



NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE

BLUEPRINTS

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

PHILIPPIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT
11

OVERVIEW

Paul wrote this letter from house arrest in Rome to the church in Philippi. Paul had visited Philippi early in his ministry and he refers to his journey years later. When the Philippians heard of his house arrest, they sent a messenger Eubodorus 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 impending death.

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

Paul talks about his joy in spite of his imprisonment.

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

Paul's openness to labor for the gospel.

MATTHEW

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

1

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

28

TYPE

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
60-80 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
7 BC to 28 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	4 THE PROPHECIES OF CHRIST SINGULAR TO THIS GOSPEL	5 THE DEATH, RESURRECTION, AND ASCENSION DETAILS 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 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 slaughter of babies.

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.

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 included.

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 40 years, and that the kingdom would be given to the Son of Man.

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 message.

REVELATION

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT
27

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS
22

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 prophetic, Revelation mirrors Old Testament prophetic ways. While seemingly radical and highly symbolic, the book can be relevant and welcome to believers of the millennium.

1 INTRODUCTION	2 LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES	3 SEVEN SEALS, TRUMPETS, AND JUDGMENTS	4 THE PROPHETS AND THE BEASTS	5 GOD'S WRATH COMPLETED	6 THE END
REVELATION 1	REVELATION 2-3	REVELATION 4-11	REVELATION 11-13	REVELATION 14-16	REVELATION 17-22

John gives seven churches in Asia Minor correction and commendation, promising each a reward for their faithfulness.

John sees a book sealed with seven seals and seven judgments where only the Lamb is worthy to open it.

John sees a woman with a child threatened by a dragon.

John sees the redemption of 144,000, angels breaking the seals, and the final judgment.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NEW TESTAMENT

MATTHEW	5
MARK	6
LUKE	7
JOHN	8
ACTS	9
ROMANS	10
1 CORINTHIANS	11
2 CORINTHIANS	12
GALATIANS	13
EPHESIANS	14
PHILIPPIANS	15
COLOSSIANS	16
1 THESSALONIANS	17
2 THESSALONIANS	18
1 TIMOTHY	19
2 TIMOTHY	20
TITUS	21
PHILEMON	22
HEBREWS	23
JAMES	24
1 PETER	25
2 PETER	26
1 JOHN	27
2 JOHN	28
3 JOHN	29
JUDE	30
REVELATION	31



NEW TESTAMENT

MATTHEW

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

1 28

GOSPEL, SYNOPTIC



OVERVIEW

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WRITTEN
60–65 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
23-26 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 Gentle

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
90 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
22-26 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

5

28

HISTORY

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE



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
26–62 AD



AUTHOR
Luke the Historian,
Physician, and Gentle

1

THE ASCENSION

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

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

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

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

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.

ACTS 1

ACTS 2–7

ACTS 8–12

ACTS 13–20

ACTS 21–28

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 become 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 are blessings that 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 the 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 the 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 "thorn in the flesh," and that 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 the people and putting an unnecessary burden on them. He wrote emphasizing the freedom from sin through Jesus Christ and the 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 visitors and to teach the gospel. 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 journey's 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 teacher and encourages that true ministers are like him, sharing personal examples from his life.

4 UNITY AND JOY

PHILIPPIANS 4

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

COLOSSIANS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

12 4

EPISTLE, PAULINE



OVERVIEW

Paul wrote this epistle to the church in Colosse 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 through Jesus Christ and unity through Him.



WRITTEN
60-62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul

1 JESUS IS THE FIRSTBORN

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.

COLOSSIANS 1

2 WARNINGS AGAINST VAIN PHILOSOPHY AND ANGEL WORSHIP

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 emphasize reliance on God to guide the church.

COLOSSIANS 2

3 PUT TO DEATH DEEDS OF THE FLESH

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.

COLOSSIANS 3

4 INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATIONS

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

COLOSSIANS 3-4

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 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 caused 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.



