

# BIBLE LITERACY COURSE

## PART III THE NEW TESTAMENT

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**Bible Literacy, Part III, The New Testament**

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Our Mission is to teach Bible basics as well as His Word, which will encourage  
Bible growth through the “renewing of our minds” which will lead us to test  
and approve “God’s perfect will” in our lives.

*“How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth.”*

*Ps. 119:103 NIV*

This course is written in a way that allows the student to see the big picture and then break it down into helpful and recognizable divisions. Please look at the entire layout before studying it or teaching it. The formula for learning the books of the New Testament (4, 1, 13, 1, 7, 1) is original with the author.

The divisions are then broken down into categories so that the student can tell what kind of book they are studying. (These categories are well-known throughout the Biblical world.) For example, Romans is a church letter, while I & II Timothy are pastoral letters. I Peter is from the category of general letters. This course is not meant to give extensive details on each book. Rather, it is way to remember each book through a few words, a key verse, or the category in which it fits.

Those who teach this can change parts of this course if they are well-versed in a specific book and have other ways of stating the general ideas. This course is not inspired, but the author has worked hard to make it understandable and has tried to stay accurate to the book's overview.

# **The dominant idea of the New Testament is: FULFILLMENT**

The Old Testament had:

- Unexplained ceremonies
- Unachieved purposes
- Unappeased longings
- Unfulfilled prophecies

**In the New Testament, Christ fulfills all of these.**

*Have your students repeat these numbers until they know the books they represent.  
Then, have them memorize them so they will know the New Testament books in  
categories.*

## **New Testament Books**

4 Gospels  
1 Book of History  
13 Letters Written by Paul  
1 Unknown Author  
7 by Other Authors  
1 Book of Prophecy

### **4 Gospels**

Matthew  
Mark  
Luke  
John

### **1 Book of History**

Acts

### **13 Letters Written by Paul**

Romans  
I and II Corinthians  
Galatians  
Ephesians  
Philippians  
Colossians  
I and II Thessalonians  
I and II Timothy  
Titus  
Philemon



**1 Unknown Author**

Hebrews

**7 by Other Authors**

James

I and II Peter

I, II, and III John

Jude

**1 Book of Prophecy**

Revelation

**Further categorical divisions for Letters**

Church Letters

Pastoral Letters

General Letters

**Church Letters**

Romans

I and II Corinthians

Galatians

Philippians

Ephesians

Colossians

I & II Thessalonians

**Pastoral Letters**

I Timothy

II Timothy

Titus

**General Letters**

Philemon

Hebrews

James

I & II Peter

I & II & III John

Jude

## Back to the Beginning:

### **4 Gospels**

#### Matthew

Christ is shown as a King

#### Mark

Christ is shown as a servant

#### Luke

Christ is shown as the Son of Man

#### John

Christ is shown as the Son of God

#### Matthew, Mark, and Luke (Synoptic Gospels)

These Gospels show the outer facts of the Lord's life and the human aspect of the Lord's life.

Mostly, His public discourses are given.  
Galilee is mainly where the events take place.

#### John

Shows the inner facts of the Lord's life with the divine aspects of His life more readily shown.

The private discourses are mostly depicted.

Most of the events took place in Judea.

## Matthew (28 Chapters)

**King:** royal birth (Line of David)  
Shows genealogy (1:1-17)

Key Verse: Matthew 16:21

No one knows for sure when it was written, but could be late 50s or early 60s A.D.

It is the story of Jesus of Nazareth that gives us a compelling witness that He is the Messiah. He is the One that has brought the Kingdom of God to earth and He is the King! He fulfills God's promise of true peace and deliverance to both Jew and Gentile.

Key themes that Matthew shows are:

The bridge between Old and New Testaments. He fulfills this through his genealogy (1:1-17), the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies (2:13-23), and His saying that He has fulfilled the law, not abolished it (5:17-20).

