; 2 John 12)
2. Written with Authority (Rom 1:1; 2 Thess 3:14)
3. Followed a flexible form
 - a. Opening
 - 1) Sender
 - 2) Addressees
 - 3) Greeting
 - 4) Prayer/Thanksgiving/Blessing
 - b. Body
 - c. Closing
4. Written down by an "Amanuenses" (Rom 16:22; Gal 6:11; 2 Thess 3:17)
5. Carried by another (Eph 6:21; Col 4:7)
6. A "Spoken" quality

7. Occasional more than Tractate

C. The Importance of the Letters

1. The only part of Scripture written directly to the Church(es)
2. The Interpretation and Application of previous Scripture for the Church(es)

IV. THE EPISTLES (LETTERS) FROM PAUL

A. The Pauline Collection of Letters

Soteriological	Christological	Eschatological	Ecclesiological
Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Galatians	Ephesians Philippians Colossians	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians	1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus Philemon

B. The Life of Paul

1. The Background of Paul (Acts 22:3; 26:4-5; Phil 3:5) [AD 1-35]
2. The Conversion of Paul (Acts 8:3; 9:1-19a; 22:4-21; 26:9-18; Gal 1:13-17; Phil 3:12; 1 Tim 1:12-15) [AD 35]
3. The Ministry of Paul [AD 35-68]
 - a. In and around Damascus (Acts 9:19b – 25; Gal 1:17) [AD 35-37]
 - b. Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-30; Gal 1:18) [AD 37]
 - c. Tarsus {Syria & Cilicia (Gal 1:21)} (Acts 9:30; 11:25) [AD 37-43]
 - d. Antioch (Acts 11:26; 13:1) [AD 43-47]
 - e. Missionary Journeys (Acts 13:1-21:16) [AD 47-57]
 - 1) The First Missionary Journey (Acts 13:1-14:26) [AD 47-48]
 - 2) The Second Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36-18:22) [AD 50-52]
 - 3) The Third Missionary Journey (Acts 18:23-21:16) [AD 53-57]
 - f. Arrest and Trials (Acts 21:17-28:31) [AD 57-62]
 - g. Release and Renewed Ministry [AD 62-67]
 - h. Arrest, Trials, and Death (2 Tim 4:6) [AD 67-68]

C. Romans

1. Interesting Facts about the Letter to the Romans

- a. Romans is the most important letter ever written; it warrants study both by believers because of its explanation of the gospel (the essence of Christianity) and unbelievers because of its impact on the course of world history
- b. Romans is the longest, not the earliest, of Paul's canonical books
- c. Romans was instrumental in the conversion of Augustine and Luther, two of the most influential theologians of church history
- d. Romans has been the most studied and preached of Paul's letters in church history
- e. Although the basic assertions of Romans are clear, there is great debate over points in Paul's argument (example: Romans 7:14-25)
- f. It is ironic that even though Romans has been so intensely studied, its purpose is still a matter of great debate

2. Basic Facts concerning the Letter to the Romans

- a. Who? The letter was dictated by Paul (1:1) and written down by Tertius (16:22), the **author** was ultimately the apostle Paul; the first **audience** was Christian believers at Rome (1:7).
- b. When? The letter was composed in AD 57.
- c. Where? Paul was in Corinth when Romans was composed (16:1, 23; cf. 1 Cor 1:14), wintering there before going to Jerusalem (15:25; cf. Acts 20:2-21:17).
- d. Why? Paul wrote to remind the Roman Christians of the gospel (15:14-15) so that there might be harmony among the believers in Rome (15:7-13) and that they might be partners with Paul in taking the gospel to Spain (15:24, 28).

3. The Essential Themes of the Letter to the Romans

- a. The gospel given by God that Paul proclaimed (12x; n. 1:1, 9, 16; 2:16; 10:16; 11:28; 15:6, 19; 16:25; vb. 1:15; 10:15; 15:20)
- b. The relationship between Jew/Israel (22x; "Jew" – 1:16; 2:9, 10, 17, 23, 29; 3:1, 9, 29; 9:24; 10:2; "Israel" – 9:6, 27, 31; 10:19, 21; 11:2, 7, 25, 26) and Gentile/Greek (35x; "Gentile" – 1:5, 13; 2:14, 24; 3:29; 4:17, 18; 9:24, 30; 10:19; 11:11, 12, 13, 25; 15:9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 27; 16:4, 26; "Greek" – 1:14, 16; 2:9, 10; 3:9; 10:12)
- c. Mankind's need of salvation (1:16; 5:9, 10; 8:24; 9:27; 10:1, 9, 10, 13; 11:11, 14, 26; 13:11) from the wrath of God (1:18; 2:5, 8; 3:5; 4:15; 5:9; 9:22; 12:19; 13:4, 5)
- d. The Christian is justified by God through faith in Jesus Christ (3:21-26)
- e. The Christian's righteous standing before God (3:21-5:11), union with Jesus Christ (5:12-7:6), and enablement by the Holy Spirit (8:1-17) are the basis of the appeal for a believer's righteous behavior (12:1-15:13)

4. The Literary Structure of Romans [see the outline]

D. 1 Corinthians

1. Paul's Ministry Relationship with the Church at Corinth

EVENT	DATE	SCRIPTURE
Paul's initial eighteen-month evangelistic ministry and planting of the Corinthian church	Fall, 50 To Spring, 52	Acts 18:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:14-17, 26-29; 2:1-5; 3:1-2a, 6, 10a; 4:15; 6:9-11; 7:18, 21-22; 9:1-2, 18; 11:2, 23-26; 15:1-8; 16:15 2 Corinthians 1:19; 10:14; 11:2; 12:12-14
Paul's previous letter to the Corinthians [Letter A]	55 (?)	1 Corinthians 5:9-11
Paul's reception of a report from Chloe's people and a letter from the Corinthians (possibly delivered by Stephanus, Fortunatus, and Achaicus)	Spring, 56	1 Corinthians 1:11; 7:1; 16:17-18
Paul's Writing and Sending of "1 Corinthians" from Ephesus [Letter B]	Spring, 56	1 Corinthians 16:3-9
Paul's 'painful' (second) visit to Corinth	Spring, 56	2 Corinthians 2:1; 12:14; 13:1-2
Paul's 'severe' letter to the Corinthians [Letter C]	Spring, 56	2 Corinthians 2:3-9; 7:8-12;
Paul's 'anxiety' in Troas and Macedonia	Summer, 56	2 Corinthians 2:12-13; 7:5; cf. 11:28
Paul's Writing and Sending of "2 Corinthians" from Macedonia [Letter D]	Summer/Fall 56	2 Corinthians 7:5
Paul's third visit to Corinth	Winter 56/57	Acts 20:2-3

2. Interesting Facts about 1 Corinthians

- a. About 30% of all of the words in the Pauline corpus in the NT (1 & 2 Corinthians) were sent to the church at Corinth, more words than any other one church

- b. The city of Corinth in Paul's day had been rebuilt by the Romans as a "little Rome"
- c. While the foundation of Corinth was Roman, many different people groups with differing cultures and languages were drawn to the city because of its wealth
- d. The church at Corinth had a greater number and percentage of members from a pagan background with little pre-Christian Jewish influence (1 Cor 6:9-11) than any other church Paul planted
- e. Paul's second longest ministry in one city (18 months, Acts 18:11) was in Corinth
- f. Paul's interaction with the church at Corinth over a seven-year period is presented in the New Testament [see the chart above]

3. Basic Facts concerning 1 Corinthians

- a. Who? The sender of the letter was Paul along with Sosthenes (1:1), yet the first person (referring to Paul) was used throughout the letter (cf. 1:4; 16:17) with Paul adding the final words in his own handwriting (16:21-24). Thus, the **author** of the letter was Paul. The **audience** was the church at Corinth (1:2).
- b. When? The letter was composed in spring, AD 56 (16:8).
- c. Where? Paul was in Ephesus when he composed this letter (16:8; cf. Acts 19:1-20:1).
- d. Why? Paul wrote to provide theologically accurate answers to problems he had heard were plaguing the church (1:10-6:20 and to questions that the Corinthians themselves asked of him (7:1-16:9).

4. The Essential Themes on 1 Corinthians

- a. Paul confronted the pride of the Corinthians
 - 1) Their "Wisdom" (1:17, 19, 20-22, 24-27, 30; 2:1, 4-7, 13; 3:10, 18-20)
 - 2) Their Arrogance (4:6, 18; 5:2; 8:1)
 - 3) Their Boasting (1:29, 31; 3:21; 4:7)
 - 4) Their "Knowledge" (1:5; 8:12; "Do you not know?" 3:16; 5:6; 6:2, 3, 9, 15, 16, 19; 9:13, 24)
- b. Paul was committed to preaching the gospel and Christ crucified (1:17-2:5; 9:16-23)
- c. Paul desired unity in the local body of Christ (1:10; 3:5-23; 10:14-17; 11:17-34; 12:1-14:40; 16:15-18)
- d. Paul warned of the power of idolatry (8:1-13; 10:7, 14, 19-22, 23-30; 12:2)
- e. Paul cared about sexual purity in a sex-saturated society (5:1-13; 6:12-20; 7:1-40; 10:8)
- f. Paul defended the bodily resurrection of Christ in the past and of Christian believers in the future (15:4-58)
- g. Paul emphasized the power and work of the Holy Spirit (2:6-3:4; 3:16-17; 6:19; 12:1-14:40)

5. The Literary Structure of 1 Corinthians [see the outline]

E. 2 Corinthians

1. Interesting Facts about 2 Corinthians

- a. 2 Corinthians was the most personal of Paul's canonical letters; he shared many personal details with the church (1:8-11, 15-16; 2:12-13; 4:7-12; 7:5-16; 8:16-24; 11:21-12:10; 12:14-13:4)
- b. 2 Corinthians displayed most clearly Paul as a pastor
- c. 2 Corinthians is the most difficult of Paul's letters to interpret; particularly the relationship of 1:1-9:15 to 10:1-13:14; the tone changes from warmth to confrontation
- d. In an era in which spiritual leaders are being turned into celebrities and humility is viewed as an undesirable trait, 2 Corinthians calls the church to repent of making superapostles out of jars of clay, of avoiding suffering, of depending on mere human resources, of veiling the glory of God, and of depreciating divine grace

2. Basic Facts about 2 Corinthians

- a. Who? The sender of the letter was Paul along with Timothy (1:1). After using the second person (1:3-13a, 14), Paul reverted to the first person (1:13b, 15-17), showing that he was the one who dictated the letter. Thus, the **author** of the letter was Paul. The **audience** was the church at Corinth (1:1).
- b. When? The letter was composed in AD 56, probably about six months after the sending of the canonical 1 Corinthians.
- c. Where? Paul was in the province of Macedonia (2:13; 7:5) when he sent this letter.
- d. Why? Paul wrote to express his joy at the reconciliation of the majority of the church with him, to encourage the church to resume their collection for the believers in Jerusalem, and to confront an obstinate minority in the church who were opposing him.