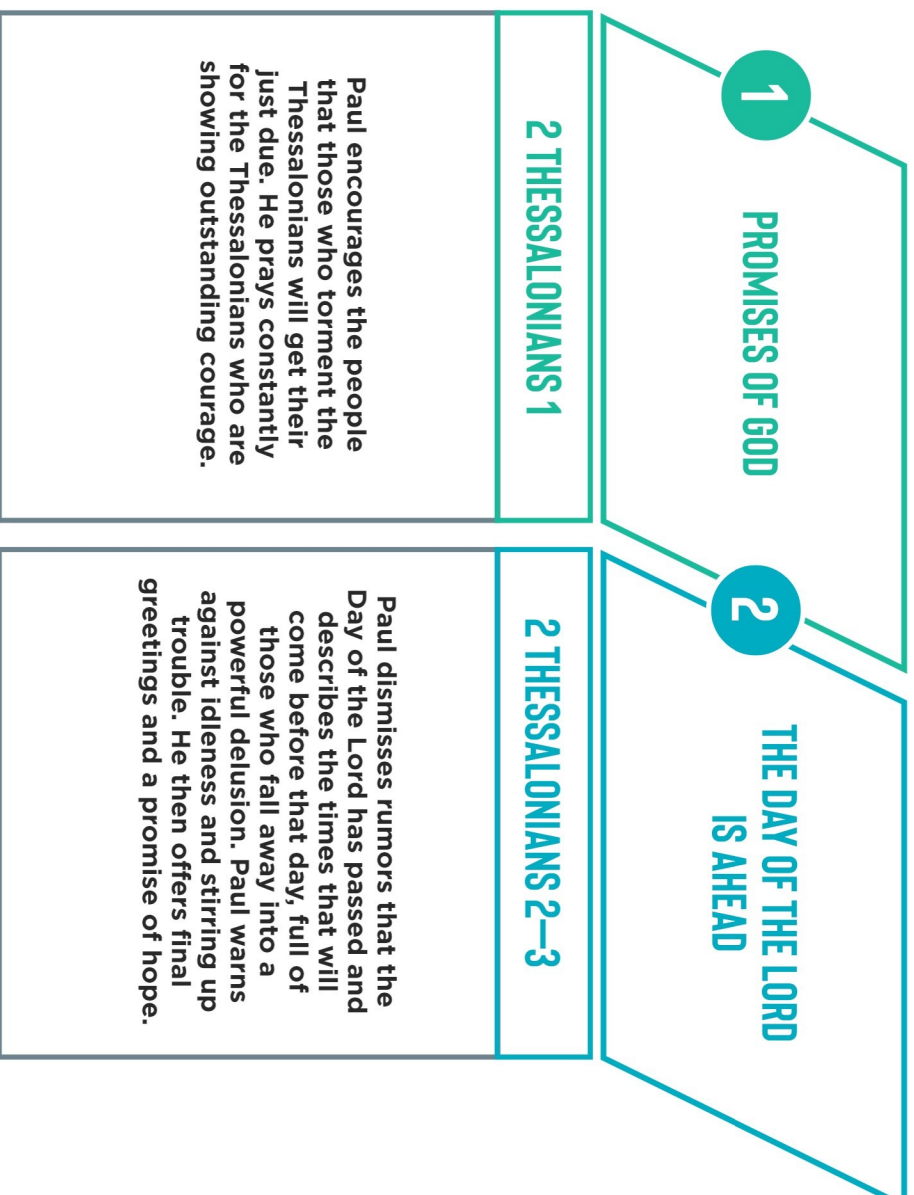
WRITTEN
51-52 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Apostle Paul



1 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 of 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.

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 the second letter 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, GENERAL



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



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 61 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.

HEBREW'S

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

19

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

13

TYPE

EPISTLE



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.