He extends His saving work to all people (10:5-6, 28:19)

The church as a new community of faith is encouraged to overcome ethnic and cultural barriers and to find unity (11:28, 16:18-19, 28:19)

The church has the ongoing Presence of Christ and has been issued the great commission (16:18, 18:15-20, 22:10, 28:19-20)

There are five public discourses which could be called lessons, or teachings, on discipleship. They are in Chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18-20 and 24-25.

**Jesus is our King.**

## Mark (16 Chapters)

**Servant:** action-packed narrative (words meaning “immediately” or “straight way” are used often)

Does not show a genealogy

Key Verse: Mark 10:45

Probably written in the mid to late 50s A.D.

Discipleship (as seen in Christ’s example as a servant) is the main purpose of the book. Fellowship with Christ is the heart of a disciple’s life. Discipleship to Him means trusting Him, confessing Him, following his teaching, watching His conduct, and being shaped by our relationship with Him. It includes our experiences of rejection as He also experienced this.

Mark shows us:

Jesus is a man (1:25, 34, 44; 3:12, 4:10-12 and other places.)

He is the Son of Man who has all power and authority yet will have to suffer (1:6-34, 2:3-12, 23-28, 3:11, 5:7, and other places.)

He is the Son of God (1:11, 3:11, 5:7, 12:6-8 and other places)

Jesus is Lord (2:28, 12:35-37, 14:62)

Jesus calls His followers to imitate Him (8:34-38, 9:35-37, 10:35-45)

The key verse 10:45 says: “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus, who is the Son of Man, the Son of God, and Who is Lord shows us:

**How to be a servant.**

## Luke (24 Chapters)

**Son of Man:** shows His beginnings, His preparations, His ministry, His sufferings,  
His victory  
Shows genealogy (3:23-38)

Key Verse: Luke 22:42

Probably written about 62 A.D.

Luke wanted all people to know that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is for ALL people. He researches and records the truthfulness of the Christian traditions that his readers have been taught, so that they know they are true. They would also know that by believing on Jesus Christ they would receive the Holy Spirit. Since Luke was a doctor, he gives many more details concerning birth and death and all that is in between, from his educated perspective.

A basic outline includes:

The beginning years of Jesus (1:5-2:52)

Jesus' preparation for ministry (3:1-4:15)

The ministry of Jesus in Galilee (4:16-9:50)

Jesus journeys to Jerusalem (9:51 to 19:27)

Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem (19:28 to 21:38)

Jesus' suffering and death (22:1-23:56)

The resurrection of Jesus (24:1-53)

### **Jesus is the Son of man.**

*Jesus' favorite title for Himself was "Son of Man". It appears about 78 times throughout the four Gospels. There may be several reasons for this. It may be that since He represented perfect humanity, He was identifying with the people He came to save. It could be that it connected Him to His earthly life and His emphasis on His humanity.*

*However, the Son of Man was also a Messianic designation. This came from a reference in Daniel 7: 13-14. "...and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him.*

*"And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed."*

*A few other places where He used the term were:*

*"But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins' --he said to the paralytic-- "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." (Mark 2:10)*

*“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10)*

*“And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. (Mark 8:31)*

*“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory,” (Matt. 25:31)*

*There are many other references with “the Son of Man” in the verse. The title was never used by his disciples for Him, it was only used by Jesus for Himself.*

## **John (21 Chapters)**

**Son of God:** Every chapter speaks of His deity  
Does not show a genealogy

Key Verse: John 20:30-31

Probably written sometime between 70 and 100 A.D (when John died)

John’s gospel theme is concise. Jesus is the promised Messiah, the Son of God. All those who believe in Him will have eternal life!

A brief outline:  
Jesus, the Incarnate Word (1:1-18)

Signs that He is the Messiah (1:9-12:50)

The witness of John the Baptist

His ministry in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the Gentiles.