3. The Essential Themes of 2 Corinthians

- a. Paul defended his apostolic ministry (1:12-14, 2:17; 3:2; 10:1-13:10) against pointed attacks
 - 1) He was vacillating (1:17-18; 10:2-4)
 - 2) He was dictatorial (1:24; 7:2)
 - 3) He was uncredentialed (3:1; 10:13, 14)
 - 4) His gospel was obscure (4:3; 6:2, 3)
 - 5) He sought to destroy (7:2, 3; 10:8; 13:10) and cause pain (2:2, 4, 5; 7:8)
 - 6) He was a coward (10:1, 10)
 - 7) He did not maintain apostolic dignity (11:7)
 - 8) He was not an 'original' apostle (11:5; 12:11)

- 9) He collected for himself (12:16-18)
- 10) He walked after the flesh (10:2)
- b. Paul's wrote of Affliction (1:4, 6, 8; 4:8, 17; 6:4; 7:4, 5) & Weakness (11:21, 29, 30; 12:5, 10; 13:3, 4, 9), but also of God's Comfort (1:3-7; 2:7-8; 7:4, 6, 7, 13) & Strength (1:4, 8-11; 4:7; 6:7; 12:9, 12; 13:4, 8)
- c. Paul conveyed the glory of the ministry (3:3, 7-9; 4:1; 5:18; 6:3; 8:4, 19-20; 9:1, 12, 13; 11:8, 15, 23)
- d. Paul saw the influence of Satan behind events (2:11; 4:4; 6:15; 11:14; 12:7)

4. The Literary Structure of 2 Corinthians [see the outline]

F. Galatians

1. Interesting Facts about Galatians

- a. Galatians was probably the first letter Paul sent that is included in the NT
- b. Though a point of debate, Paul probably sent this letter to the churches he had established on his first missionary journey in the southern part of the Roman province of Galatia [Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra (Acts 13:14-14:23)]
- c. The early church fathers wrote more commentaries on Galatians than any other NT book
- d. Galatians was the favorite letter of Martin Luther
- e. Galatians was the fiercest and clearest dismissal by Paul of salvation through human effort

2. Basic Facts about Galatians

- a. Who? The sender of the letter was Paul and "all the brethren who are with me" (probably his sending church of Antioch in Syria). However, Paul used the first person singular throughout the letter (1:6-6:17), showing that he dictated the letter. Thus, the **author** of the letter was Paul. The **audience** was the churches of South Galatia.
- b. When? The letter was composed in AD 49, before the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:4-29).
- c. Where? Paul was at Antioch in Syria.
- d. Why? Paul wrote to prove the validity of his apostleship and the truthfulness of his message in an attempt to secure the Galatians' agreement that salvation came only to those who have faith in Christ and not through human works. Following Paul's first missionary journey, outsiders came to the newly founded churches and began to mislead the believers. These outsiders were probably Jews professing to be Christians who insisted that Gentiles needed to be circumcised and keep the Law in order to be full members of the people of God. Their strategy was to sway the Gentile believers to reject Paul and his message and to embrace Judaism. They are now referred to as "Judaizers," those who sought to compel the Gentiles "to live like a Jewish person" (2:14).

3. The Essential Themes of Galatians

- a. Paul defended the fact that he was an apostle authorized by God who had God's message (1:1; 1:11-2:21)
- b. Paul wanted to persuade the Galatians that salvation is by faith, not by works (3:1-4:11)
 - 1) Their own experience proved it (3:1-5)
 - 2) Abraham's experience proved it (3:6-14)
 - 3) The purpose of the Law proved it (3:15-4:11)
- c. Paul challenged them to live by the power of the Holy Spirit, not by the flesh (4:12-6:10)

4. The Literary Structure of Galatians [see the outline]

G. Ephesians

1. Interesting Facts about Ephesians

- a. Ephesians is the first of the "Prison Epistles" [Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, & Philemon] in the NT Canon sent while Paul was a prisoner in Rome (Acts 28:30-31)
- b. Among Paul's letters, only Romans has had more impact upon Christian theology than Ephesians
- c. Paul's three-year Ephesian ministry (Acts 19:8-10; 20:31) [A.D. 53-56] was the longest sustained ministry he had in any of the cities where he planted a church
- d. Ephesus was the fourth-largest city in the Roman Empire, the leading city of the Roman province of Asia, the home of the temple of the goddess called Artemis by the Greeks and Diana by the Romans; the worship of the goddess had become the city's main means of economic survival
- e. Tychicus delivered this letter (6:21), as he did Colossians (4:7) and Philemon (Col 4:8-9)
- f. Ephesians was John Calvin's favorite Pauline letter

2. Basic Facts about Ephesians

- a. Who? The sender of this letter was Paul (1:1; 3:1) by means of Tychicus (6:21). Thus, the **author** was Paul. The first **audience** was the saints who were in Ephesus, although the letter would have been read later in the other churches of Asia (cf. Col 4:16).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 61.
- c. Where? Paul was a prisoner (3:1; 4:1) living in his own house in Rome (Acts 28:30).
- d. Why? Paul showed Gentile Christians their place in the purpose of God for the Church and urged them to show the outworking of their call in their conduct.

3. The Essential Themes of Ephesians

- a. The Church (1:22; 3:10, 21; 5:23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 32)
 - 1) The Body (1:23; 2:16; 3:6; 4:4, 12, 16; 5:23, 30)
 - 2) Saints (1:1, 15, 18; 2:19; 3:18; 4:12; 5:3; 6:18)
 - 3) Other Pictures: Building (2:21-22); New Man (2:15); God's Household (2:19)
- b. The Gentiles (2:11; 3:1, 6, 8; 4:17)
- c. The Position of Believers "in Christ" (1:3, 4, 7, 11, 13; 2:10)
- d. The Christian Walk (2:10; 4:1, 17; 5:2, 8, 15; cf. 2:2)
- e. Love (19x – n. 1:4, 15; 2:4; 3:17, 19; 4:2, 15, 16; 5:2; 6:23; vb. 1:6; 2:4; 5:2, 25, 28, 33; 6:14) [*DPL*, 575-8]
- f. The Holy Spirit (1:13-14; 2:18; 3:5, 16; 4:3, 4, 30; 5:18; 6:17)

4. The Literary Structure of Ephesians [see the outline]

H. Philippians

1. Interesting Facts about Philippians

- a. Paul had a warmer relationship with the Philippians than with any other church he addressed in his letters (1:5, 7-8; 4:10, 14-18)
- b. Philippi was a Roman colony; the majority of the city consisted of Roman citizens (1:26; 3:20; cf. Acts 16:37-39)

2. Basic Facts about Philippians

- a. Who? The letter was sent by Paul and Timothy (1:1); from 1:3 on, Paul referred to himself with the first person singular and Timothy in the third person singular (2:19-24). Thus, the **author** was Paul. The **audience** was the saints, along with the overseers and deacons, (i.e., the church) at Philippi
- b. When? The letter was sent, probably with Epaphroditus (2:25-26), in AD 62.
- c. Where? Paul was a prisoner in Rome (1:7, 12-13, 17).
- d. Why? Paul rejoiced in the Philippians' partnership in the gospel and exhorted them to be better gospel partners by walking in unity with one another and holding the gospel in steadfastness against the opponents of the Faith.

3. The Essential Themes of Philippians

- a. Joy (1:4, 18, 25; 2:2, 17, 18, 28, 29; 3:1; 4:1, 4, 10)
- b. The Gospel (1:5, 7, 12, 16, 27; 2:22; 4:3, 15)
- c. Same Attitude, Mind (1:7; 2:2, 5; 3:15, 19; 4:2, 10)
- d. Unity through Humility (2:1-30)

4. The Literary Structure of Philippians [see the outline]

I. Colossians

1. Interesting Facts about Colossians

- a. Colossae was a “small town” in the Lycus valley, eclipsed in importance by the neighboring towns of Laodicea and Hierapolis; it was about 100 miles east of Ephesus in the Roman province of Asia; its population was a mixture of Phrygians, Romans, and Diaspora Jews
- b. Paul had never visited Colossae (2:1); the church had been established by Epaphras (1:7) and met in the house of Philemon (Phile 2)
- c. Colossians was the second of two letters Paul sent to a church he had not visited, the other was Rome (cf. 4:7-18 with Rom 15:14-27)
- d. Colossians was the most Christ-centered of Paul’s letters

2. Basic Facts about Colossians

- a. Who? The letter was sent by Paul and Timothy; the first-person plural was used through 1:14; however, Paul identified himself in 1:23 and then used the first-person throughout the rest of the letter. Thus, the **author** was Paul and the **audience** was saints at Colossae (1:1).
- b. When? The letter was sent with Tychicus (4:7) in AD 61.
- c. Where? Paul was a prisoner in his house in Rome (Acts 28:30).
- d. Why? Paul taught the Gentile Christians about Christ and their union with Him and they were exhorted to have their conduct flow from that union with Christ.

