

## Lesson 1 – Introduction, Overview & Pretest

- A. Course Overview & Pretest
1. Schedule (see schedule) – rapid, but with limited purpose, measured by memory quiz
  2. Course Goal: *Build our knowledge of and interest in the historical and doctrinal context, the author, readers, purposes, content, character, and organization of each book of the New Testament, in order to: a) motivate study, b) increase our ability to interpret the Word, and c) increase confidence and skills to teach others.*
- B. “Testament” – [*diatheke*: “agreement, contract”] see Lk 22:20; II Cor 3:6; Heb 8:8 (Jer 31:31)
- C. Old Testament preparation and promises (see Luke 24:27; I Pet 1:10-12)
1. Adam & Eve - Genesis 3:15 -
  2. Abraham - Genesis 12:3; 22:18 -
  3. David - II Sam 7:13; Ps 2, 110 -
  4. Prophets - Is 42:1-7; 49:5-7; Jer 31:31-34; Ezek 34:11-24; Dan 2:44; Mal 3:1; 4:4-6
- D. Period “between the Testaments” – Waiting/preparing for the Messiah
1. Characterize the Jewish anticipation as the OT period ended (Ps 74:9; 89:3,46,49)
  2. Periods in Palestine and significance to New Testament history (see Mark 1:15)
    - a. Persian Period (466-333BC) – Return, focus on Law, Synagogues, Scribes
    - b. Greek Period (333-323 BC) – Common language
    - c. Egyptian Period (232-204 BC) – Septuagint Old Testament
    - d. Syrian Period (204-165 BC) – Palestine divided
    - e. Maccabean Period (165 – 63BC) – Jewish nationalism, Feast of Dedication
    - f. Roman Period (63 BC →) – Herod’s temple, roads, travel, civilization
- E. The central event: Jesus’ coming and confirmation
1. Coming – John 1:1,14; Luke 4:16-21
  2. Confirmation – John 10:36-38; 20:30-31
  3. Resurrection – Rom 1:4; I Cor 15:1-11 (vs 3 – “first of all”)
- F. New Testament inspiration and method of transmission
1. Remember the Old Testament pattern of God’s revelation (see Heb 1:1)
  2. The promise of Jesus of the coming revelation:
    - a. Apostles to be guided (John 14:25-26, 16:12-14)
    - b. The Word to be confirmed (Mark 16:17-18; Heb 2:3)
  3. Inspiration claimed by the Apostles (Eph 3:1-5; I Cor 14:37; II Pet 3:15-16)
- G. Books of the New Testament
1. Total number:
  2. List of Authors, and number of books written by each
 

Matthew –	Mark –	James –	Jude –	Luke –
Peter –		John –		
Paul –				

3. Grouping & order in our Bible
  - a. Gospels
  - b. History
  - c. Paul's general letters
  - d. Paul's personal letters
  - e. Other letters
  - f. Prophecy
4. Kinds of books
  - a. Historical/narrative
  - b. Doctrinal letters
  - c. Personal letters
  - d. Prophecy
5. Timeline of events & writing (and related history)