His opposition from the Jews

The final Passover

His rejection by the Jews

His farewell discourse and the narrative of the passion week (12:1-20:31)

The discourses of Jesus to His disciples at the Last Supper

His arrest, trials, death and burial

His resurrection, appearances, and sending of his disciples  
The Key verse of 20:30-31

The final conversation with Peter, restoring Him (21:1-25)

**Jesus is the Son of God.**



# ***1 Book of History***

## **Acts (28 Chapters)**

The acts of the apostles & Holy Spirit and the establishing of the early church

Portrays Jesus Christ as the living Lord in the lives of believers. A key word is witness!

Key Verse: Acts 1:8

Probably written about the same time as Gospel of Luke: 62 A.D.

*(See an outline of Paul's life below)*

A brief outline of the book:  
Jesus prepares his disciples, ascends, replacement of Judas, and the Spirit at Pentecost  
(1:1-2:13)

Acts in Jerusalem (2:14 -5:42)

Acts beyond Jerusalem (6:1- 12:25)

Acts in Cyprus and southern Galatia (13:1-14:28)

The Jewish Council (15:1-35)

Acts in Greece (15:36 -18:22)

Acts in Ephesus (18:23-21:16)

Paul's arrest in Jerusalem (21:17-23:35)

Paul in Caesarea (24:1-26:32)

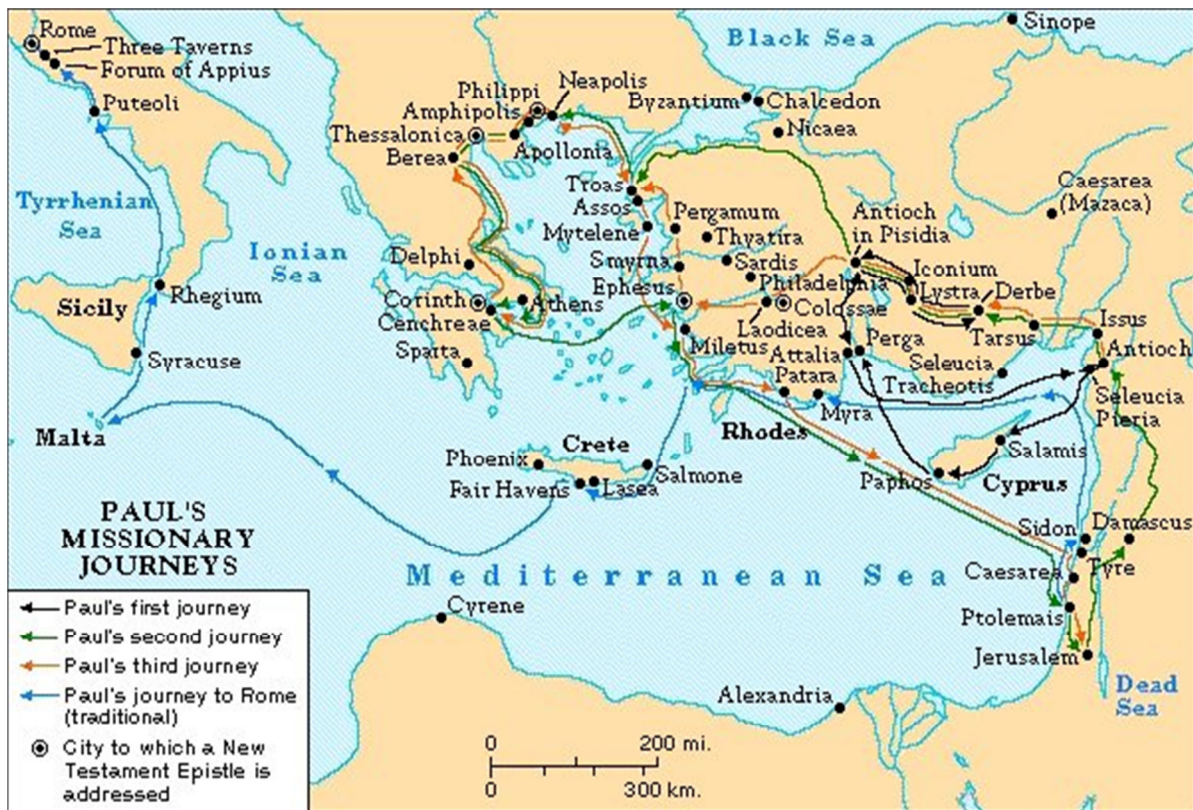
Paul's witness in Rome (27:1-28)