3. The Essential Themes of Colossians

- a. The Person of Christ (1:15-18; 2:9-10; 3:11)
- b. The Work of Christ
 - 1) The Cross (1:20; 2:14-15)
 - 2) His Death (1:22; 2:11, 20; 3:3)
 - 3) The Resurrection (1:18; 2:12; 3:3)
- c. The Union of Christ with Christians (1:27-28; 2:10-14; 3:1-4)
- d. The False Teaching (2:8-23)
- e. Christian Conduct (3:5-4:6) / Walk (1:10; 2:6; 3:7; 4:5)

4. The Literary Structure of Colossians [see the outline]

J. 1 Thessalonians

1. Interesting Facts about 1 Thessalonians

- a. The church at Thessalonica was established on Paul's second missionary journey (Acts 17:1-9); from Thessalonica, Paul went to Berea (Acts 17:10-13), then alone to Athens (Acts 17:14-34) where Timothy joined him; Paul sent Timothy from Athens to Thessalonica (3:2, 6) and went on alone to Corinth (Acts 18:1-4) where Silas and Timothy later joined him (Acts 18:5)
- b. Thessalonica was the major city of Macedonia in the first century AD

2. Basic Facts about 1 Thessalonians

- a. Who? The letter was sent from Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy (1:1); although the first-person plural is used throughout, 3:1-5 make it clear that Paul is the one who dictated this letter (cf 5:27). Thus, the **author** was Paul and the **audience** was church at Thessalonica (1:1).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 51.
- c. Where? Paul was in Corinth.
- d. Why? Paul exhorted the Thessalonian believers to grown in holiness so that they might be blameless when Christ returns.

3. The Essential Themes of 1 [& 2] Thessalonians

- a. The Return of Christ [*DPL*, 253-69]
 - 1) The Parousia (I, 2:19; 3:13; 4:15; 5:23; II, 2:1, 8)
 - 2) The Day of the Lord (I, 5:2; II, 2:2)
 - 3) The Coming Wrath (I, 1:10; 2:16; 5:9; see also II, 1:6-8)
- b. Prayer (I, 1:2; 3:11-13; 5:23-24; II, 1:11-12; 3:1-2, 5, 16) [*DPL*, 725-34]
- c. A Sanctified, Blameless Life (I, 2:10-11; 3:13; 4:3; 5:23-24; II, 2:13-14; 3:13)
- d. Paul's Model for New Believers (I, 1:6-7; 2:5-12; II, 3:7-9)

4. The Literary Structure of 1 Thessalonians [see the outline]

K. 2 Thessalonians

1. Basic Facts about 2 Thessalonians

- a. Who? The letter was sent from Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy (1:1); although the first-person plural was used throughout, Paul identified himself as the writer of the epilogue(3:17). Thus, the **author** was Paul and the **audience** was the church at Thessalonica (1:1).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 51, a few month after 1 Thessalonians.
- c. Where? Paul was in Corinth.

d. Why? Paul called the Thessalonian believers to steadfastness and Christian growth in light of the return of Christ.

2. The Essential Themes of 2 Thessalonians [see above]

3. The Literary Structure of 2 Thessalonians [see the outline]

L. 1 Timothy

1. Interesting Facts about 1 Timothy [& 2 Timothy & Titus]

- a. Since about 1700, 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus have been known as the “Pastoral Epistles;” however, neither Timothy nor Titus were local church pastors, but rather they were representatives of the apostle Paul and operated under his authority
- b. These three letters were written after Paul was released from his first imprisonment in Rome (AD 62) and before his final arrest and death (AD 67-68)

2. Basic Facts about 1 Timothy

- a. Who? The **author** was Paul (1:1); the **audience** was Timothy (1:1) and the church at Ephesus (6:21).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 63.
- c. Where? Timothy was in Ephesus (1:3); Paul’s location is now unknown (cf. 1:3).
- d. Why? Paul exhorted and instructed Timothy (and the Ephesian church) to stop the influence of false teachers and restore order in the Church.

3. The Essential Themes of 1 Timothy [& 2 Timothy & Titus]

- a. The False Teachers (I, 1:3-11, 18-20; 4:1-10; 6:3-10; II, 2:16-3:9; 4:3-4; T, 1:10-16; 3:9-11) {Jewish Elements: “myths” (I, 1:4; 4:7; II, 4:4; T, 1:14); “genealogies” (I, 1:4; T, 3:9); “teachers of the Law” (I, 1:7); “those of the circumcision” (T, 1:10)}
- b. The True Teaching [*DPL*, 954-5]
 - 1) “The faith” (I, 1:19; 3:9; 4:1, 6; 5:8; 6:10, 12; II, 3:8; 4:7; T, 1:13)
 - 2) Sound Teaching (I, 1:10; 6:3; II, 1:13; 4:3; T, 1:9; 2:1, 8)
 - 3) “The truth” (I, 2:4; 4:3; II, 2:18, 25; 3:7; T, 1:1)
 - 4) “A trustworthy statement” (I, 1:15; 3:1; 4:9; II, 2:11; T, 3:8)
 - 5) “These things” (I, 3:14; 4:6, 11; 5:7; 6:2; II, 2:14; T, 2:1, 15)
- c. Church Leadership (I, 3:1-13; T, 1:5-9)
- d. Church Order (I, 2:1-15; 3:14-15; 4:13; 5:3-22; T, 2:1-10) [*DPL*, 131-7]

- e. Christian Behavior
 - 1) Faith (I, 1:4, 19; 4:12; II, 1:5; 2:22; 3:10)
 - 2) Faithful(ness) (I, 1:12; 3:11; 4:3, 10, 12; 5:16; 6:2; II, 2:2)
 - 3) Godliness (I, 3:16; 4:7-8; 6:3, 5-6; T, 1:1)
 - 4) Character Qualities (I, 3:2-12; 4:12; T, 1:6-9; 2:7-8)
- f. The Salvation of God
 - 1) Savior [*DPL*, 867-9]
 - a) The Father (I, 1:1; 2:3; 4:10; T, 1:3; 2:10; 3:4)
 - b) Christ Jesus (II, 1:10; T, 1:4; 2:13; 3:6)
 - 2) Save, Salvation (I, 1:15; 2:4, 15; 4:16; II, 1:9; 2:10; 3:15; 4:18; T, 3:5)

4. The Literary Structure of 1 Timothy [see the outline]

M. 2 Timothy

1. Basic Facts about 2 Timothy

- a. Who? The **author** was Paul (1:1). The **audience** was Timothy (1:1) and the church at Ephesus (4:22)
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 67.
- c. Where? Paul was a prisoner in Rome (1:16-18; 4:16-17).
- d. Why? Paul appealed for Timothy to not be ashamed of him nor the gospel, but to carry on the ministry of the gospel after Paul's death.

2. The Literary Structure of 2 Timothy [see the outline]

N. Titus

1. Basic Facts about Titus

- a. Who? The **author** was Paul (1:1-3). The **audience** was Titus (1:4) and the churches of Crete (3:15).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 66.
- c. Where? Paul's location is now unknown; however, Titus was to meet him in Nicopolis (3:12).
- d. Why? Paul exhorted and instructed Titus (and the Churches of Crete) to stop the false teachers in the churches.

2. The Literary Structure of Titus [see the outline]

O. Philemon

1. Basic Facts about Philemon

- a. Who? The letter was sent by Paul and Timothy (1), however, the first-person singular is used from verse 4 on and identified as Paul in verse 19. Thus, the **author** is Paul; the **audience** is Philemon (1), Apphia, Archippus, and the church at Colossae (2-3, 22b-25).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 61.
- c. Where? Paul was a prisoner in his house at Rome (1, 10; cf. Acts 28:30).
- d. Why? Paul appealed to Philemon to accept his newly converted slave, Onesimus, as a brother in Christ and a partner in the Gospel.

2. The Literary Structure of Philemon [see the outline]

V. THE NON-PAULINE LETTERS

The Need for Endurance/Perseverance							
Persecution/Suffering			False Teachers				
Hebrews	James	1 Peter	2 Peter	1 John	2 John	3 John	Jude

A. Hebrews

1. Basic Facts about Hebrews

- a. Who? The **author** was a member of the Pauline missionary team other than Timothy (13:23). The **audience** was a congregation of Jewish believers in Jesus Christ (2:16; 3:1), probably at Rome (13:24; 10:32-34).
- b. When? The letter was probably sent in AD 68.
- c. Where? The location of the author is presently unknown.
- d. Why? Jewish Christians, who were considering safety in Judaism, were instructed and exhorted to progression, steadfastness, endurance and maturity by looking to Jesus, the Son of God and great High Priest, the better way.

2. The Literary Structure of Hebrews

B. James

1. Basic Facts about James

- a. Who? The **author** was James. The **audience** was Jewish believers in Jesus Christ (2:1) who were in the Diaspora (1:1).
- b. When? The letter was sent AD 44-49.
- c. Where? James was in Jerusalem.

- d. Why? Believers who were accusing God of temptation were told to receive the Word and be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger so as to develop the endurance necessary to endure trials, deliver their souls and receive the crown of life.

2. The Essential Themes of James

- a. Trials/Temptation (1:2, 12, 13, 14)
- b. Endurance (1:3, 4, 12; 5:11)
- c. Mature (1:4, 17, 25; 3:2) [cf. 1:4, 6-8; 2:4; 3:2, 8, 11-12, 16-17; 4:4-5, 8]
- d. Faith (1:3, 6; 2:1, 5, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 5:15)
- e. Wisdom (1:5; 3:13, 15, 17) [*DLNT*, 1200-4]
- f. Deliverance (1:21; 2:14; 4:12; 5:15-20)
- g. Sin (*hamartia* - 1:15; 2:9; 4:17; 5:15, 16, 20; *hamartolos* - 4:8)
- h. God (1:5, 13, 17; 2:19; 3:9; 4:15; 5:4, 11)

3. The Literary Structure of James [see the outline]

C. 1 Peter

1. Basic Facts about 1 Peter

- a. Who? The **author** was Peter (1:1). The **audience** was Christian believers who lived in the Roman provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia (1:1) who were predominately from a Gentile background (4:3).
- b. When? The letter was sent around AD 60.
- c. Where? Peter was in Babylon (5:13)
- d. Why? Persecuted Christians were called to live a holy life as they remembered their future hope.

