

NEW TESTAMENT

BIBLE

BLUEPRINTS

ONE-PAGE STUDY OUTLINES FOR EACH & EVERY BOOK IN THE BIBLE

PHILIPPIANS

11

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT



OVERVIEW

Paul takes about his joy in spite of his imprisonment and thanksgiving and a list of joy workers.

- 1 JOYFUL LIFE IN CHRIST
- 2 HUMILITY AND JOY
- 3 KEEP SPIRIT

Paul speaks of the humility of Christ as an example for others.

MATTHEW

1 28

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

OSPEL, SYNOPSIS



OVERVIEW

One of the Gospels, this book is an account and testimony of Jesus Christ, written by Matthew, a Jewish man and a collector who was one of the original twelve apostles. His purpose was to show that Jesus was the promised Messiah, the Son of God, and to provide a guide for living as a Christian.

WRITER

60-90 AD

THE PERIOD COVERED

7 BC to 30 AD

AUTHOR

Matthew the Apostle

- 1 THE BIRTH OF CHRIST SINGULAR TO THIS GOSPEL
- 2 THE TEACHINGS OF CHRIST SINGULAR TO THIS GOSPEL
- 3 THE MIRACLES OF CHRIST SINGULAR TO THIS GOSPEL

MATTHEW 1-2

MATTHEW 3-25

MATTHEW 3-25

MATTHEW 3-25

MATTHEW 26-28

Matthew gives the genealogy of Jesus Christ, from Abraham to Joseph. He is hesitant to accept Jesus as the Messiah, but after seeing the signs and hearing the teachings, he believes in him. He also tells of the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats.

REVELATION

27

22

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS



OVERVIEW

This epistle was written by John the Apostle after he was exiled to the island of Patmos. He speaks of the end times, the return of Christ, and the final judgment. It is a book of prophecy and vision, intended to encourage Christians to remain faithful during times of persecution.

WRITER

John the Apostle

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES
- 3 SEVEN SEALS, SEVEN TRUMPETS

REVELATION 4-11

REVELATION 11-13

REVELATION 14-16

John gives a vision of the end times, including the return of Christ, the final judgment, and the new heaven and new earth. He also speaks of the persecution of Christians and the need for faithfulness.

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NEW TESTAMENT

MATTHEW

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

1
28

GOSPEL, SYNOPTIC

OVERVIEW

One of the Gospels, this book is an account and testimony of Jesus Christ. It was written by Matthew, an educated tax collector who was one of the original Twelve Apostles. His account is unique in that it was written for the Jewish people, to persuade them that Jesus was the promised Messiah. Matthew understood the importance of supporting his testimony with Old Testament prophecy, which he cited more than 50 times. The book is a balance of stories, teachings, miracles, and prophecies.



WRITTEN
50–60 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
7 BC to 26 AD



AUTHOR
Matthew the Apostle

1

THE BIRTH OF
CHRIST
SINGULAR TO
THIS GOSPEL

MATTHEW 1–2

Matthew gives the genealogy of Jesus Christ going back to Abraham. When Joseph is hesitant to wed Mary, an angel appears to him and tells him not to fear taking her as his wife. Matthew also tells of the Magi, Herod's slaughter of babies, the escape to Egypt, and Jesus's family's return to Nazareth.

2

THE TEACHINGS
OF CHRIST
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3–25

Matthew shares the Sermon on the Mount. Of the 23 parables included, nine are original and include the Parable of the Sower, the Parable of the Ten Virgins, and the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats.

3

THE MIRACLES OF
CHRIST SINGULAR
TO THIS GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3–25

Of the 18 miracles mentioned, Matthew tells of two that are unique: Peter walking on the sea, and the coin found in the fish to pay the temple tax. A healing of two blind men may also be unique.

4

THE PROPHECIES
OF CHRIST
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3–25

Matthew's account refers to Peter as the Rock of the future church. He also shares Christ's prophecies that the kingdom would be handed over to the Gentiles, that the destruction of the Temple would occur in less than 50 years, and a famous description of the End Times.

5

THE DEATH,
RESURRECTION,
AND ASCENSION
DETAILS
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MATTHEW 26–28

Matthew recounts the 30 pieces of silver and suicide of Judas, Pilate's wife's disturbing dream, the earthquake at the Resurrection, and the great commission to share Christ's teachings with the world.

MARK

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

2 16

GOSPEL, SYNOPTIC

OVERVIEW

As one of the Gospels that detail the ministry of Jesus Christ, Mark is written by John Mark, who was a friend of the Apostle Peter. He later traveled with the Apostle Paul and his assistant Barnabas on Paul's first missionary journey around Asia Minor. Mark's account is unique in that it is written to a Gentile audience, and he emphasizes Christ's actions more than His teachings. As such, the book is filled with miracles Jesus Christ performed during His ministry. Mark's testimony shows how powerful, kind, and merciful God is.



WRITTEN
50-60 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
7 BC-26 AD



AUTHOR
John Mark, a friend who traveled with the Apostle Paul

1
THE START OF
THE BOOK OF
MARK

MARK 1-2

Mark shares the ministry of John the Baptist relating to Jesus Christ, but does not account for Christ's early years.