**The Spirit establishes His Church.**



### MAJOR EVENTS OF PAUL'S LIFE & MINISTRY

- Birth at Tarsus in Cilicia (Acts 21:39; 22:3)
- Training in Jerusalem (Acts 22:3; see also 26:4-5)
- Persecution of Early Church (Acts 8: 1-3; 9:1-2; 22:4-5; 26:9-11)
- Conversion (Acts 9:3-19; 22:6-16; 26:12-18)
- Time in Arabia, Damascus (Acts 9:19-25; II Corinthians 11:31-33; Galatians 1:17)
- Visit to Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-29; Galatians 1:18)
- Return to Tarsus (Acts 9:30)
- Teaching at Antioch in Syria (Acts 11:25-26)
- Taking Famine Relief to Jerusalem (Acts 11:27-30; 12:25)
- First Missionary Journey (Acts 13:1-14, 26)
- Ministry in Antioch (Acts 14:26-28; 15:35)
- Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:1-29)
- Second Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36-18:22)
- Third Missionary Journey (Acts 18:23- 21:17)
- Arrest at Jerusalem (Acts 21:27-23:22)
- Imprisonment at Caesarea (Acts 23:23-36, 32)
- Transfer to Rome (Acts 27:1-28:15)
- House Arrest in Rome (Acts 28:16-31)
- Release and Further Travels (?) (see Titus 1:5; 3:12; I Tim. 1:3; 3:14; II Tim. 4:13, 20; perhaps Romans 15: 24,28)
- Final Imprisonment and Death in Rome (II Tim. 1:16-17; 4:6-8, 16-18)



## New Testament Letters

*Helping Christians Live for Christ Today.*

Church letters were written to churches. Pastoral letters were written to pastors and general letters were written to all Christians. However, all scriptures are profitable for teaching, reproof, and correction for all believers (II Tim 3:16)

### The 13 Letters of Paul

**9 are church letters**

**3 are pastoral letters**

**1 is a general letter**

### Romans (16 chapters)

Church letter to Christians in Rome

Portrays Jesus as our Righteousness

Key Verse: Rom. 1:16-17

Probably written in A.D. 57

Paul gives his fullest, although not exhaustive, teachings on theology in Romans. A form of the word righteousness is used 55 times in the book.

Some themes...God judges all because all are sinners, but also provides salvation through the righteousness of His Son (1:18—3:20)

The law, while good, cannot overcome the power of sin (2:12-19)

Justification is based on faith alone (1:16-4:25)

A future glory is a certain hope for those who trust in Christ (5:1-8:39)

God is sovereign and, through Christ, fulfills all his promises to Gentile and Jew alike.

Everything is done according to His plan (9:1-11:36)

Christians are called to service to each other, to being good citizens, to personal holiness, and love of their neighbor (12:1-13:14)

These themes can be found in other verses of Romans

**Jesus is Our Righteousness**

## I Corinthians (16 chapters)

Church letter to Christians in Corinth

Portrays Jesus Christ, our Unifier

Key Verse: I Cor. 15:3-5

Written probably about 53-55 A.D.

This book covers several topics:

Paul wants his fellow believers to work together to advance the Gospel. They have become divided due to the arrogance of some of the more powerful Christian teachers, who are teaching false doctrine. He wants them to have love and unity so that the power of the Gospel can be witnessed as the wisdom of God, and the foolishness of men can be seen (Chapter 1-4).