2. The Essential Themes of 1 Peter

- a. God (39x) [*DLNT*, 422-4]
- b. Suffering (1:11; 2:19, 20, 21, 23; 3:14, 17; 4:1, 13, 15, 19; 5:1, 9, 10)
- c. Hope (1:3, 13, 21; 3:5, 15)
- d. Life-style (*4:3)
 - 1) Conduct (1:15, 17, 18; 2:12; 3:1, 2, 16)
 - 2) Doing Good (2:12, 14, 15, 18, 20; 3:6, 11, 13, 16, 17, 21; 4:10, 19)
 - 3) Doing Evil (2:1, 12, 14, 16; 3:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17; 4:15)
 - 4) Submission (2:13, 18; 3:1, 5, 22; 5:5)
 - 5) Obey/Disobey (1:2, 14, 22; 2:8; 3:1, 6, 20; 4:17)
 - 6) Holiness (1:2, 12, 15, 16; 2:5, 9; 3:5, 15)
- e. Election (1:1; 2:4, 6, 9; 5:13) and Salvation (1:5, 9, 10; 2:2; 3:10, 21; 4:18)

3. The Literary Structure of 1 Peter [see the outline]

D. 2 Peter

1. Basic Facts about 2 Peter

- a. Who? The **author** was Simeon Peter (1:1). The **audience** was the same as 1 Peter (3:1).
- b. When? The letter was sent in AD 65 (1:14)
- c. Where? Peter was probably in Rome.
- d. Why? Christian believers were exhorted to grow in Christ in the face of false teachers/teaching.

2. The Essential Themes of 2 Peter

- a. False Teachers & their False Teaching (2:1-22; 3:3-7; cf. Jude 5-16)
 - 1) Advocates of Immorality (P, 2:2, 13-14, 18-19; J, 4, 8)
 - 2) Boastful Claims (P, 2:18; J, 16)
 - 3) Greedy for Gain (P, 2:3, 14; J, 16)
 - 4) Blaspheme Angelic Beings (P, 2:10; J, 8)
 - 5) Doomed to Destruction (P, 2:1, 3, 9, 12; J, 11, 13)
- b. Christian Growth (1:2-11; 3:11-18)
- c. Knowledge (1:2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20; 2:20, 21; 3:3, 17, 18)
- d. Remembering (1:12, 13, 15; 3:1, 2)

3. The Literary Structure of 2 Peter [see the outline]

E. 1 John

1. Basic Facts about 1 John

- a. Who? The early church testimony (c. AD 180-325) attributed these letters to the apostle John as the **author**. This letter mentions no recipients, but most likely the **audience** was the churches of the Roman province of Asia.
- b. When? The letter was circulated AD 80-90.
- c. Where? The apostle John was located in Ephesus from AD 70 until his death.
- d. Why? John declared the truth that gave believers assurance of eternal life and fellowship with God's children (cf. 5:13; 1:3).

2. The Essential Themes of 1 John [& 2 John & 3 John]

- a. The Teaching of the False Teachers
 - 1) Denied Jesus was Christ (I, 2:22; 5:1, 5)
 - 2) Denied Christ came in the Flesh (I, 4:2; II, 7)
 - 3) Denied their own Sinfulness (I, 1:8, 10)
 - 4) Denied Salvation through Christ (I, 2:2)

- 5) Denied Righteous Conduct (I, 1:6; 2:29; 3:6, 10)
- 6) Denied Brotherly Love (I, 2:9)
- 7) Opposed John's Authority (III, 10)
- b. God (God – 67x; Father –16x) [*DLNT*, 425-6]
 - 1) God's Relationship with Jesus (I, 3:8; 4:9, 15; 5:5, 10)
 - 2) God's Relationship with His Children (I, 3:1-2, 9, 10; 4:4, 6, 7; 5:1, 4, 18, 19; III, 11)
- c. Jesus is the Christ (I, 2:22-23; 4:3, 15; 5:1, 5, 13; II, 7)
- d. Love (*agape* root 62x, v – I, 2:10, 15; 3:10, 11, 14, 18, 23; 4:7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21; 5:1, 2; II, 1, 5; III, 1; n – I, 2:5, 15; 3:1, 16, 17; 4:7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18; 5:3; II, 3, 6; III, 6)
- e. Commands (18x - I, 2:3, 4, 7, 8; 3:22, 23, 24; 4:21; 5:2, 3; II, 4, 5, 6)
- f. Abiding (27x - I, 2:6, 10, 14, 17, 19, 24, 27, 28; 3:6, 9, 14, 15, 17, 24; 4:12, 13, 15, 16; II, 2, 9)

3. The Literary Structure of 1 John [see the outline]

F. 2 John

1. Basic Facts about 2 John

- a. Who? The **author** was the Elder (1), John the Apostle. The **audience** was “the elect lady and her children” (1).
- b. When? The letter was sent AD 80-90.
- c. Where? John was in Ephesus.
- d. Why? The elder warned about showing hospitality to any false teachers.

2. The Essential Themes of 2 John [see above]

3. The Literary Structure of 2 John [see the outline]

G. 3 John

1. Basic Facts about 3 John

- a. Who? The **author** was the Elder (1), John the Apostle. The **audience** was “the beloved Gaius” (1).
- b. When? The letter was sent AD 80-90.
- c. Where? John was in Ephesus.
- d. Why? The elder commended a true believer and named an unworthy church leader.

2. The Essential Themes of 3 John [see above]

3. The Literary Structure of 3 John [see the outline]

H. Jude

1. Basic Facts about Jude

- a. Who? The **author** was Jude, “a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James” (1), the half-brother of Jesus (cf. Matt 13:55). The **audience** was the same as 2 Peter (17-18; cf. 2 Pet 3:3-4).
- b. When? The letter was sent AD 70-80.
- c. Where? The location of Jude is unknown.
- d. Why? Christian believers were called to earnestly contend for the Christian faith.

2. The Essential Themes of Jude

- a. False Teachers (4-16, 18-19; also see 2 Peter above)
- b. God’s Preservation (1, 24)

3. The Literary Structure of Jude [see the outline]

V. THE BOOK OF REVELATION

A. Basic Facts about the Book of Revelation

1. Who? The **author** was John (1:1, 4, 9; 22:8), the Apostle. The **audience** was the seven churches (1:11) and all who have an ear in the churches (2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22)
2. When? The book (letter) was sent AD 90-95.
3. Where? John was exiled on the island of Patmos (1:9)
4. Why? A revelation was given from Jesus Christ to encourage believers to faithfulness and to rebuke them concerning sin.

B. The Essential Themes of Revelation

1. The Glory of Jesus Christ

- a. New Titles
 - 1) The Faithful Witness (1:5)
 - 2) The Lion of the Tribe of Judah (5:5)
 - 3) King of Kings and Lord of Lords (19:16; 17:14)
- b. Lamb (28x)

2. Repentance (2:5, 16; 3:3, 19; 9:20-21; 16:11)

3. The Wrath of God (6:16, 17; 11:18; 14:10, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1, 19; 19:15)

4. The Future Work of God

- a. God’s Judgment of the Earth (6-19)
- b. God’s Establishment of His Kingdom (19-20)
- c. God’s Blessing of His People (2-3, 19-22)

C. The Literary Structure of Revelation [see the outline]

APPENDIX 1

The Outlines of the NT Book / Letters

MATTHEW

a The Birth of the King (1:1-2:23)

- an angel of the Lord (1:20, 24; 2:13, 19)
- a dream (1:20; 2:12, 13, 19, 22)
- fulfillment (1:21; 2:15, 18, 23)
- King of the Jews (2:2)

b The Introduction of the King to Israel (3:1-7:29)

- the baptism [of John] (3:7)
- mountain...sat (5:1-2)
- the Law and the Prophets (5:17; 7:12)
- divorce, except for immorality, adultery (5:32)
- treasure in heaven (6:20)
- false prophets (7:15)
- “depart from Me” (7:23)

c The Manifestation of the Authority of the King (8:1-11:1)

- the faith [of a Gentile] commended (8:10)
- compassion for the multitude (9:36)
- “the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (10:6)
- take cross and follow (10:38)
- lose and save life (10:39)

d CENTER: The Opposition to the King (11:2-13:53)

c' The Withdrawal of the King (13:54-19:2)

- the faith [of a Gentile] commended (15:28)
- compassion for the multitude (14:14; 15:32)
- “the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (15:34)
- take cross and follow (16:24)
- lose and save life (16:25)

b' The Official Rejection by Israel of their King (19:3-26:2)

- the baptism of John (21:25)
- mountain...sat (24:3)
- the Law and the Prophets (22:40)
- divorce, except for immorality, adultery (19:9)
- treasure in heaven (19:21)
- false prophets (24:11, 24)
- “depart from Me” (25:41)

a' The Death and Resurrection of Jesus (26:3-28:20)

- an angel of the Lord (28:2)
- a dream (27:19)
- fulfillment (26:54, 56; 27:9)
- King of the Jews (27:11, 37)