2
TEACHINGS OF
CHRIST SINGULAR
TO THIS GOSPEL

MARK 3-15

Mark includes two original parables including the parable of the seed growing secretly, and the parable of the doorkeeper.

3
THE MIRACLES OF
CHRIST SINGULAR
TO THIS GOSPEL

MARK 3-15

Fifteen miracles are presented in Mark, three of which are original: the healing of the deaf-mute man in Decapolis, the blind man at Bethsaida, and the boy who threw himself in fire. Mark also tells of Jesus calming the storm.

4
THE PROPHECIES
OF CHRIST
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MARK 3-15

Mark recounts Jesus telling Simon Peter and his brother Andrew that He will make them fishers of people, Jesus naming James and John the Sons of Thunder, and reports the power that left Jesus when a bleeding woman touched His robe.

5
THE DEATH,
RESURRECTION,
AND ASCENSION
DETAILS
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MARK 15-16

Mark tells of a young man fleeing naked during the arrest of Jesus, and Pilate asking whether Jesus was already dead. The last verses of Mark are questionable, not having been included in the original manuscripts.

LUKE

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

3 24

GOSPEL, SYNOPTIC

OVERVIEW

The third of the Gospels is also an account and testimony of Jesus Christ, written by Luke, who was a physician by trade. His account offers a balanced view of Christ's ministry, speaking to both the Jew and the Gentile. Much of Luke's Gospel involves Jesus's dealings with the common man, and he gives more stories involving women than the other records. The Gospel of Luke shares the good news that Jesus Christ offers salvation for all humankind.



WRITTEN
60-61 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
7 BC to 26 AD



AUTHOR
Luke the Historian,
Physician, and Gentile

1
THE BIRTH OF
CHRIST
ACCOUNTS
SINGULAR TO
THIS GOSPEL

LUKE 1-2

Luke shares the miraculous births of both John the Baptist and Jesus. He tells of Mary visiting Elizabeth during her pregnancy, the birth, and the naming of John the Baptist. Luke also recounts the circumstances surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ, specifically the angels who appear to shepherds and Simeon and Anna who recognize Jesus and prophesy concerning Him.

2
TEACHINGS OF
CHRIST SINGULAR
OR CENTRAL TO
THIS GOSPEL

LUKE 3-21

Luke shares 24 parables, with 11 being original, and include the Prodigal Son, and the rich man and Lazarus. He specifically shares warnings that were given to the religious elite who often tried to trap and trick Jesus (see 6:2-5; 11:37-53; 12:1-11; 13:15-17, 32; 19:47; 20:45-47).

3
THE MIRACLES OF
CHRIST SINGULAR
TO THIS GOSPEL

LUKE 3-21

Luke presents 21 miracles, five of which are original, including the miraculous catch of fish, the raising of the widow of Nain's son from the dead, and the healing of 10 lepers.

4
THE PROPHECIES
OF CHRIST
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

LUKE 3-21

Luke also shares the prophecies of Jesus during His ministry, specifically when Jesus claimed fulfillment of Isaiah in the synagogue, Jesus predicting His death three times, and the Transfiguration. He also shares Jesus predicting the future destruction of Jerusalem.

5
THE DEATH,
RESURRECTION,
AND ASCENSION
DETAILS
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

LUKE 22-24

Luke shares Pilate's declarations of innocence, Herod's trial, and the criminals at the crucifixion. He also recounts the last words of Jesus, His later appearance to disciples, and the Ascension.

JOHN

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

4
21

GOSPEL

OVERVIEW

The Gospel of John is also an account of the ministry and a testimony of Jesus Christ. Most of John's account is unique, with 90% being original. While the other three Gospels focus on the works and words of Jesus, John does not contain much of the same fundamental material from the other accounts. It may have been that he was writing to the members of Christ's church who were already familiar with Jesus, and was writing to provoke and increase their faith. John emphasizes more of Jesus' identity as deity, the Son of God.



WRITTEN
80–90 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
7 BC–26 AD



AUTHOR
John the Apostle

1 THE OPENING OF THE GOSPEL

JOHN 1

John does not tell of the birth of Jesus, instead reaching back to before the Creation to begin his Gospel. He starts with, "In the beginning was the Word . . .," his first words promoting the deity of Christ.

2 MIRACLES NAMED IN THIS GOSPEL (AKA THE BOOK OF SIGNS)

JOHN 1–12

John only mentions seven miracles, whose context reflects the divine nature of Jesus. He starts with the miracle at Cana and ends with the raising of Lazarus. Collectively, this section is called "The Book of Signs."

3 THE I AM STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

JOHN 6–14

Singular to this Gospel, John shares seven I AM statements of Jesus Christ, including the Bread of Life, Light of the World, Sheep's Gate, Good Shepherd, Resurrection and Life, and the Way, Truth, and Life.

