

New Testament Survey - Study #2

A “bird’s eye” view of the Bible, relating its different parts into one harmonious whole.

Northeast church of Christ
Crosby, Texas
Fall 2020
Sunday Bible Class

Sequence of Classes

November 22 - Christ - The Fulfillment of The Law

November 29 - The Gospels

December 6 - The Christian Dispensation

December 13 - Acts of the Apostles

December 20 - Gospel to Gentiles

December 27 - Epistles of Paul

December 30 - General Epistles

Preparation for class:

Review the outline and lesson information for the class. Complete the drill questions on each lesson prior to class. Read the scriptures presented and note how they relate to the lesson and subject of study. Be prepared to participate.

In class: The class will begin with time given to review and drill questions. The questions from previous classes will be included each week to gain more knowledge. The class itself will be a presentation of the material in each lesson. Active participation will be useful in learning.

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Lesson 1 - Christ - The Fulfillment of the Law

Drill Questions

1. The following were leaders in returns from captivity
 - a. Zerrubbabel
 - b. Ezra
 - c. Nehemiah
 - d. Elijah
2. The dates of the three returns are
 - a. 605, 597, 586 B.C.
 - b. 538, 458, 445 B.C.
 - c. 1450, 1000, 931 B.C.
 - d. None of the above
3. The book of Esther
 - a. Records the origin of the feast of Purim
 - b. Records the origin of the feast of Passover
 - c. Records the origin of the Samaritans
4. During the approximately 400 years between Malachi and the New Testament
 - a. Fourteen Jewish books of history and religion known as the "Apocrypha" were written
 - b. The sects of the Sadducees and Pharisees developed
 - c. Rome emerged as a world power
 - d. A Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament was made that came to be widely used by early Christians
5. The six world empires of the Bible are
 - a. Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, Israel
 - b. Philistia, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, Israel
 - c. Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome
 - d. Moab, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome
6. Who led the first return from captivity? When? (date)
7. Who led the second return? When? (date)

8. Who lead the third return? When? (date)

9. About when was the last O.T. book written?

10. What is the book of Ezra about?

11. What is the book of Nehemiah about?

12. What is the book of Esther about?

Life of Christ

Thirty-three years: Lk 3:23 + ministry.

Ministry dated by feasts: Jn 2:13,23...5:1...6:4...12:1. (Ex 12:2...11)

Ministry = c. 3 years

Christ lived and died under Old Testament Covenant. Gal 4:4

Various facts:

- Forerunner - John the Baptist - Lk 1:17; Jn 1:6-8,23,29; Lk 1:17
- Born in Bethlehem of a virgin, Mary - Lk 1:26-38; 2:1-20
- Joseph – legal father – Mt 1:16...24,25; Lk 3:23
- Crucified at Golgotha, just outside Jerusalem, Heb 13:12; Mk 15:22; Lk 23:26,33 (KJV, “Calvary”, from Jerome’s Latin Version); Jn 19:17
- Died for redemption of man – Rom 5:8,9
- Raised first day of the week – Mk 16:9; Lk 24:1 ...7...13...21
- Evidences of His resurrection:
 - Empty tomb – Mt 27:62-66
 - Apostles’ witness – Ac 1:3...8; 2:32; Jn 20:30-31
 - Miracles – Ac 4:29-30,33; Heb 2:3,4

Christ – the fulfillment of the law

Christ was the “end” or aim of the law—it looked forward to Him.

Mt 5:17; Lk 24:26-27, 44-47; Rom 10:4; Gal 3:24; Eph 2:11-16; Col 2:13-19

The “kingdom” prophesied, 2Sam 7:14ff; Dan 2:44; etc., was “at hand” during the life of Christ, Mt 3:1ff; Mk. 1:15. It had not yet begun, Ac 1:6-8. Not until Christ ascended and sat on the throne, Dan 7:13-14; Ac 2:24-36.

Fulfilled the prophecy of the coming “Messiah.”

Jn 1:45; 5:39-40, 45-47; Lk 24:25-27,44

Statements of prophecy: e.g., Gen 12:3; Isa. 53.