MATTHEW

- I. The Prologue: The Birth of the King (1:1-2:23)
- II. The Body: The Public Ministry of the King [The Deeds and Discourses of Jesus] (3:1-26:2)
 - A. The Introduction to Israel of their King (3:1-7:29)
 - 1. Narrative: The Authentication of the King (3:1-4:25)
 - 2. The First Discourse: The Explanation of the Righteousness Necessary for Entrance into the Kingdom [The Sermon on the Mount] (5:1-7:29)
 - B. The Manifestation of the Authority of the King (8:1-11:1)
 - 1. Narrative: The Power of the King (8:1-10:4)
 - 2. The Second Discourse: The Instruction to the Messengers of the Kingdom (10:5-11:1)
 - C. The Opposition to the King (11:2-13:53)
 - 1. Narrative: The Evidence of Opposition to and Rejection of the King (11:2-12:50)
 - 2. The Third Discourse: The Revelation of the Course of Events until the Kingdom will be Established [The Parables of the Kingdom] (13:1-53)
 - D. The Withdrawal of the King (13:54-19:2)
 - 1. Narrative: The Continued Offense to the King (13:54-17:27)
 - 2. The Fourth Discourse: The Instruction concerning the Greatest in the Kingdom (18:1-19:2)
 - E. The Official Rejection by Israel of their King (19:3-26:2)
 - 1. Narrative: Israel's Rejection of the King and the King's Rejection of Israel (19:3-23:39)
 - 2. The Fifth Discourse: The Future Return of the King and the Establishment of the Kingdom [The Olivet Discourse] (24:1-26:2)
- III. The Epilogue: The Death and Resurrection of the King (26:3-28:20)

MARK

- I. The Title: "The Beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (1:1)
- II. The Prologue: The Introduction to Jesus (1:2-13)
 - A. Mightier than John the Baptist (1:2-8)
 - B. The Beloved Son of God (1:9-11)
 - C. Tempted by Satan (1:12-13)
- III. The Body: The Public Demonstration of the Reality of Who Jesus Was/Is (1:14-15:41)
 - A. The Galilean Ministry: Jesus Was/Is the Messiah (1:14-8:30)
 - 1. The Commencement of the Ministry in Galilee: The Introduction to the Authority of Jesus (1:14-3:6)
 - 2. The Climax of the Ministry in Galilee: The Full Extent of the Authority of Jesus (3:7-6:13)
 - 3. The Ministry beyond Galilee: The Recognition of the Authority of Jesus (i.e. He Was/Is the Messiah) by His Disciples (6:14-8:30)
 - B. The Jerusalem Ministry: Jesus Was/Is the Son of God (8:31-15:41)
 - 1. On the Way of Jerusalem: Jesus' Teaching on Discipleship while Predicting His Death (8:31-10:52)
 - 2. At the Temple in Jerusalem: Jesus' Interactions Demonstrate His Godly Authority (11:1-13:37)
 - 3. In and Around Jerusalem: Jesus' Death Shows He Was/Is the Son of God (14:1-15:41)
- III. The Epilogue: The Resurrection of Jesus (15:42-16:8[20])

LUKE

- I. The Preface: An account of the things God had fulfilled so that a Gentile Christian might know that what he had been taught was true (1:1-4)
- II. The Prologue: The Announcements, Births, and Childhoods of John the Baptist and Jesus (1:5-2:52)
- III. The Body: The Public Ministry of Jesus [The Deeds and Discourses of Jesus] (3:1-21:38)
 - A. The Preparation for the Ministry of Jesus (3:1-4:13)
 1. The Preaching of John the Baptist (3:1-20)
 2. The Baptism of Jesus (3:21-22)
 3. The Genealogy of Jesus (3:23-38)
 4. The Temptation of Jesus by the Devil (4:1-13)
 - B. The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee: The Revelation of Jesus (4:14-9:50)
 1. The Commencement of the Ministry of Jesus: Jesus' Rejection at Nazareth and Reception at Capernaum (4:14-44)
 2. Jesus' Calling and Teaching of the Twelve (5:1-6:49)
 3. Jesus' Manifestation to the Multitudes (7:1-8:56)
 4. Jesus' Commission of and further Teaching of the Twelve (9:1-50)
 - C. The Ministry of Jesus on the Way to Jerusalem: The Teaching of Jesus in Response to His Rejection (9:51-19:27)
 1. Jesus' Teaching concerning the Duties of His Disciples (9:51-13:21)
 2. Jesus' Teaching concerning the People Who are His Disciples (13:22-17:10)
 3. Jesus' Teaching concerning the Future of His Disciples (17:11-19:27)
 - D. The Ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem: Jerusalem's Rejection of Jesus and Jesus' Prediction of Jerusalem's Destruction (19:28-21:38)
- IV. The Epilogue: The Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus (22:1-24:53)

JOHN

- I. The Prologue: Jesus was the Incarnate Word (1:1-18)
 - A. The Word in Creation (1:1-5)
 - B. The Word in History (1:6-13)
 - C. The Word among Believers (1:14-18)

- II. The Body: The Record of the Signs that should Lead to the Belief that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God [The Deeds and Discourses of Jesus] (1:19-20:31)
 - A. The Public Ministry of Jesus (1:19-12:50)
 1. The Beginning of the Signs and the Response of Belief (1:19-4:54)
 2. The Growing Hostility toward Jesus by the Jews (5:1-12:50)
 - a. The Beginning of Hostility in Jerusalem at a Feast (5:1-47)
 - b. The Conflict in Galilee at the Time of Passover (6:1-71)
 - c. The Conflict in Jerusalem at the Feasts [of Tabernacles and Dedication] (7:1-10:42)
 - d. The Culmination of Hostility: The Decision to Kill Jesus (11:1-54)
 - e. The Impending Death of Jesus: The Hour Had Come (11:55-12:36)
 - f. The Explanation of Jewish Hostility and Unbelief (12:37-50)
 - B. The Self-Disclosure of Jesus through the Cross and Resurrection (13:1-20:31)
 1. The Communication of Jesus to His Own in the World (13:1-17:26)
 - a. The Introduction: The Love and Betrayal of Jesus (13:1-30)
 - b. The Discourse: The Preparation of his Disciples by Jesus for His Departure (13:31-16:33)
 - c. The Conclusion: The Prayer of Jesus (17:1-26)
 2. The Glorification of Jesus (18:1-20:29)
 - a. The Death of Jesus (18:1-19:42)
 - b. The Resurrection of Jesus (20:1-29)
 3. The Purpose of the Gospel (20:30-31)

- III. The Epilogue: The Commission to the Disciples from the Resurrected Jesus (21:1-25)

ACTS

- I. The Preface (1:1-2)
- II. The Apostolic Witness Led by Peter to Israel (1:3-12:24)
 - A. The Apostolic Witness to Jerusalem (1:3-6:7)
 - 1. The Validation of the Apostolic Witness (1:3-26)
 - 2. The Vitalization of the Apostolic Witness (2:1-4:22)
 - 3. The Victory of the Apostolic Witness (4:23-6:7)
 - B. The Apostolic Witness Expanded beyond Jerusalem by New Spokesman (6:8-9:31)
 - 1. The Climax of the Apostolic Witness in Jerusalem (6:8-8:3)
 - 2. The Commencement of the Apostolic Witness outside of Jerusalem (8:4-40)
 - 3. The Conversion of the Apostolic Witness for the Gentiles (9:1-31)
 - C. The Climax of the Petrine Apostolic Witness (9:32-12:24)
 - 1. The Forging of a New Missionary Outreach (9:32-11:18)
 - 2. The Founding of a New Missionary Center (11:19-30)
 - 3. The Freeing of the Petrine Missionary Activity (12:1-24)
- III. The Apostolic Witness Led by Paul to the Gentiles (12:25-28:31)
 - A. The Establishment of the Pauline Apostleship (12:25-16:5)
 - 1. The Confirmation of the Pauline Apostleship (12:25-13:52)
 - 2. The Characterization of the Pauline Mission (14:1-23)
 - 3. The Commendation of the Pauline Mission and Apostleship (14:24-16:5)
 - B. The Pauline Mission Expanded to new Gentile Areas (16:6-19:20)
 - 1. The Sovereignty of God in the Salvation of Gentiles (16:6-40)
 - 2. The Sovereignty of God in the Selection of Localities (17:1-18:17)
 - 3. The Sovereignty of God in the Sequence of Events (18:18-19:20)
 - C. The Pauline Ministry Directed to Rome (19:21-28:31)
 - 1. The Repudiation of Paul's Testimony in Jerusalem (19:21-23:10)
 - 2. The Relocation of Paul's Ministry to Rome (23:11-28:31)

ROMANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-17)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-7)
 - B. The Thanksgiving and Occasion: Paul and the Romans (1:8-15)
 - C. The Theme of the Letter: The Gospel's Power for the Salvation of Jew and Gentile (1:16-17)

- II. The Body: Jew and Gentile Salvation as the Basis for Unity in Christ (1:18-15:13)
 - A. The Heart of the Gospel: Justification by Faith (1:18-4:25)
 - 1. The Universal Reign of Sin (1:18-3:20)
 - 2. The Righteousness of God Given by Faith in Jesus Christ (3:21-4:25)
 - B. The Assurance Provided by the Gospel: The Hope of Salvation (5:1-8:39)
 - 1. The Hope of Glory (5:1-21)
 - 2. Freedom from the Bondage of Sin (6:1-23)
 - 3. Freedom from the Bondage of the Law [Mosaic Commandments] (7:1-25)
 - 4. Assurance of Eternal Life in the Holy Spirit (8:1-30)
 - 5. The Believer's Security Celebrated (8:31-39)
 - C. The Defense of the Gospel: The Problem of Israel (9:1-11:36)
 - 1. Introduction: The Tension between God's Promises and Israel's Plight (9:1-5)
 - 2. Israel's Past: God's Sovereign Election (9:6-29)
 - 3. Israel's Present: Pursuing Righteousness by Works and Missing God's Salvation (9:30-10:21)
 - 4. Israel's Future: All Israel Will Be Saved (11:1-32)
 - 5. Conclusion: Praise to God for His Great Plan (11:33-36)
 - D. The Transforming Power of the Gospel: Christian Conduct (12:1-15:13)
 - 1. The Basis: Total Transformation (12:1-2)
 - 2. Humility and Mutual Service (12:3-8)
 - 3. Christian Love and Its Manifestation (12:9-21)
 - 4. The Christian and Secular Rulers (13:1-7)
 - 5. Love and the Law (13:8-10)
 - 6. Living in Light of the Day (13:11-14)
 - 7. A Plea for Unity (14:1-15:13)