4 THE DEATH, RESURRECTION, AND ASCENSION, (AKA BOOK OF GLORY)

JOHN 13–21

John shares the events of the Last Supper, and the death and resurrection narrative of Jesus Christ. This is often called the "Book of Glory," because Jesus's death, resurrection, and exaltation are repeatedly referred to as his "glorification."

5 EPILOGUE

JOHN 21

John shares several appearances of Jesus after His resurrection, and the mandate to teach others of Christ. Although some feel this section may have been added after John's death, it speaks to the theme of Christ's divinity, frequently emphasized by John throughout his Gospel.

ACTS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

5
28

HISTORY

OVERVIEW

Acts covers the works of the Apostles in the early days after Christ's death and was written by Luke. It covers the span of time between Christ's ministry and the ministry of the Apostles, containing a record of the miracles they performed. The book is divided into two sections, the first part following Peter and the mandate to preach to the Gentiles. The second part follows Paul and his missionary journeys far and wide. The book ends before either man is martyred (killed for the faith).



WRITTEN
62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
30–62 AD



AUTHOR
Luke the Historian, Physician, and Gentle

1

THE ASCENSION

ACTS 1

Luke covers the Ascension of Jesus with original detail, including Christ's command for the Apostles to wait for the Holy Spirit, and the appearance of two men (angels) who prophesy that Christ's return will be in the same manner as His Ascension.

2

THE EARLY
MINISTRY OF
PETER

ACTS 2–7

Luke details the early events of the church: the Spirit poured out on the day of Pentecost, Peter's first sermon, the persecution of the early saints, and Stephen's death as the first martyr.

3

THE EXPANSION
OF THE CHURCH
TO SAMARIA AND
JUDEA

ACTS 8–12

Philip ministers to the Ethiopian, with a miraculous disappearance and transport to another city. Saul converts after persecuting the Church and is renamed Paul. Peter receives a vision for the Gentiles, and miraculously escapes from prison with the help of angels.

4

PAUL'S EARLY
MINISTRY
EXPANDING
CHURCH AROUND
THE WORLD

ACTS 13–20

The Apostle Paul preaches to others on three missionary journeys, which cover approximately 20 cities surrounding the Great Sea (Mediterranean).

5

PAUL'S
ADVENTURES IN
ARRESTS,
THREATS, AND
TRAVELS

ACTS 21–28

Paul is arrested in Jerusalem; his life is threatened and he raises defenses. Paul is shipwrecked on his way to Rome, and under house arrest in Rome he continues to witness and write.

ROMANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

6

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

16

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Romans contains Paul's communication to the Christians in Rome. Written during a time of peace, Paul knew he was writing to a diverse city, where the population of the new church consisted of sailors, wealthy tradesmen, former idolaters, and slaves. He wanted them to see their likeness in Christ and understand salvation comes by grace and not obedience to laws.



WRITTEN
56 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras of the Age
of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1 DEFINING THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

ROMANS 1–8

Paul explains the foundations of the Christian faith. He first comforts the believers who have been persecuted by the intellectuals of the day, then explains that none are saved through their own works, but through the grace of Jesus Christ. He describes the good news that blessings are available to all.

2 THE POSITION OF ISRAEL

ROMANS 9–11

Paul suppresses the notion that the Jews have been rejected. He refers to Gentiles as “ingrafted branches,” and promotes humility, unity, and peace as ways to strengthen the spirit.

3 EXAMPLES AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR A GODLY LIFE

ROMANS 12–16

Paul expounds on doctrinal issues by explaining how to put them into practice for daily living. He ends by expressing many heartfelt greetings to named parties.

1 CORINTHIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

7

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

16

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

This epistle was written from Paul to the Corinthians. He had previously spent 18 months with the Corinthian Christians and they had been doing well at the time of his departure. After hearing of quarrelling and disagreement in the church, a disappointed Paul wrote to Corinth during his third missionary journey to correct the divisions and promote unity. Paul used the letter to present a model for how the church should handle the problem of sin amongst the members.



WRITTEN
55 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

QUARRELING AND
RESOLUTIONS

1 CORINTHIANS 1–4

Paul speaks of the current quarrels of the church and offers advice. He likens their quarrels to arrogance and immaturity, and encourages them to grow in humility and strength.

2

ADVICE ON
ELIMINATING
THE SINS OF
THIS CHURCH

1 CORINTHIANS 5–11

Paul exposes sins already infesting the church, which include sexual immorality, passing judgment on nonbelievers, filing lawsuits against each other, food, and head coverings.

3

EXPLAINING THE
SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 CORINTHIANS 12–16

Paul helps the church understand difficult doctrines such as speaking in tongues. He explains that love is the greatest gift of all, and should be sought after above all else. He also gives a brief recounting of Jesus Christ and the importance of His ministry.

2 CORINTHIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

8 13

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Second Corinthians is actually the fourth letter Paul had written to the Corinthians, the first two having been lost. After three bad reports of their behavior, Paul finally had received a positive report of the church and wrote this letter as encouragement. Paul wrote to comfort those who suffered in the midst of affliction, and uses his biography as an example of honesty, hope, and devotion despite difficult circumstances.