- Typical persons: e.g., Melchizedek, Heb 5:6; Moses, Ac 3:22-23; David, Lk 1:32-33
- Typical events: e.g., bread from heaven, Jn 6:32-35; serpent in wilderness, Jn 3:14-15
- Typical institutions: e.g., Passover, 1Co 5:7; sacrifices, Heb 10:1

2Co 3:14-16

Lesson 2 - The Gospels

Drill Questions

1. Jesus' ministry
 - a. Lasted thirty-three years
 - b. Is dated by the eclipses during his ministry
 - c. Was under the New Testament covenant he inaugurated
 - d. None of the above

2. Which of the following are true about Christ? (only one)
 - a. His forerunner was Malachi
 - b. His fleshly father was Joseph
 - c. He was crucified in Bethlehem
 - d. He was raised on the first day of the week
 - e. He died for crimes against the Roman government

3. The evidences supporting the resurrection are
 - a. The tomb was empty on Sunday morning
 - b. The apostles testified they had seen him and spoke with him after he had risen
 - c. The apostles were able to work undeniable miracles in proof of their testimony

4. The kingdom prophesied in the Old Testament
 - a. Will be established when Christ returns to earth
 - b. Was established when Christ ascended to the right hand of God and sat on David's throne
 - c. Was established while Christ was on earth
 - d. Will never be established due to its rejection by the Jews

5. The Old Testament prophesied the Christ
 - a. By direct prophecies
 - b. By typical persons
 - c. By typical events
 - d. By typical institutions

6. Where was Jesus born?

7. Who was his mother?

8. Who was his legal, but not fleshly, father?

9. Who was his forerunner?
10. How long did his ministry last?
11. How old was he when he died?
12. Where was he crucified?
13. Why did he die?
14. When was he raised? (What day of the week?)

Gospels

“Gospel” = good news. Mk 1:1...16:15,16

Where they begin:

John	Luke	Matthew	Mark
Eternity	Announcement of John's birth	Announcement of Jesus' birth	John's ministry

Last week

The last week of the life of Christ begins: **Mt 21:1; Mk 11:1; Lk 19:28; Jn 12:12**

See chart in “Additional Notes” for percentage of each gospel dealing with the last week of the life of Christ (and resurrection events).

Purpose

Noting the percentage of the gospels dedicated to the last week of Christ' life, and where they begin, one can see that the gospels are not intended to be strictly

biographies, giving all the historical details of the life of Christ. Rather, they are portraits, presenting the portrait of a person—Jesus Christ.

Their purpose - **Mk 1:1...16:15,16. Jn 20:30-31**

“Synoptics”

Mt, Mk., and Lk are called the “synoptic” gospels because their accounts parallel on another - take a generally similar (*syn*) view (*optic*) of Christ’s life. “John” does not contradict the synoptics, but merely presents the life of Christ from a different standpoint.

Credibility - Eyewitnesses/Testimony from eyewitnesses

- Matthew and John are largely eyewitness accounts. See e.g., **Jn 19:35**.
- Mark and Luke are based on testimony from eyewitnesses. See e.g. **Lk 1:1-4**.

Readers designed for

- Matthew - for Jewish readers
- Mark - for Roman readers
- Luke - for Gentile readers
- John - general

Note: This may be helpful, but cannot be established conclusively.

Apostles (“apostle” = “one sent”)

The “twelve”: **Mt 10:2-4; Mk 3:16-19; Lk 6:14-16; Ac 1:13,16**

Selection of Matthias - **Ac 1:15-26**. Note qualifications.

“Apostle to the Gentiles” - **Rom 11:13; Gal 1:15,16; 2:9** = “Paul”, or “Saul”,
Ac 13:9