- III. The Epilogue (15:14-16:27)
 - A. Paul's Ministry and Travel Plans (15:14-33)
 - B. Paul's Greetings (16:1-23)
 - C. Concluding Doxology (16:25-27)

1 CORINTHIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-9)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-3)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving for the Corinthians (1:4-9)

- II. The Body: Paul's Instructions and Exhortations in Answer to the Problems at Corinth (1:10-16: 9)
 - A. Paul's Response to the Report of Conditions in the Corinthian Church (1:10-6:20)
 - 1. The Divisions in the Church (1:10-4:21)
 - a. The Fact of the Divisions (1:10-17)
 - b. The Causes of the Divisions (1:18-4:21)
 - 1) The Misconception of the Message (1:18-3:4)
 - 2) The Misconception of the Ministry (3:5-4:21)
 - 2. The Disorders in the Church (5:1-6:20)
 - a. The Absence of Discipline (5:1-13)
 - b. The Lawsuits before the Unrighteous (6:1-11)
 - c. The Toleration of Immorality (6:12-20)
 - B. Paul's Reply to the Questions from the Corinthian Church (7:1-16:9)
 - 1. The Counsel concerning Marriage (7:1-24)
 - 2. The Counsel concerning Virgins (7:25-40)
 - 3. The Counsel concerning Things Offered to Idols (8:1-11:1)
 - a. The Basic Knowledge: The Idol is Nothing, but Curb Freedom out of Love (8:1-13)
 - b. Paul's Personal Illustration of His Use of Freedom (9:1-27)
 - c. The Application: Flee Idolatry and Do the Profitable (10:1-11:1)
 - 4. The Counsel concerning Matters of Public Assembly (11:2-34)
 - a. The Attire of Women (11:2-16)
 - b. The Observance of the Lord's Supper (11:17-34)
 - 5. The Counsel concerning Spiritual Gifts (12:1-14:40)
 - a. The Criterion: Jesus is Lord (12:1-3)
 - b. The Unity and Diversity of the Gifts (12:4-31a)
 - c. The More Excellent Way (12:31b-13:13)
 - d. The Need for Intelligibility in the Assembly (14:1-25)
 - e. The Ordering of the Gifts (14:26-40)
 - 6. The Counsel concerning the Resurrection (15:1-58)
 - 7. The Counsel concerning the Collection (16:1-9)

- III. Epilogue (16:10-24)

2 CORINTHIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-11)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Paul's Doxology for God's Comfort and Deliverance (1:3-11)

- II. The Body: Paul's Explanation of and Defense of His Apostolic Ministry (1:12-13:10)
 - A. Paul's Explanation of His Conduct and Apostolic Ministry (1:12-7:16)
 - 1. Paul's Explanation of His Conduct (1:12-2:13)
 - a. Paul's Recounting of His Past Actions (1:12-2:4)
 - b. Paul's Restoration of the Repentant Offender (2:5-11)
 - c. Paul's Restlessness at Troas (2:12-13)
 - 2. Paul's Description of His Apostolic Ministry (2:14-7:4)
 - a. The Grandeur and Superiority of His Ministry (2:14-4:6)
 - b. The Suffering and Glory of His Ministry (4:7-5:10)
 - c. The Function and Exercise of His Ministry (5:11-6:10)
 - d. The Openness and Joy of His Ministry (6:11-7:4)
 - 3. Paul's Affirmation of His Reconciliation with the Corinthians (7:5-16)
 - a. Paul's Comfort in the Report of Titus concerning the Corinthians (7:5-7)
 - b. Paul's Joy from the Response of the Corinthians to His Letter (7:8-13a)
 - c. Paul's Renewed Confidence in the Corinthians (7:13b-16)
 - B. Paul's Appeal concerning the Collection for the Saints [at Jerusalem] (8:1-9:15)
 - 1. The Examples of Generosity (8:1-15)
 - 2. The Mission of Titus (8:16-9:5)
 - 3. The Anticipated Results of the Corinthians' Generosity (9:6-15)
 - C. Paul's Further Defense of His Apostolic Authority (10:1-13:10)
 - 1. Paul's Exercise of Apostolic Authority (10:1-11:15)
 - 2. Paul's 'Foolish' Boasting (11:16-12:13)
 - a. Paul's Reason for the Boasting (11:16-21)
 - b. Paul's Heritage and Trials (11:22-33)
 - c. Paul's Vision and Revelation (12:1-10)
 - d. Paul's Signs as a True Apostle (12:11-13)
 - 3. Paul's Planned Third Visit to Corinth (12:14-13:10)

- III. The Epilogue (13:11-14)

GALATIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-10)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-5)
 - B. The Amazement: The Galatians' Were in the Process of Deserting Paul for Another Gospel (1:6-10)

- II. The Body: Paul's Defense of and Explanation of His Gospel (1:11-6:10)
 - A. The Vindication of Paul's Ministry and Gospel (1:11-2:21)
 - 1. The Origination of Paul's Gospel (1:11-24)
 - a. The Source of Paul's Gospel (1:11-12)
 - b. The Substantiations of Paul's Gospel (1:13-24)
 - 1) From Paul's Pre-conversion Life (1:13-14)
 - 2) From Paul's Conversion (1:15-17)
 - 3) From Paul's Jerusalem Visit (1:18-20)
 - 4) From Paul's Ministry in Syria and Cilicia (1:21-24)
 - 2. The Approval of Paul's Gospel by the Jerusalem Apostles (2:1-10)
 - 3. The Manifestation of Paul's Authority in His Rebuke of Peter (2:11-21)
 - a. Paul's Confrontation of Peter (2:11-13)
 - b. Paul's Correction of Peter (2:14-21)
 - B. The Explanation of Paul's Gospel (3:1-4:11)
 - 1. The Experience of the Galatians (3:1-5)
 - 2. The Example of Abraham (3:6-9)
 - 3. The Curse of the Law (3:10-14)
 - 4. The Relationship of the Law to the Abrahamic Covenant (3:15-4:11)
 - C. The Application of Paul's Gospel (4:12-6:10)
 - 1. The Plea of Paul to the Galatians to not Return to Bondage (4:12-31)
 - 2. Paul's Appeal to Stand Firm in Freedom (5:1)
 - 3. Freedom through Resistance to Circumcision (5:2-12)
 - 4. Freedom through Walking by the Holy Spirit (5:13-26)
 - 5. Freedom through Bearing with and Sharing with Others (6:1-10)

- III. The Epilogue (6:11-18)
 - A. The Character of Paul's Lettering (6:11)
 - B. The Contrast between Paul and the 'Circumcisers' (6:12-17)
 - C. Paul's Benediction of Christ's Grace (6:18)

EPHESIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-14)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. The Doxology: Paul's Praise to God for Redemption in Jesus Christ (1:3-14)
 - 1. Chosen by the Father (1:3-6)
 - 2. Redeemed by the Son (1:7-12)
 - 3. Sealed by the Holy Spirit (1:13-14)

- II. The Body: The Calling and the Conduct of the Church (1:15-6:20)
 - A. The Calling of the Church (1:15-3:21)
 - 1. The Position of the Church in Jesus Christ (1:15-2:10)
 - a. Paul's Petition to the Father for the Knowledge of Its Calling, Glory and Power in the Church (1:15-23)
 - b. The Salvation and Seating of Believers in Christ (2:1-10)
 - 2. The Oneness of Jew and Gentile in the Church (2:11-3:21)
 - a. The Union of Believers in God's Household (2:11-22)
 - b. Paul's Revelation of the Mystery: The Co-equality of Gentile and Jew in the Church (3:1-13)
 - c. Paul's Petition to the Father for Power, Comprehension and Fullness in the Church (3:14-21)
 - B. The Conduct of the Church (4:1-6:20)
 - 1. The Preservation of the Unity of the Spirit (4:1-16)
 - 2. The Walk of the Believer in Jesus Christ (4:17-6:9)
 - a. A Walk in Righteousness and Holiness of the Truth (4:17-32)
 - 1) The Old Man (4:17-19)
 - 2) The New Man (4:20-32)
 - b. A Walk in Love (5:1-6)
 - c. A Walk in Light (5:7-14)
 - d. A Walk in Wisdom (5:15-6:9)
 - 1) The Filling by the Holy Spirit (5:15-21)
 - 2) The Relationships of the Believer (5:22-6:9)
 - a) Wives and Husbands (5:22-33)
 - b) Children and Parents (6:1-4)
 - c) Slaves and Masters (6:5-9)
 - 3. The Stand of the Believer in the Full Armor of God (6:10-20)

- III. The Epilogue (6:21-24)

PHILIPPIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-11)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Philippians (1:3-11)
 - 1. Paul's Thanksgiving for the Philippians' Partnership in the Gospel (1:3-8)
 - 2. Paul's Prayer for Abounding Love in Knowledge and Discernment (1:9-11)

- II. The Body: Paul's Challenge to the Philippians as His Partners in the Gospel (1:12-4:20)
 - A. Paul's Report of His Personal Circumstances in Advancing the Gospel (1:12-26)
 - 1. The Advance of the Gospel Despite Opposition (1:12-18a)
 - 2. Paul's Confidence that Christ will be Exalted in either His Life or Death (1:18b-26)
 - B. Paul's Exhortation to the Philippians to Walk Worthy of the Gospel (1:27-4:3)
 - 1. The Need to Contend as One (1:27-30)
 - 2. The Call to Unity (2:1-30)
 - a. Paul's Exhortation for Unity (2:1-4)
 - b. The Example of Jesus Christ (2:5-11)
 - c. Paul's Exhortation for Harmony (2:12-16)
 - d. The Example of Paul (2:17-18)
 - e. The Example of Timothy (2:19-24)
 - f. The Example of Epaphroditus (2:25-30)
 - 3. The Call to Steadfastness (3:1-4:3)
 - a. The Warning: Beware of Evil Workers (3:1-3)
 - b. The Testimony of Paul's Experiences (3:4-14)
 - c. The Call to the Philippians from Paul (3:15-4:3)
 - 1) The Need for the Same Goal as Paul (3:15-16)
 - 2) The Need to Imitate a Godly Example (3:17-21)
 - 3) The Exhortation: Stand Firm in the Lord (4:1)
 - 4) Unity between Euodia and Syntyche (4:2-3)
 - C. Paul's Exhortations to the Philippians in their Circumstances (4:4-9)
 - 1. Peace, not Anxiety, in the Church (4:4-7)
 - 2. Focusing on What is Excellent (4:8-9)
 - D. Paul's Joy for the Partnership of the Philippians (4:10-20)