WRITTEN
55-56 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

CRUCIAL ISSUES

2 CORINTHIANS 1-7

Paul addresses critical issues, such as forgiveness, love, hope in God's deliverance, separation from the world, and confidence in God's devotion.

2

PAUL TALKS ABOUT GIVING

2 CORINTHIANS 8-9

Paul talks about the joy of giving, especially when in poverty. Using the Macedonians as an example, he encourages generosity and then reminds the Saints of God's gift to man.

3

PAUL TALKS ABOUT HIS LIFE

2 CORINTHIANS 10-12

Paul gives his testimony to show his love for the church and what he endured for Christ's companionship. He reveals the importance of weaknesses as a "thorn in the flesh," and that they can be gloried in as reminders of Jesus Christ.

4

ONE FINAL WARNING

2 CORINTHIANS 13

Paul closes his address, and exhorts the Corinthians to test their righteousness to determine their standing with God. He invites them to do good and to be an example to others.

GALATIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

9

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

6

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

During his third mission journey, Paul wrote to the Galatians, who had circled the idea that in order for the Gentiles to be saved they needed to follow Jewish laws. He was concerned that this was confusing people and putting an unnecessary burden on the Gentiles. He wrote emphasizing freedom from sin through Jesus Christ and spiritual bondage or “yoke” of the Law of Moses.



WRITTEN
49–50 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

**DEFENDING HIS
APOSTLESHIP**

GALATIANS 1–2

Paul warns of false teachers and reiterates his call as a true Apostle. He again relates his spiritual experience and his life before his conversion, then relays the support of Peter and the other Apostles.

2

**FREEDOM IS IN
CHRIST, NOT
THE LAW**

GALATIANS 3–5

Paul teaches the Galatians to look at their behavior and see the hypocrisy in trying to make Gentiles act like Jews. He compares the fruit of the Spirit and the deeds of the flesh.

3

**ENCOURAGEMENT
TO LOVE, NOT
LEGALIZE**

GALATIANS 6

Paul encourages church members to bear each other's burdens and do good to all men. He shuns circumcisions, and teaches that all are one in Christ.

EPHESIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

10

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

6

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Paul wrote this letter while imprisoned in Rome to encourage the Ephesians. He was under house arrest but was allowed to receive visitors and write letters. The Ephesians were important because the city of Ephesus had become a natural center for the church, due to its location and commercial success. Paul had spent two years in Ephesus establishing the church, but then had to depart due to a disturbance with the silversmiths. Their business, which included making idols, had suffered due to many people converting to Christianity. His epistle has universal application and was written to help converts grow in their spirituality and commitment to the church.



WRITTEN
60-62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

ENCOURAGEMENT

EPHESIANS 1-3

Paul calls believers “adopted sons” of God and reminds them that God chose them before the foundation of the world. He prays for a spirit of wisdom and revelation and discusses the fundamental doctrine of salvation.

2

APPLICATION OF
SALVATION

EPHESIANS 4-6

Paul encourages the members in positive behaviors, emphasizing unity and love, and following God’s example. He warns them to live righteously as they are examples to others. He tells of the Armor of God and encourages them to pray.

PHILIPPIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

11 4

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Paul wrote this letter from house arrest in Rome to the church at Philippi. Paul had visited Philippi early in his ministry and he returned on his journeys years later. When the Philippians heard of Paul's house arrest, they sent a messenger Epaphroditus with supplies to minister to him. The messenger returns with this epistle, expressing Paul's gratitude and love. As one of the few books in the New Testament not written to provide correction, this letter contains encouragement and thanksgiving and is full of joy despite Paul's impending death.



WRITTEN
60-62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1 JOYFUL LIFE IN CHRIST

PHILIPPIANS 1

Paul talks about his joy in spite of his circumstances, and having furthered the cause of Christ. He states that "... he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion ..."

2 HUMILITY AND JOY

PHILIPPIANS 2

Paul speaks of the humility of Christ as an example for others. He encourages labor with joy and without grumbling. He speaks of Timothy and Epaphroditus, the latter who is to deliver the letter back to Philippi.

3 KEEP TO THE SPIRIT, NOT THE FLESH

PHILIPPIANS 3

Paul's opening implies lost letters to the Philippians. He warns of false teachers and encourages that true ministers are like him, sharing personal examples from his life.

4 UNITY AND JOY

PHILIPPIANS 4

After a plea for unity, Paul writes to "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" He thanks the members for their generous gifts.

COLLOSSIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

12 4

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Paul wrote this epistle to the church in Colossae after reports were brought back that the church had fallen into serious error. The Colossian church was trying to mix Greek philosophy with Christian theology, resulting in an erroneous philosophy being taught that focused on perfection through mechanical means and sanctification through severe discipline from the physical world. Paul wrote to correct this by emphasizing sanctification unity through Jesus Christ.



WRITTEN
60-62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

JESUS IS THE FIRSTBORN

COLLOSSIANS 1

Paul illuminates Christ's deity and humanity, stating that He is the Firstborn of the Father, and was present and participated in the Creation. Paul then recounts his labor as an Apostle.