There are issues of marriage, divorce, food offered to idols. He speaks of head coverings and appropriate worship in general. They are not to elevate one spiritual gift above another. They are to build up the faith of the weak and witness effectively to unbelievers. (Chapters 5-14)

Two chapters that are often remembered are 13, the chapter about love, and 15, a synopsis of what Christ did (15:3-5 key verses),

thoughts on the resurrection from the dead are in Chapter 15:12-58

## **Jesus Christ is Our Unifier**

### **II Corinthians (13 Chapters)**

Church letter to Christians in Corinth

Portrays Jesus Christ, our Sufficiency

Key Verse: II Cor. 12:9

Written about 55-56 A.D.

This was Paul's most personal letter. It is filled with emotional appeals and examples of why he is Christ's apostle and why he has genuinely suffered for His sake. Paul's suffering shows his commitment to Christ and not his ineffectiveness. His endurance while amid adversity (done with thanksgiving and contentment) show the resurrection power of the Spirit. Paul tells the Corinthians that if they reject him, they are rejecting Christ himself since Paul's message, ministry and manner of life are one with Christ. (Chapters 1-6, 10:1-13:10)

Other issues that Paul talks about are church discipline and the joy of those who repent, (Chapter 6-7) and the grace of giving (Chapter 8)

Chapter 12 is well known for its teaching on how God's strength is made perfect in our weakness. He is our sufficiency!

**We need only Jesus. He is our Sufficiency.**

### **Galatians (6 Chapters)**

Church letter to Christians in Galatia.

Portrays Jesus Christ, our Freedom

Key Verse: Gal. 5:1

Probably written in either 47 or 48 A.D. and is probably one of Paul's first letters.

Christ's death has brought a new covenant so that His believers do not have to conform to Jewish law. If the law is still required, our justification is not by faith alone. Christ's followers are now to live by the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Christ has set us free from the yoke of slavery (5:1) We no longer walk by the flesh (5:18-21) but  
by the Spirit which produces His fruit (5:22-25).

**Jesus makes us free through faith alone.**

## Ephesians (6 Chapters)

Church letter to Christians in Ephesus

Portrays Jesus Christ, who makes all things one

Key Verse: Eph.1:7

Written A.D. 62

The first three chapters tell how Christ has reconciled all creation to Himself and to God and  
how He is the preeminent One. These chapters are theological. The last three chapters give  
instructions as to how to live the Christian life

Salvation and grace through faith. (Chapter 2)

The mystery of the Gospel and how it unifies Jew and Gentile. Also, the unity and peace of  
Christ. (Chapter 3)

Examples of the unity of the body (Chapter 4)

New life in love and submission to one another (Chapter 5-6)

The whole armor of God (Chapter 6)

**Jesus makes all things One.**

## Philippians (4 Chapters)

Church letter to Christians in Philippi

Portrays Jesus Christ, our Joy

Key Verses: Phil: 1:21-22 and Phil 4:8

Written 62 A.D.

The main message of Philippians is encouragement. Paul expresses His joy in Christ and how we should have that too. He is in prison while writing this.

Some other themes...

Paul talks about his imprisonment and how it has brought progress for the Gospel. For Him to live is Christ and die is gain. We will suffer for the sake of the Gospel (Chapter 1)

We are to live lives that put others first. Christ showed us how to do this. We are to live as lights in the world and Paul gives examples of others who have done this. (Chapter 2)

Paul says nothing compares to knowing Christ. We are to follow that example. Righteousness comes from Christ, not from those who oppose the Gospel. We are citizens of heaven. (Chapter 3)

We should rejoice in the Lord, give our worries to Christ in prayer and be positive in our thoughts (Chapter 4)

**Jesus is Our Joy despite circumstances.**

## Colossians (4 chapters)

Church letter to Christians in Colossae

Portrays Jesus Christ, our Life

Key Verse: Col. 2:6 and/or 3:4

Written in 62 A.D. Paul is in prison while writing this.

The main theme is Jesus Christ is Lord over all creation, seen and unseen. He has redeemed His people and allowed them to participate in his death, resurrection and fullness. Christ is the preeminent One over all things.