- III. The Epilogue (4:21-23)

COLOSSIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-14)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving for the Colossian Saints (1:3-8)
 - C. Paul's Prayer for the Colossians' Knowledge that would Result in Worthy Conduct (1:9-14)

- II. The Body: Paul Taught the Colossian Saints the Truth about Jesus, Warned of False Teachers, and Exhorted Them to Christian Conduct (1:15-4:6)
 - A. Paul's Teaching concerning the Person and Work of Christ (1:15-2:5)
 - 1. The Preeminence of Christ (1:15-20)
 - 2. The Reconciliation of Believers to God through Christ (1:21-23)
 - 3. Paul, the Minister of the Message of Hope in Jesus Christ (1:24-2:5)
 - B. Paul's Warning concerning the False Teachers (2:6-3:4)
 - 1. Paul's Admonition concerning the False Teachers (2:6-8)
 - 2. Paul's Instruction in the True Teaching (2:9-15)
 - 3. Paul's Exhortation Resulting from the True Teaching (2:16-3:4)
 - a. Do Not Respond to Legalistic Practices and Ascetic Decrees (2:16-23)
 - b. Do Aspire for the Heavenly Reality (3:1-4)
 - C. Paul's Exhortation concerning the Conduct of the Believer United to Christ (3:5-4:6)
 - 1. The Foundation of Christian Conduct (3:5-11)
 - a. Put Off the Old Way of Life (3:5-11)
 - b. Put On the New Way of Life (3:12-17)
 - 2. The Conduct Appealed for in Relationships (3:18-4:6)
 - a. Relationships in the Household (3:18-4:1)
 - b. Relationships with Unbelievers (4:2-6)

- III. The Epilogue (4:7-18)

1 THESSALONIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-10)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians (1:2-10)
- II. The Body: Paul's Reminder of His Relationship with and His Exhortations to the Thessalonians (2:1-5:22)
 - A. Paul's Vindication before the Thessalonians (2:1-3:13)
 - 1. Paul's Vindication through His Methods (2:1-12)
 - 2. Paul's Vindication through the Thessalonians' Thanksgiving (2:13-16)
 - 3. Paul's Vindication through Their Separation (2:17-3:13)
 - B. Paul's Exhortation to the Thessalonians (4:1-5:22)
 - 1. Paul's Exhortation regarding Personal Needs (4:1-12)
 - 2. Paul's Exhortation regarding Eschatological Needs (4:13-5:11)
 - a. The Dead in Christ (4:13-18)
 - b. The Day of the Lord (5:1-11)
 - 3. Paul's Exhortation regarding Ecclesiastical Needs (5:12-22)
- III. The Epilogue (5:23-28)

2 THESSALONIANS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-12)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving and Prayer for the Thessalonians (1:3-12)
- II. The Body: Paul's Assurance to and Encouragement of the Thessalonians (2:1-3:15)
 - A. Paul's Assurance of Non-involvement in the Day of the Lord (2:1-17)
 - 1. The False Claim (2:1-2)
 - 2. The True Condition (2:3-12)
 - 3. The Truth's Continuance (2:13-17)
 - B. Paul's Encouragement to Gainful Employment in the Present (3:1-15)
 - 1. Prayerful Preparation for Encounter (3:1-5)
 - 2. Proper Solution for Idleness (3:6-15)
- III. The Epilogue (3:16-18)

1 TIMOTHY

- I. The Prologue (1:1-20)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Paul's Charge to Timothy: Withstand False Teaching and Further the Gospel (1:3-20)
 - 1. The Content of the Charge: Preserve the Purity of the Gospel (1:3-11)
 - 2. Paul's Conversion and Commission as an Example of the Truth of the Gospel (1:12-17)
 - 3. The Renewed Charge: The Trust Given to Timothy (1:18-20)

- II. The Body: Paul's Teaching concerning Conduct in the Church and Its Application to Timothy's Ministry (2:1-6:19)
 - A. Paul's Instruction concerning Conduct in the Church (2:1-3:16)
 - 1. The Conduct in Public Worship (2:1-15)
 - a. The Need for Prayer on Behalf of All Men (2:1-8)
 - b. The Place of Godly Women: Quietly Receiving Instruction (2:9-15)
 - 2. The Qualification for Church Leadership (3:1-13)
 - a. The Qualification for the Overseers (3:1-7)
 - b. The Qualification for the Deacons (3:8-13)
 - 3. The Conduct and Confession of the Church (3:14-16)
 - B. Paul's Instruction to Timothy concerning His Personal Ministry (4:1-6:19)
 - 1. Timothy's Attention to Himself and His Teaching (4:1-16)
 - a. Paul's Instruction concerning Timothy's Teaching (4:1-11)
 - b. Paul's Instruction concerning Timothy's Example (4:12-16)
 - 2. Timothy's Relationships with Groups in the Church (5:1-25)
 - a. Timothy's Relationship with Older and Younger (5:1-2)
 - b. Timothy's Relationship with Widows (5:3-16)
 - c. Timothy's Relationship with Elders (5:17-25)
 - 3. Paul's Final Instruction to Timothy (6:1-19)
 - a. Timothy's Instruction to Slaves (6:1-2)
 - b. Timothy's Awareness of False Teachers (6:3-10)
 - c. Timothy's Proper Pursuits (6:11-16)
 - d. Timothy's Instructions to the Rich (6:17-19)

- III. The Epilogue (6:20-21)

2 TIMOTHY

- I. The Prologue (1:1-5)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving for Timothy's Sincere Faith (1:3-5)
- II. The Body: Paul's Exhortation to Timothy in View of Paul's Impending Death (1:6-4:8)
 - A. Paul's Exhortations to Timothy concerning His Personal Steadfastness (1:6-2:13)
 - 1. Paul's Appeal to Timothy for a Spirit-given Boldness that Will Endure Suffering (1:6-18)
 - 2. Paul's Appeal to Timothy to Suffer as a Good Soldier of Christ Jesus (2:1-13)
 - B. Paul's Exhortations to Timothy concerning His Public Service (2:14-4:8)
 - 1. Paul's Appeal to Timothy to Not Argue over Words (2:14-26)
 - 2. Paul's Appeal to Timothy to Continue in the Teachings of the Scripture in View of the Coming Opposition to God's Truth (3:1-4:5)
 - 3. Paul's Final Testimony (4:6-8)
- III. The Epilogue (4:9-22)

TITUS

- I. The Prologue (1:1-16)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-4)
 - B. Paul's Charge to Titus: Appoint Elders Who Will Exhort in Sound Doctrine and Refute Those Who Contradict Sound Doctrine (1:5-16)
- II. The Body: Paul's Instruction to Titus concerning Conduct in the Church and in the World (2:1-3:11)
 - A. The Conduct of Various Age Groups in the Church (2:1-8)
 - 1. Older Men (2:1-2)
 - 2. Older and Younger Women (2:3-5)
 - 3. Younger Men (2:6-8)
 - B. The Conduct of Slaves (2:9-10)
 - C. The Sensible, Righteous, Godly Conduct of All (2:11-15)
 - D. The Submissive Conduct of All towards Rulers and Authorities (3:1-7)
 - E. The Conduct toward a Factious Man (3:8-11)
- III. The Epilogue (3:12-15)

PHILEMON

- I. The Prologue (1-7)
 - A. The Salutation (1-3)
 - B. Paul's Thanksgiving for Philemon's Love (4-7)
- II. The Body: Paul's Appeal to Philemon to Accept Onesimus as He would Paul [as a beloved brother in Christ and a partner in the Gospel] (8-20)
- III. The Epilogue (21-25)

JAMES

- I. The Prologue (1:1-18)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1)
 - B. The Problem: The Accusation against God in Trials (1:2-18)
 - 1. The Corrective concerning Trials (1:2-12)
 - a. The Purpose of Trials (1:2-4)
 - b. The Place of Wisdom in Trials (1:5-8)
 - c. The Proper Attitude in Trials (1:9-12)
 - 2. The Corrective concerning Temptations (1:13-18)
 - a. God Does Not Tempt (1:13-15)
 - b. God Bestows Every Good Thing (1:16-18)
- II. The Body: The Exhortation concerning the Word Implanted Which is Able to Deliver (1:19-5:20)
 - A. The Principles Summarized (1:19-21)
 - B. The Principles Applied (1:22-5:12)
 - 1. Be Quick to Hear [and Do] (1:22-2:26)
 - a. Be a Doer of the Word (1:22-25)
 - b. Be a Doer of True Religion (1:26-27)
 - c. Be an Impartial Doer (2:1-13)
 - d. Be a Doer of Faith-directed Works (2:14-26)
 - 2. Be Slow to Speak (3:1-18)
 - a. Control the Tongue (3:1-12)
 - b. Convey Heavenly Wisdom (3:13-18)
 - 3. Be Slow to Anger (4:1-5:12)
 - a. Be Submissive before God (4:1-10)
 - b. Do Not Judge Another (4:11-12)
 - c. Do Not Boast in Arrogance (4:13-17)
 - d. Do Not Trust in Riches (5:1-6)
 - e. Be Patient and Endure Trials (5:7-11)
 - f. Do Not Use Oaths (5:12)
 - C. The Practices Needed at the Time (5:13-20)
 - 1. Turn to Prayer (5:13-18)
 - 2. Turn Others to the Truth (5:19-20)