2

WARNINGS AGAINST VAIN PHILOSOPHY AND ANGEL WORSHIP

COLLOSSIANS 2

Paul warns against Gnostic advisers and philosophers who mix worldly views with spiritual ones. He warns against false humility, and those who are vain but worship angels. Paul emphasizes reliance on God to guide the church.

3

PUT TO DEATH DEEDS OF THE FLESH

COLLOSSIANS 3

Paul exhorts the people to put off deeds of the flesh including sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed. He encourages deeds of the Spirit including compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

4

INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATIONS

COLLOSSIANS 3-4

Paul provides instructions for husbands, wives, children, masters, and indentured servants. He offers greetings and salutations to friends who are with Paul or in Colossae.

1 THESSALONIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

13 5

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Paul stayed in Thessalonica approximately three months to help grow the seedling church. He wanted to return, but was not able to do so and sent Timothy check up on their faith, fearing that false teachers might have infiltrated their number. When Timothy returned giving a good report of the saints, Paul wrote this letter to the Thessalonians. He encouraged the people, expressing thankfulness for their faithfulness, and then taught about the death and Second Coming of the Lord.



WRITTEN
51 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

GREETINGS AND
ASSURANCES

1 THESSALONIANS 1–2

Paul shares gratitude about the faith of the church and thanks them for accepting Paul's friends and words as if they were from God. He expressed his desire to see them.

2

MORE DETAILS
ON VISITS AND
PRACTICAL
APPLICATIONS

1 THESSALONIANS 3–4

Paul discusses Timothy's visit and gives praise for the good report received. He encourages them to live to please God and to avoid sexual immorality and other fleshly sins.

3

DAY OF THE LORD

1 THESSALONIANS 4–5

Paul offers consolation for those grieving death, stating that the believers return to the Lord. He speaks of the Second Coming, stating that the Lord will come as "a thief in the night," and encourages the people to "Rejoice always."

2 THESSALONIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

14 3

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

After a brief period, Paul wrote to the people of Thessalonica again. The excitement about the Second Coming of Jesus Christ had cause some discord in the church. Some of the believers in that church thought that Jesus had already returned, and others were prone to idleness. The church had also experienced increased persecution. This letter was penned to offer encouragement and correct any misunderstandings.



WRITTEN
51-52 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

PROMISES OF GOD

2 THESSALONIANS 1

Paul encourages the people that those who torment the Thessalonians will get their just due. He prays constantly for the Thessalonians who are showing outstanding courage.

2

THE DAY OF THE LORD IS AHEAD

2 THESSALONIANS 2-3

Paul dismisses rumors that the Day of the Lord has passed and describes the things that will come before that day, including those who fall away into a powerful delusion. Paul warns against idleness and stirring up trouble. He then offers final greetings and a promise of hope.

1 TIMOTHY

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

15 6

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

After Paul was released from his first imprisonment in Rome, he wrote this epistle to Timothy. He wrote to offer encouragement in fulfilling his duty as an officer of the church, and gave counsel regarding the Christian body and pastoral office. Most Christian leaders in training are required to read 1 Timothy, which is still relevant concerning leadership skills necessary in congregations today.



WRITTEN
62-64 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1 PROMOTE SOUND DOCTRINE

1 TIMOTHY 1

Paul exhorts the young leader to weed out foolish speculation and warns again legalism detracting from the simplicity of the gospel.

2 HOW TO PRAY

1 TIMOTHY 2

Paul encourages Timothy to pray for all the people they have ministered to, the seedling churches and for world leaders. Paul gives instructions regarding women and praises them for modesty and bearing children.

3 DESCRIPTIONS AND EXAMPLES OF LEADERSHIP SKILLS

1 TIMOTHY 3

Paul explicitly details the character traits and background that overseers and deacons should have.

4 WARNINGS

1 TIMOTHY 4

Paul warns about people being deceived in later times. Paul also warns not to let anyone disrespect Timothy because he is young.

5 FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

1 TIMOTHY 5

Paul give instructions to the widows, elderly, and indentured servants for their era and culture. While few of these instructions apply to our culture today, the spirit of being a servant to all rings clearly. Paul exhorts others to avoid greed and be humble.

6 FINAL WARNING

1 TIMOTHY 6

Paul condemns false teachers and warns against the love of money. Paul calls Timothy a “man of God” and instructs him to flee evil and seek after righteousness. He also commands Timothy to teach the rich to recognize their riches come from God.

2 TIMOTHY

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

16

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

4

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Paul wrote this second epistle to Timothy during his second imprisonment and before his death as a martyr. This book was written to Paul's young disciple, Timothy. From the serious nature of the letter, it contains Paul's awareness of his impending death, courage, faith, and some last words of encouragement.



WRITTEN
66-67 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

**ENCOURAGEMENT
FOR STRENGTH**

2 TIMOTHY 1-2

Paul expresses relentless strength, love, and patience, especially while imprisoned and nearing the end of his life. Paul names people who have deserted him due to heresy, and gives instruction on handling false teachers.