Paul establishes who Jesus is in Chapter 1. He then warns against the deceptive teachings that are happening within the church (Chapter 2). The focus should be on Christ and our life above in Him (3:1-4) and how to live the Christian Life (3:5-4:6)

**Jesus is the Preeminent One and is our life.**

## I Thessalonians (5 Chapters)

Church letter to Thessalonica

Portrays Jesus Christ, the Coming One

Key Verse: I Thess. 4:15-17

Written sometime between 49-51 A.D.

The return of Jesus Christ is mentioned in every chapter of this book (1:10, 2:19-20, 3:13, 4:13-18 and 5:1-11, 23-24.)

Some other themes are...

The wrath of God is coming but not for Christians (1:10, 5:4,9)

Christians should live lives of holiness (3:13, 4:3-8, 5:23) and must not shirk their responsibility to work. (4:9-12, 5:14)

Jesus' death and resurrection are the Christian's basis for hope. (4:14, 5:10)

**Jesus is the soon coming One.**

## II Thessalonians (3 Chapters)

Church letter to Thessalonica

Portrays Jesus Christ, our returning Lord

Key Verse: II Thess.2:3

Written right after I Thessalonians 49-51 A.D.

The second coming of the Lord dominates this book as it does I Thessalonians. However, this book tells how there will be a time of apostasy (rebellion) by someone called the man of lawlessness, or the antichrist, before Christ will come (2:3)

When Christ comes (2:8) He will defeat him and bring justice to oppressed Christians. Wrath will come to their persecutors and to unbelievers in general (1:5-10, 2:9-15)

In Chapter 3, Paul warns against idleness. If a man will not work, let him not eat. Rather Christians are to imitate Paul's walk with Christ. They are not to grow weary in doing good.

**Jesus will be our returning Lord when all is fulfilled.**

## I Timothy (6 Chapters)

Pastoral letter

Written to Timothy, who is in Ephesus

Portrays Jesus Christ, our Teacher

Key Verse: I Tim. 4:12

Probably written sometime in the mid-60's A.D.

Throughout this letter Paul says that true Christianity is evidenced by the believer's lifestyle, based on the Gospel. Church leaders should lead with this example. The idea of proper church order in the book is a subset of this idea.

Timothy is:

Charged with dealing with false teaching in Chapter 1. He is to identify the false teaching (4:1-5) and is to confront the false teachers (Chapter 6). Jesus is our true teacher.

Given a description of gospel-shaped living in Chapter 2 and 3.

Told his life should be an example of a Gospel-shaped life (4:4-16)

Paul instructs Timothy that church members should be respectful of age and gender, honor widows, elders and masters. (5-6:2)

**Jesus is our teacher in our lives and in our churches.**

## II Timothy (4 Chapters)

Pastoral letter

Written to Timothy just before Paul's death, probably during Paul's second imprisonment in Rome.

Portrays Jesus Christ, our example

Key Verse: II Tim 4:2

Written sometime between 64 and 67 A.D.

This is Paul's clear call to persevere in the Gospel despite suffering. He has been abandoned by others but remembers Timothy's devotion. (1:3-5) The letter is personal and an exhortation to Timothy to continue in his faithfulness to Christ and His example.



In Chapter 2 he once again talks about false teachers and contrasts Timothy to them. He describes the false teaching and urges Timothy to pursue what is good and have nothing to do with them.

He describes godlessness in Chapter 3 especially during the last days. He then reminds Timothy of the inspired Word of God and its helpfulness to believers.

Chapter 4 charges Timothy to preach the word no matter the time or circumstances just as Paul has done throughout his life. He has suffered and predicts his soon death.

**Jesus is our example as to how to live our lives here.**

## Titus (3 Chapters)

Pastoral letter written to Titus in Crete

Portrays Jesus Christ, our pattern.

Key Verse: Titus 3:4-5

Written somewhere in the mid-60's A.D.