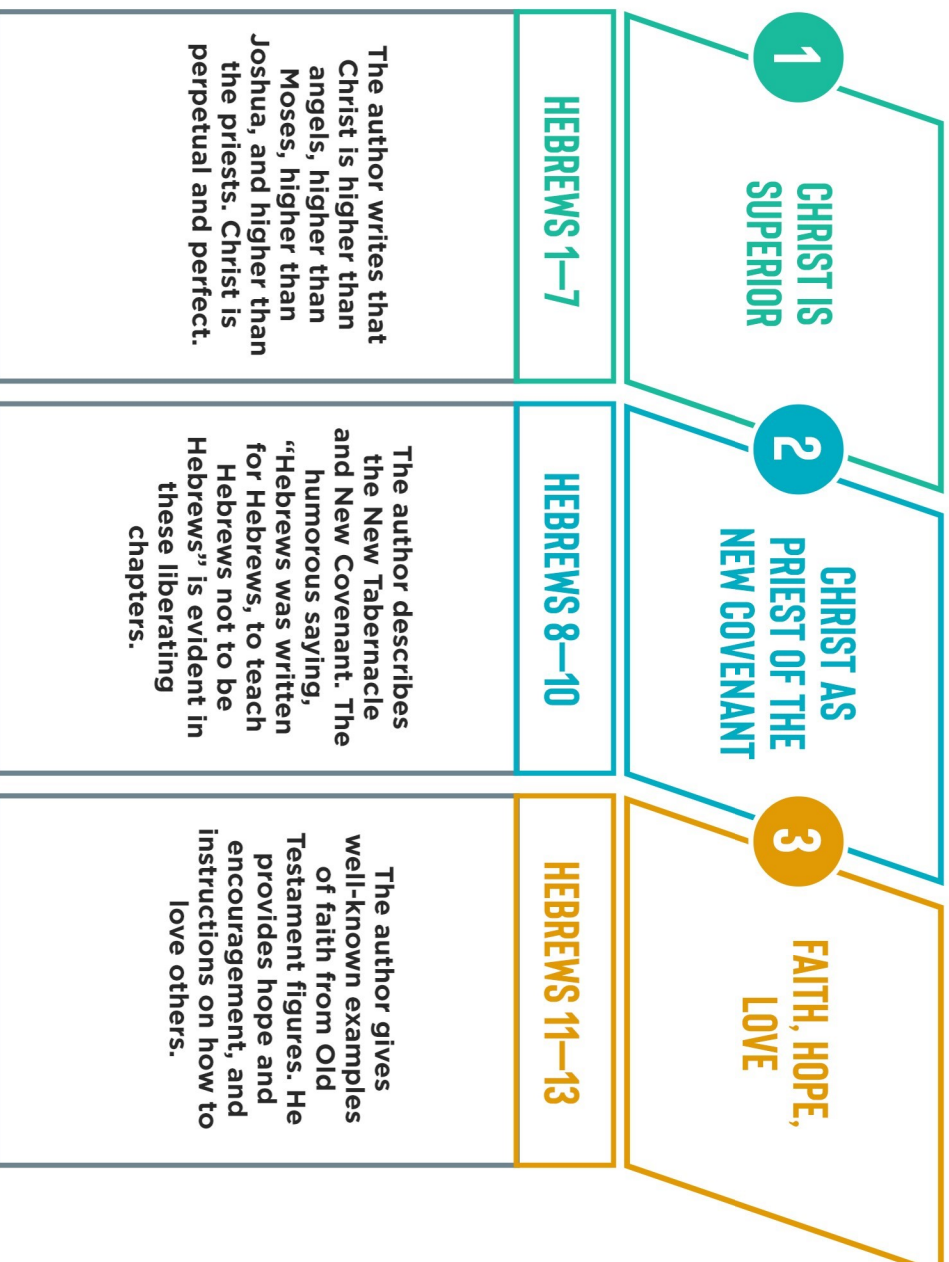
WRITTEN
67–69 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Unknown



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.