1 PETER

- I. The Prologue (1:1-12)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Peter's Praise to God for Salvation (1:3-12)
 - 1. The Reserved Inheritance: The Future Salvation (1:3-5)
 - 2. The Joy of Trials: The Present Purification (1:6-9)
 - 3. The Prophetic Word: The Past Revelation (1:10-12)

- II. The Body: Peter Instructed the Believers How to Live a Holy Life while Suffering for Their Faith (1:13-5:11)
 - A. The Salvation of the Believers (1:13-2:10)
 - 1. The Practice of the Saved Believer (1:13-2:3)
 - a. A Fixed Hope (1:13)
 - b. A Holy Life (1:14-16)
 - c. A Fearful Conduct (1:17-21)
 - d. A Fervent Love (1:22-25)
 - e. A Longing for the Word (2:1-3)
 - 2. The Position of the Saved Believer: Living Stones (2:4-10)
 - B. The Submission of the Believer (2:11-3:12)
 - 1. The Appeal for Excellent Behavior (2:11-12)
 - 2. The Submission to Human Authority (2:13-17)
 - 3. The Submission of Slaves to Masters (2:18-25)
 - 4. The Submission of Wives to Husbands (3:1-6)
 - 5. The Honoring of Wives by Husbands (3:7)
 - 6. The Giving of Blessing for Evil (3:8-12)
 - C. The Suffering of the Believer (3:13-5:11)
 - 1. The Conduct in Suffering (3:13-4:19)
 - a. Suffering for the Sake of Righteousness (3:3-4:6)
 - 1) Sanctify Christ at Lord (3:13-17)
 - 2) The Example of the Suffering of Christ (3:18-22)
 - 3) Living for the Will of God (4:1-6)
 - b. Alertness in View of the End of All Things (4:7-12)
 - c. Trusting God in the Midst of Fiery Trials (4:13-19)

2 PETER

- I. The Prologue (1:1-4)
 - A. The Salutation (1:1-2)
 - B. Peter's Affirmation of God's Gift to the Believer of Everything Pertaining to Life and Godliness (1:3-4)

- II. The Body: Peter's Exhortation to Christian Growth and Warning about False Teachers (1:5-3:18a)
 - A. Peter's Exhortation to Growth in the Christian Life (1:5-21)
 - 1. The Process of Growth (1:5-7)
 - 2. The Necessity of Growth (1:8-11)
 - 3. The Means of Growth (1:12-21)
 - a. The Revelation from Jesus Christ (1:12-18)
 - b. The Prophecy from the Old Testament (1:19-22)
 - B. Peter's Warning about False Teachers (2:1-22)
 - 1. The Danger of False Teachers (2:1-3)
 - 2. The Doom of False Teachers (2:4-10a)
 - 3. The Description of False Teachers (2:10b-22)
 - C. Peter's Warning about Scoffers (3:1-18a)
 - 1. The Mockery of the Last Days (3:1-7)
 - 2. The Explanation of the Lord's Delay (3:8-10)
 - 3. The Exhortations in View of the Lord's Coming (3:11-18a)

1 JOHN

- I. The Introduction (1:1-4)
 - A. The Eyewitness Testimony to the Word of Life (1:1)
 - B. The Historic Manifestation of the Word of Life (1:2)
 - C. The Fellowship of Believers (1:3-4)

- II. The Assurances that One is a True Believer in Jesus Christ (1:5-5:12)
 - A. Assurance Through the Test of Fellowship (1:5-2:17)
 - 1. The Basis for Fellowship (1:5)
 - 2. The Hindrances to Fellowship (1:6-10)
 - 3. The Maintenance of Fellowship (2:1-17)
 - a. The Provision for Fellowship (2:1-2)
 - b. The Signs of Fellowship (2:3-17)
 - 1) Obedience (2:3-5)
 - 2) Imitation (2:6)
 - 3) Love (2:7-11)
 - 4) Separation (2:12-17)
 - B. Assurance Through the Conflict of Faith (2:18-4:6)
 - 1. The Conflict between Truth and Error (2:18-28)
 - 2. The Conflict between the Children of God and the Children of the Devil (2:29-3:12)
 - a. The Sign of the Child of God (2:29-3:3)
 - b. The Child of God and Sin (3:4-12)
 - 3. The Conflict between Love and Hate (3:13-24)
 - 4. The Conflict between the Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error (4:1-6)
 - C. Assurance from the Evidence of Love (4:7-5:5)
 - 1. The Nature of Redeeming Love (4:7-16a)
 - 2. The Results of Love (4:16b-5:5)
 - D. Assurance from the Witness of the Spirit (5:6-12)
 - 1. The External, Historic Witness (5:6-9)
 - 2. The Internal Witness of the Spirit (5:10-12)

- III. The Conclusion (5:13-21)
 - A. The Certainty of Salvation (5:13)
 - B. The Confidence of Answered Prayer (5:14-15)
 - C. The Counsel Concerning Intercession (5:16-17)
 - D. The Certainties of the Christian Faith (5:18-20)
 - E. The Final Warning against Idols (5:21)

2 JOHN

- I. The Prologue (1-4)
 - A. The Salutation (1-3)
 - B. The Elder's Joy in Finding the Chosen Lady's Children Walking in Truth and Love (4)
- II. The Body: The Elder's Directives for the Chosen Lady and Her Children (5-11)
 - A. The Elder's Appeal for Love and Obedience (5-6)
 - B. The Elder's Warning against False Teachers (7-9)
 - C. The Elder's Call not Receive False Teachers (10-11)
- III. The Epilogue (12-13)

3 JOHN

- I. The Prologue (1-4)
 - A. The Salutation (1)
 - B. The Elder's Prayer for Gaius' Health and His Joy for Gaius' Walking in Truth (2-4)
- II. The Body: The Elder's Evaluations for Gaius (5-12)
 - A. The Elder's Commendation of Gaius for His Support of Travelling Christian Teachers (5-8)
 - B. The Elder's Condemnation of Diotrephes for His Evil Deeds (9-11)
 - C. The Elder's Commendation of Demetrius for His Good Testimony (12)
- III. The Epilogue (13-14)

JUDE

- I. The Prologue (1-4)
 - A. The Salutation (1-2)
 - B. The Necessity to Contend Earnestly for the Faith (3-4)
- II. The Body: Jude's Reminder of the Christians' Duty When Faced with False Teachers/Teaching (5-23)
 - A. The Description of the False Teachers (5-16)
 - B. The Duty in View of the False Teaching (17-23)
 - 1. Heed the Instruction of the Word (17-19)
 - 2. Stay in the Love of God (20-21)
 - 3. Have Mercy on Those Impacted by the False Teaching (22-23)
- III. The Epilogue (24-25)

REVELATION

- I. The Prologue (1:1-8)
- II. The First Vision: The Church Age (1:9-3:22)
 - A. The Voice of Jesus Christ (1:9-11)
 - B. The Vision of Jesus Christ (1:12-16)
 - C. The Message from Jesus Christ to the Seven Church (1:17-3:22)
- III. The Second Vision: The Great Tribulation (4:1-16:21)
 - A. The Seven Seals (4:1-8:1)
 - 1. The Heavenly Prelude: The Throne in Heaven (4:1-5:14)
 - 2. The Six Seal Judgments (6:1-17)
 - 3. The Earthly Parenthesis: The Two Multitudes (7:1-17)
 - 4. The Seventh Seal (8:1)
 - B. The Seven Trumpets (8:2-11:19)
 - 1. The Heavenly Prelude: Fire from Heaven Thrown on the Earth (8:2-6)
 - 2. The Sixth Trumpet Judgments (8:7-9:21)
 - 3. The Earthly Parenthesis: A Little Book and the Two Witnesses (10:1-11:14)
 - 4. The Seventh Trumpet (11:15-19)
 - C. The Great Personages of the Tribulation (12:1-14:20)
 - 1. The Woman, The Dragon and the Child (12:1-17)
 - 2. The Two Beasts (13:1-18)
 - 3. The Lamb and the 144,000 (14:1-5)
 - 4. The Six Angels (14:6-20)
 - D. The Seven Bowls (15:1-16:21)
 - 1. The Heavenly Prelude: The Seven Angels with Seven Plagues (15:1-16:1)
 - 2. The Six Bowl Judgments (16:2-12)
 - 3. The Earthly Parenthesis: The Gathering to Harmagedon (16:13-16)
 - 4. The Seventh Bowl (16:17-21)
- IV. The Third Vision: The Second Coming of Christ (17:1-21:8)
 - A. The Destruction of Babylon (17:1-19:10)
 - 1. The Record of Babylon's Judgment (17:1-18)
 - 2. The Response of Babylon's Judgment (18:1-24)
 - 3. The Rejoicing of the Great Multitude (19:1-10)
 - B. The Establishment of the New Jerusalem (19:11-21:8)
 - 1. The Return of Christ (19:11-16)
 - 2. The Defeat of the Beast (19:17-21)
 - 3. The Binding of Satan (20:1-3)
 - 4. The Millennium (20:4-6)
 - 5. The Final Rebellion of Satan (20:7-10)
 - 6. The Great White Throne Judgment (20:11-15)
 - 7. The New Heaven and the New Earth (21:1-8)
- V. The Fourth Vision: The Eternal State (21:9-22:5)
- VI. The Epilogue (22:6-21)

APPENDIX 2

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. A Study Bible

Choose one of the following (but also read and reread the biblical text first!):

The MacArthur Study Bible

The ESV Study Bible

The Holman Study Bible

The NIV Study Bible

2. A Historical Geography of the Bible

The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands

3. A Bible Dictionary

The New Bible Dictionary

4. A One-Volume Commentary

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

5. NT History

Everett Ferguson, *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*

J. Julius Scott, Jr., *Jewish Backgrounds of the New Testament*

Merrill Tenney, *New Testament Times*