Paul is probably on a fourth missionary journey between his first and second imprisonment.

Once again, false teachers are a problem in fledgling churches. Titus has been left in Crete where Paul has been, to help them become stable in the faith. The Gospel, as stated in 3:3-7, is used to contrast the false with the true teaching.

Chapter One outlines the true qualification of an elder in comparison to the false teachers who have opposite characteristics.

Paul tells Titus in Chapter 2 to teach sound doctrine, to live it, so that no one can question his faithfulness to Christ or disregard what he says.

Chapter 3 reminds Titus to be submissive to authorities and to be ready for every good work. He reminds Titus how Christ saved us, not because of what we have done, but by His mercy. Paul says to avoid foolish controversies and to avoid people that do. They stir up people and cause divisions.

**Jesus is our pattern for how to be a church and live our lives.**

## Philemon (1 Chapter)

General letter

Portrays Jesus Christ as our Lord and Master

Key Verse: Philemon 10-11

Written 62 A.D.

This book of only 25 verses shows the transforming power of Jesus Christ in a person's life. Onesimus has fled from his master, Philemon, who has a church in his house. While gone, Onesimus becomes a Christian and is under Paul's tutelage. Paul pleads with Philemon to take him back as a beloved brother and bondservant. Onesimus has not only been reconciled to God but can also be reconciled to his earthly master.

**Jesus is our Lord and Master**

## *1 Unknown Author*

## Hebrews (13 Chapters)

General Letter

Portrays Jesus Christ as superior to all, our high priest and our intercessor to the throne.

Key Verse: Heb. 4:12-16

It was probably written sometime before 70 A.D. No specific date is known.

The theme is that Christ is greater than any angel, priest, or old covenant institution. These are meaningless in respect to Christ. As a result, it is futile to think of returning to them. It was written to Hebrew Christians who would have known the Old Testament Covenant of Law.

A basic outline is:

Jesus is superior to angelic beings (1:1-2:18)

Jesus is superior to the Mosaic law (3:1 to 10:18)

In this section, Christ is shown as the high priest who is in the order of Melchizedek (4:12 to 8:13). He is our intercessor to the throne of heaven, (4:14-16)

A call to faith and endurance is given (10:19-12:29)

Concluding remarks (13:1-25)

This book is rich in encouraging believers to hold fast to their faith.

**He is Our high priest, our intercessor, and is superior to all**

## **7 General Letters by Other Authors**

### **James (5 Chapters)**

General letter

(James is the earthly half-brother of Jesus Christ)

Portrays Jesus Christ our guide - be a doer of the Word.

Key Verse: James 1:22

Probably written in the early 40s A.D.

Faith will be tested (1:2-18)

Hear and do the Word (1:19-27)

The sin of partiality (2:1-13)

Faith without works is dead (2:14-26)

Taming the tongue, wisdom and worldliness (3 to 4:12)

The sins of the rich (4:13-5:12)

Prayer of those who have faith (5:13-18)

**Jesus, who is the Word, is our guide to doing the Word.**

## I Peter (5 Chapters)

General letter

Portrays Jesus Christ our future glory despite suffering here.

Key Verse: I Peter 1:3-4

Written in 62 or 63 A.D.

Salvation here makes us exiles, but we have a future inheritance (1:3-2:10)

As we live as His people here, we will bring Him glory in this hostile world: (2:11-4:11)

We are to persevere in our suffering (3:13-4:11)

**Jesus gives us a future glory in heaven, although we might suffer here for Him.**

## II Peter

General letter

Portrays Jesus Christ our source for godly living

Key Verse: II Peter 1:2-3

Probably written sometime between 64-67 A.D.

Peter, who is an eyewitness to the things he has written, tells us Christ is the source of godly living (1:3-11)

He reminds the churches to live godly lives. This is a prophetic word to them (1:12-21)

He evaluates false teachers (2:1-22)

He tells of the future Day of the Lord and that it will surely come (3:1-13)

**Jesus is our source for godly living and staying the course despite false teachers.**

## I John (5 Chapters)

General letter

Portrays that Jesus is love and our light

Key Verse I John 5:13

Written no later than the 90s A.D.