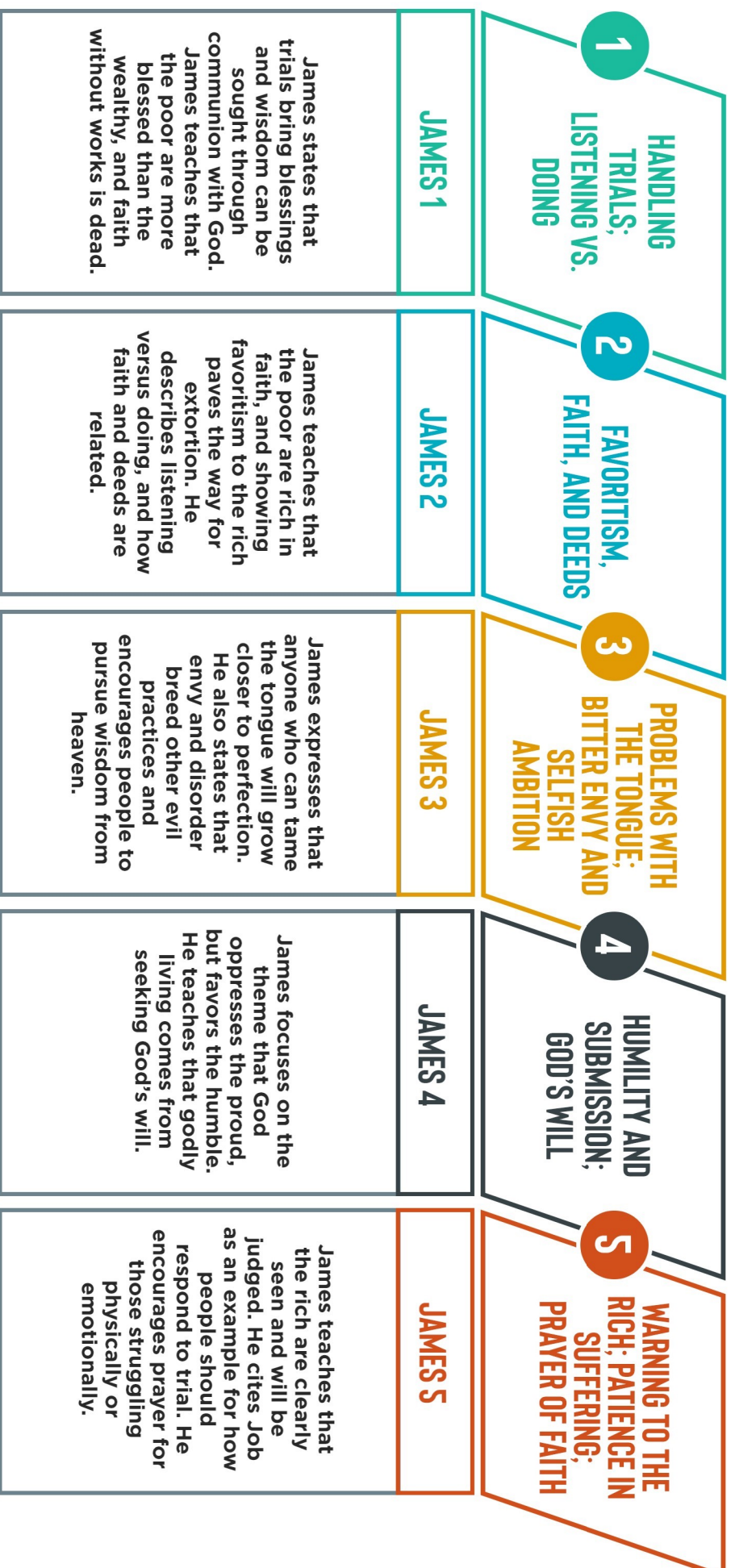
WRITTEN
67–69 AD



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 here 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

1PETER 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 them that the word of God endures forever, and reminds them to hold on to their hope of the future.

2

HOPE

1PETER 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

1PETER 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

1PETER 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

1PETERS

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

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

3

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 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 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
67-80 AD



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



AUTHOR
Jude

1

GREETINGS

JUDE 1-2

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

2

PEOPLE ON SATAN'S PAYROLL

JUDE 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

JUDE 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 DESCRIPTION OF DECEIVERS IN THE CHURCH

JUDE 10-13

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

5

THE SECOND COMING; ENCOURAGEMENT UNDER FIRE

JUDE 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 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
All Eras in the Age of Grace



AUTHOR
Jesus Christ through the Apostle John