Names of apostles and alternatives

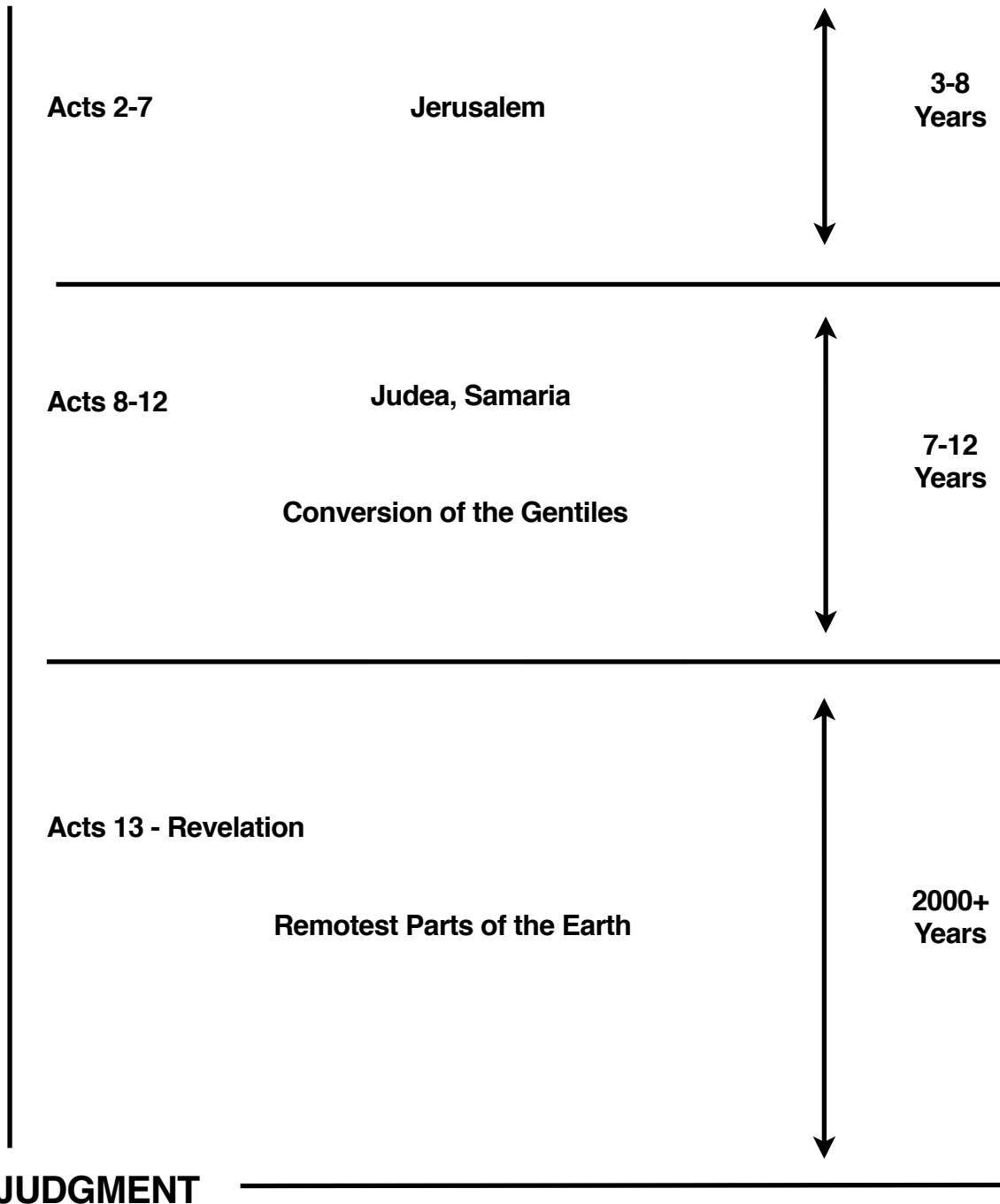
	Mt 10:2-4	Mk 3:16-19	Lk 6:14-16	Ac 1:13
1	Simon, called Peter	Simon, to whom he gave name Peter	Simon, whom he also named Peter	Peter
2	Andrew his brother	Andrew	Andrew	Andrew
3	James the son of Zebedee	James the son of Zebedee	James	James
4	John his brother	John the brother of James	John	John
5	Philip	Philip	Philip	Philip
6	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew	Bartholomew
7	Thomas	Thomas	Thomas	Thomas
8	Matthew the tax-gatherer	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew
9	James the son of Alphaeus	James the son of Alphaeus	James the son of Alphaeus	James the son of Alphaeus
10	Thaddaeus (KJV, NKJV, "Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus")	Thaddaeus	Judas the son of James ("the brother of" KJV)	Judas the son of James ("the brother of" KJV) ("not Iscariot," Jn 14:22)
11	Simon the Zealot (NKJV, *Canaanite; ASV, Cananaean)	Simon the Zealot	Simon who was also called the Zealot	Simon the Zealot (KJV, Zelotes)
12	Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him	Judas Iscariot who also betrayed him	Judas Iscariot who became a traitor	