The three basic themes of the Christian life that John cites are true doctrine, obedient living and fervent devotion. Those who follow Him can overcome evildoers because He is the Light and greater than any antichrist spirit in the world.

God is the Way and the Light (1-2:6)

He gives us an abiding commandment in an ephemeral world! (2:7-17)

We can overcome the antichrist by confessing the Son (2:18-3:10)

We can overcome evil by listening to John (3:11-4:6)

We have assurance of God through His love (4:7-21)

We can have faith in the Son as the way of life (5:1-12)

Faith and understanding (5:13-21)

**Jesus Shows us He is Love and is the Light to our path.**

## II John (1 Chapter)

General letter

Portrays Jesus as the truth

Key Verse II John vs 1-2

Written sometime before the mid 90s A.D.

The elder in this book asks the church to walk in truth and in the commandment that Christ gave them to walk in love. He warns of deceivers and that one will be the antichrist. He tells them that those who abide in Christ's teachings have both the Father and the Son. Do not believe anyone else's false teaching.

**Jesus is the Truth**

### III John (1 Chapter)

General letter

Portrays Jesus as good, also the truth

Key Verse III John vs. 4

Written about the same time as I and II John, before the mid-90s A.D.

It is written as a personal letter to Gaius. John has joy, that one of his children is walking in truth as well as in love! He tells him to support people who are fellow workers in the truth. He says do not listen to those who imitate good, but are evil, such as Diotrephes. Whoever does good is from God.

**Jesus, who is Good, shows us how-to walk-in Truth.**

### Jude (1 Chapter)

General letter

(Jude is the earthly half-brother of Jesus)

Portrays Jesus Christ our keeper

Key Verse: Jude 24

Written in the mid 60s A.D.

Jude is telling people to contend for the faith of Jesus Christ. They will need to persevere despite false teachers. They must resist them, and Jude reminds them in the last days there will be scoffers (vs 17), but also reminds them that Jesus will keep them from stumbling and will present them blameless, as stated in the key verse (24)

**Jesus calls, loves and keeps His people forever. (vs 1)**

# **1 Book of Prophecy**

## **Revelation (22 Chapters)**

Written by the Apostle John

Portrays Jesus Christ our triumphant King

Key Verse: Rev. 1:19

Probably written in 95 or 96 A.D.

Revelation is not only a book of prophesy but is apostolic, meaning it unveils things we could not otherwise know. It is written in a form that is mostly symbolic. It reveals the unseen spiritual war in which the church is engaged. It shows the cosmic conflict between God and Christ with Satan and his evil allies. The book both warns the church and gives reasons for it to endure suffering and to stay pure from the evils of their known world. Since this is an overview, the outline below is a guide for the student to use to flesh out the details. A good study Bible will help with this.

Prologue (1:1-8) includes the announcement of the coming King.

Body (1:9 to 22:5)

Epilogue (22:6-21)

The outline is taken from 1:19: things that John has seen (vs.1-20), the things that are now (written to the 7 churches, 2:1 to 3:29), and those that are to take place (4:1-22:5).

The Lamb and the scroll (4:1-5:14)

The angels and the trumpets' warnings of coming wrath (8:2-11:18)

The cosmic conflict between Christ and Satan: features the woman, her son, the dragon and the beasts (11:19-14:20)

The bowls and God's final wrath (15:1-16:21)

The prostitute Babylon (17:1-19:10)

The destruction and defeat of beasts and dragon, and finally death (19:11-20:15)

All things become new (21:1-22:5)

Epilogue (22:6-21)

This includes the promise that Jesus is coming soon, warning against altering the book  
and promise of blessing.

Despite the battles, the conflicts, the warnings, the deceptions,

**Jesus is our triumphant King forever!**

**Amen and Amen!**