2

**TERRIBLE
TIMES IN THE
LAST DAYS**

2 TIMOTHY 3

Paul describes people turning away from God and their evil nature in the last days. It is unknown if Paul is reciting another's prophecy or one of his own visions.

3

**A LOT OF
DESERTIONS**

2 TIMOTHY 4

Paul calls for preaching the word, despite the abundance of false doctrine. He names people who have deserted him, friends who have abided with him, and expressed his faith in the Lord.

TITUS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

17

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

3

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

In this epistle, Paul wrote to Titus, a local leader of the church in Crete. Paul encouraged him in the ministry and faith. He explained the importance of teaching correct doctrine, and looking to Jesus as the source of God's grace.



WRITTEN
63 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1

GOOD VS. FAILING
TO DO GOOD

TITUS 1

Paul encourages Titus to appoint elders who do good, and to rebuke those who refuse to see right from wrong. He teaches that to the pure, all things will be pure.

2

DOING GOOD
FOR THE SAKE
OF THE GOSPEL

TITUS 2

Paul encourages the members of the church to live godly lives, which is a testament to Jesus and His righteousness.

3

WE HAVE BEEN
SAVED SO THAT
WE CAN DO GOOD

TITUS 3

Paul warns not to be petty or to slander others. He encourages the church to remember that they have been washed in the blood of Jesus and to go forward living holy lives.

PHILEMON

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

18

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

1

TYPE

EPISTLE, PAULINE

OVERVIEW

Paul wrote a personal letter to Philemon about his former slave Onesimus, who had robbed and abandoned his master, but later converted to Christianity. Paul asked that Onesimus be received as a brother instead of a slave.



WRITTEN

60 or 62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED

All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR

Apostle Paul

1

THANKSGIVING AND
PLEA FOR ONESIMUS

PHILEMON 1

Paul describes his love for Onesimus. He asks that when Onesimus returns, he is no longer treated as a slave but as a brother.

HEBREWS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

19 13

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

This epistle is the only one with an unknown author. Although traditionally attributed to Paul, the authorship has been questioned in recent times due to the different writing style. As such, the book's meaning is dependent completely on the text. The audience of the epistle was Jewish Christians in effort to persuade them that the Law of Moses had been fulfilled through Jesus Christ, and that certain ordinances were no longer necessary for Gentile Christians. The book paints an image of Jesus as divine, a priest who intercedes for us before the Father. Written at the time Nero was heavily persecuting Christians, it encouraged the Saints to persevere and hope for a brighter future.



WRITTEN
67-69 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Unknown

1

**CHRIST IS
SUPERIOR**

HEBREWS 1-7

The author writes that Christ is higher than angels, higher than Moses, higher than Joshua, and higher than the priests. Christ is perpetual and perfect.

2

**CHRIST AS
PRIEST OF THE
NEW COVENANT**

HEBREWS 8-10

The author describes the New Tabernacle and New Covenant. The humorous saying, "Hebrews was written for Hebrews, to teach Hebrews not to be Hebrews" is evident in these liberating chapters.

3

**FAITH, HOPE,
LOVE**

HEBREWS 11-13

The author gives well-known examples of faith from Old Testament figures. He provides hope and encouragement, and instructions on how to love others.

JAMES

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

20 5

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

This book is attributed to James, the brother of Jesus, and is written to the twelve tribes of Israel, scattered abroad. James became a believer upon seeing Jesus alive and well after the crucifixion, and he was a leader of the church at Jerusalem. Known as the "Proverbs of the New Testament," this book overflows with wisdom and truth.



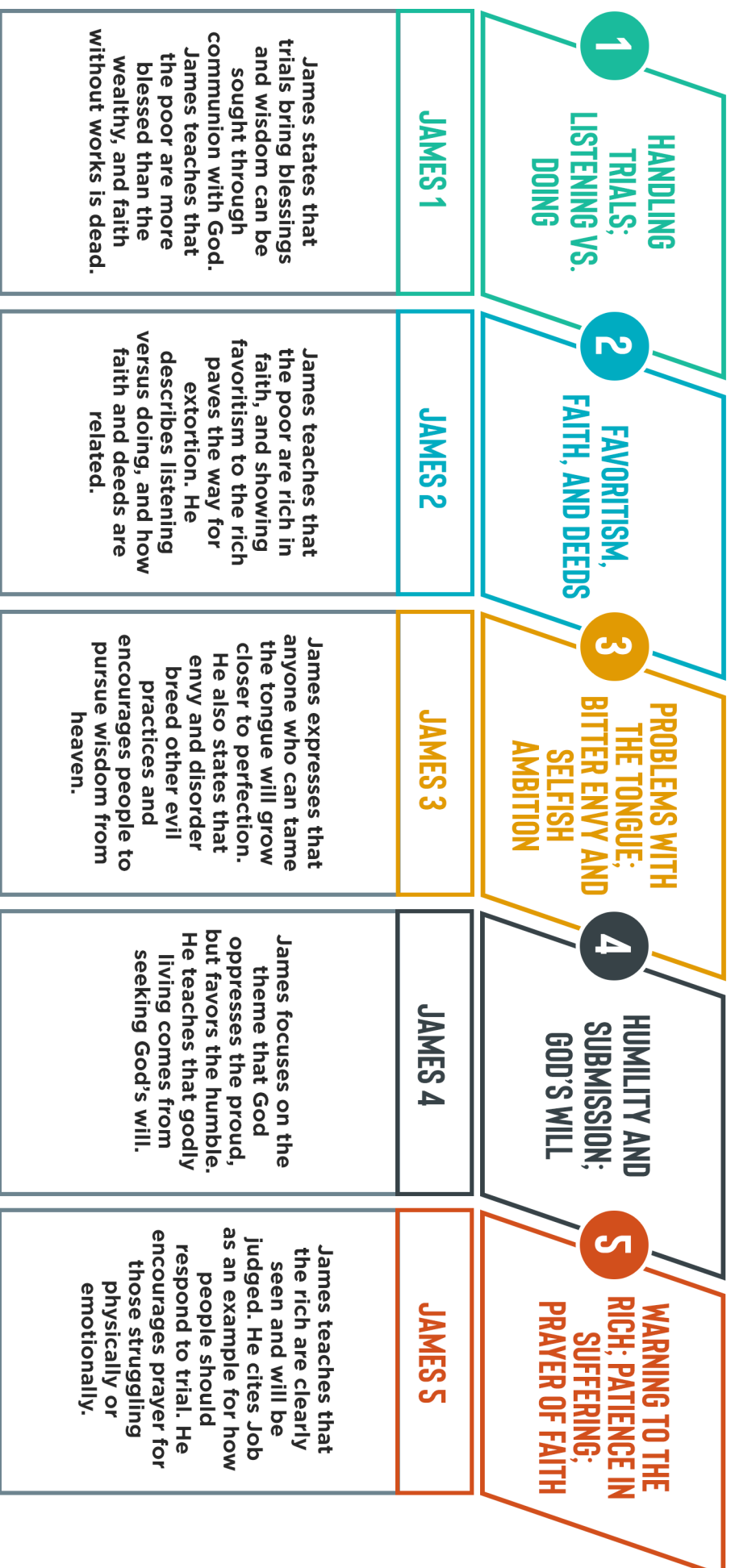
WRITTEN
44-49 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
James, half-brother of Jesus



1 PETER

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

21 S

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

This epistle was written by Peter from Babylon soon after Nero's persecution of Christians. A Roman Emperor in the 60s AD, Nero hated Christianity and did terrible things to Christians. Peter addressed the Jews and Gentiles with encouragement to stay the course with Jesus, and not deny the faith despite difficult circumstances.



WRITTEN
64 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Peter

1 A PRAISE UNDER
FIRE; BE ON THE
ALERT

1 PETER 1

In spite of strained persecution of the saints, Peter offers a praise of God and expresses that salvation has been foreknown since the earliest of Old Testament prophets. He tells the people that the word of God endures forever, and reminds them to hold on to their hope of the future.

2 HOPE

1 PETER 2

Peter preaches that the people are being built into a holy priesthood despite being foreigners and exiles. He tells them to live holy lives that are worthy of their calling as a special people to God.

3 A WORD TO THE
MARRIED;
REWARDS FOR
SUFFERING FOR
DOING GOOD

1 PETER 3

Peter tells husbands and wives to be kind and respectful. He teaches that people will meet with less harm by doing good, but if they meet harm they will be richly blessed.

4 LIVE FOR GOD,
SUFFERING DUE TO
FAITH

1 PETER 4

Peter exhorts Christians not to partake in pagan debauchery, not to fear their threats or pressure, and not to depart from the faith. He expresses that it is better to be a martyr than a murderer, and reminds the people to live for God.

5 A WORD TO
ELDERS

1 PETERS 5

Peter gives practical and well quoted exhortations: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble," "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you," "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking to devour," etc.

2 PETER

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

22

3

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

This epistle was written by Peter again to the Jews and Gentile saints. He wanted to discourage people from listening to false prophets and teachers, but also encourage them amid persecution. Times had grown perilous for Christians, amid Nero's persecution and threats of death. Peter spoke of the time of the Lord's return, His glory and power, and the judgment yet to come.



WRITTEN
67 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Peter

1

TRAITS TO GROW
AS CHRISTIANS

2 PETER 1

Peter speaks of the importance of virtue and obtaining a divine nature through faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, mutual affection, and love. He speaks of his impending death.

2

FALSE
PROPHETS AND
TEACHERS

2 PETER 2

Peter describes the mind, attitude, and actions of false prophets and teachers. He famously describes fallen angels and describes the misery of those who fight against the Saints of God.

3

THE DAY OF THE
LORD

2 PETER 3

In response to the people who would deny the Second Coming of Christ, Peter provides a description of events surrounding the Day of the Lord. He states that "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day," invoking faith and hope for the future.

1 JOHN

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

23
5

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

Although not expressly stated, these three epistles are typically attributed to the Apostle John, who also penned the fourth Gospel. Similar in writing style and language, this epistle was written by John after he had completed his Gospel, as it assumes the reader has knowledge of its contents. Most likely written later in John's life, John emphasized the divinity of Jesus and His ministry in the flesh.



WRITTEN
90-95 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle John

1
LIGHTNESS,
DARKNESS, SIN,
FORGIVENESS

1 JOHN 1

John emphasized that Jesus manifested Himself in the flesh. John also establishes himself as a first-hand witness to Christ. He encourages the people to walk in the light and ask for forgiveness when they sin.

2
STREAM OF
CONSCIOUSNESS
"LOVE"
THOUGHTS

1 JOHN 2

John's thoughts flow evenly from one to another and he teaches about love: God's love for people, love for one another, and discouragement from loving the world. He expresses assurances of salvation and God's forgiveness.

3
GREAT
SALVATION,
ADMONISHMENT
OF SIN

1 JOHN 3

John exhorts the people to be like Christ and purify themselves. He expresses the real existence of sin, and reiterates the importance of refraining from it. He teaches that Christ is the real source of salvation.

4
ATTACKING
GNOSTIC BELIEF

1 JOHN 4

John teaches the people not to believe everything they hear, but to question and test what is spoken because of false prophets. He encourages confidence in God's ability to protect. John declares the importance of love, that it is the defining characteristic of a true believer.

5
MORE DEFINITION
OF CHRIST

1 JOHN 5

John declares that keeping God's commands is an expression of love for Him. He declares that belief in Jesus Christ is necessary for eternal life.

2 JOHN

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

24

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

1

TYPE

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

In this epistle, John wrote to an unnamed woman and her children. Some Bible scholars debate the likelihood of John addressing a woman, and therefore ascribe it as a letter to the church. John warned of false teachers who deny Christ and His doctrine.



WRITTEN
90-95 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of
Grace



AUTHOR
John the Apostle

1

HOLDING FAST

2 JOHN 1

John reminds the reader that Jesus will return in the flesh, that anyone who claims otherwise should not be welcome among the believers. He encourages them to hold to the truth and to not let anyone undermine it.

3 JOHN

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

25

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

1

TYPE

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

Identifying himself as “The Elder,” John wrote a letter to Gaius, a faithful disciple of the church. John expressed gratitude to Gaius for his faithfulness, and reminded him to follow the truth and that which is right.



WRITTEN
90-95 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of
Grace



AUTHOR
John the Apostle

1

**DO NOT IMITATE EVIL,
DO WHAT IS GOOD**

3 JOHN 1

John expresses joy in Gaius, for receiving messengers of the church and ministering to them and the church. In comparison, John expresses displeasure in Diotrephes, another church member who was refusing hospitality and exerting dominion over others.

JUDE

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

26 1

EPISTLE, GENERAL

OVERVIEW

This epistle is attributed to Jude, the brother of James, one of the half-brothers of Jesus. He addressed the presence of false teachers and Christians who were returning to pagan worship. Although short in length, Jude mentions several events of the Old Testament and the Second Coming in the Last Days. This epistle is a perfect precursor to the Book of Revelation, and scholars state its relevancy to our day due to its personal tone and description of events.



WRITTEN
75 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace, but likely those in the end times



AUTHOR
Jude

1

GREETINGS

VERSES 1–2

Jude declares his kinship with James, but not Jesus Christ, a fact that illustrates his humility.

2

PEOPLE ON SATAN'S PAYROLL

VERSES 3–4

Jude warns of unfaithful members of the church, who are turning away and denying Jesus Christ.

3

A REFERENCE TO OLD TESTAMENT EVENTS

VERSES 5–6

Jude references God's generosity and grace during the Exodus, and reminds the people of Sodom's punishment for sins of the flesh. He also speaks of Michael the archangel.

4

A REFERENCE TO SODOM AND GOMORRAH AND A LOST PIECE OF HISTORY

VERSES 7-8

Jude wants those who might object to Sodom's punishment to be reminded that these people wanted to rape angels. Jude references a lost document: An argument between the archangel Michael and Satan ensued over the body of Moses. Michael didn't argue Satan's lies himself.

5

A DESCRIPTION OF DECEIVERS IN THE CHURCH

VERSES 10–13

Jude vividly describes deceivers and false teachers, who are looking to upset and destroy the church.

6

THE SECOND COMING: ENCOURAGEMENT UNDER FIRE

VERSES 14–24

Jude quotes Enoch, a lost record, regarding the Second Coming of Christ and the judgment of the wicked. Jude calls for love, compassion, and mercy for others, while rejecting sin and wrongdoing.

REVELATION

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

27 22

PROPHECY

OVERVIEW

This epistle was written by John the Apostle after his exile to the Island of Patmos. His epistle is divided into two parts: the first addressed the Seven Churches of Asia and events at the time it was written, and the second part prophesied of future days and the end of the world. Almost exclusively prophecy, Revelation mirrors Old Testament prophets such as Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, and Ezekiel in intriguing ways. While seemingly radical and highly symbolic, the book can be relevant and welcome by believers of the millennium.



WRITTEN
90-95 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Jesus Christ through the Apostle John