CHART #7: CHRISTIAN DISPENSATION

Universal Covenant – Christians

2000+ Years

PENTECOST



Lesson 3 - The Christian Dispensation

Drill Questions

1. "Gospel" means
 - a. "Bible"
 - b. "It's the truth"
 - c. "New Testament"
 - d. "Good news"
2. The purpose of the gospels is to
 - a. Give a complete biography of the life of Christ
 - b. Present a portrait of Jesus Christ
 - c. Give evidence for faith in Jesus as the Christ
3. The gospel records should be viewed as reliable evidence because
 - a. They rate high in the tests of the credibility of historical documents
 - b. Mother and father believed them
 - c. The church has approved them
 - d. The Catholic Church declared them part of the Sacred Canon
4. The synoptic gospels are
 - a. Mark, Luke, and John
 - b. Matthew, Luke, and John
 - c. Matthew, Mark, and Luke
 - d. None of the above
5. The following were apostles of Christ (choose all correct answers)
 - a. Matthias
 - b. Barsabbas
 - c. Paul, also called Saul
 - d. Barnabas
 - e. Judas the son of James
6. What are the "gospels" about?
7. What are the synoptic gospels and why are they called that?
8. What gives the gospels historical credibility?
9. What does "apostle" mean?

10. Name the original twelve apostles.

11. Which of the apostles betrayed Christ? Who replaced him?

Introduction (see Chart 7)

Its designation (see Chart 7)

Events marking its beginning and end

- “Beginning” – **Acts 11:15; Lk 24:47** (“Pentecost” - Chart 7)
- “End” – **1Co 15:22-24** (“Judgment” - Chart 7)

Time (“2000+ years” - Chart 7)

Books in the New Testament (See Chart 2, Chart 7)

Beginning

• Of the church

The gospel of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ was preached for the first time and men invited to enjoy its benefit through obedient faith. Those who obeyed were saved. These saved people were “added.” **Ac 2:41,47**. All those added together formed the “church.” Thus, the “church” = people in fellowship with God through Christ. **Heb 12:23; 1Co 12:13,27; Eph. 1:22-23; 3:6; 5:23.**

- *Before* - church in future, **Mt 16:18**
- *After* - church in existence, **Ac 2:47** (KJV, NKJV); **5:11; 8:1**, etc.

• Of the redemptive rule of the Christ - the “Kingdom.”

Mt 3:2; Mk 9:1; Lk 17:20-21; Jn 18:36-37; Ac 1:6-8; 2:29-36; Col. 1:13

• Of the New Covenant - **Mt 26:28-29; Heb 9:15-22**

Lesson 4 - Acts of The Apostles

Drill Questions

1. The Christian dispensation begins
 - a. At the beginning of the gospels
 - b. With the ascension and inauguration of Christ as the redeemer King
 - c. At the beginning of the first chapter of the book of Acts
 - d. With the return of Christ at the end of time

2. The books in the Bible covering the events during the Christian dispensation are
 - a. Acts 2 through Revelation
 - b. Matthew 1 through Revelation
 - c. Romans through Jude

3. The “kingdom” that John and Jesus preached as being “at hand” referred to
 - a. The rule of the Messiah on the earth with His throne in Jerusalem
 - b. The Messiah’s rule over Jews to set them free from any other earthly rule
 - c. The 1,000 year reign of the Messiah on earth when he comes back again
 - d. The rule of the Messiah that gives redemption through the blood of His cross to those who serve Him in faith

4. The “church” is
 - a. An invisible organization, composed of all good churches in the world
 - b. Those with authority among God’s people and possessing the gift of revelation and interpretation
 - c. A body of people
 - d. A denomination

5. The “New Covenant” is
 - a. Ratified by the blood of Christ
 - b. God’s plan for Christians of all races
 - c. Revealed in the book we call the “New Testament”
 - d. The covenant God will make with man in the millennium

6. When do you first read of people being added to the church?

7. Where is this recorded?

8. On what is the church founded?

9. When did the kingdom of Christ begin?

The Book of “Acts” (i.e. of apostles)

Author and date

Luke, c. A.D. 63 (only Gentile author in the New Testament)

Outline – 1:8

The apostles bear witness to the King in

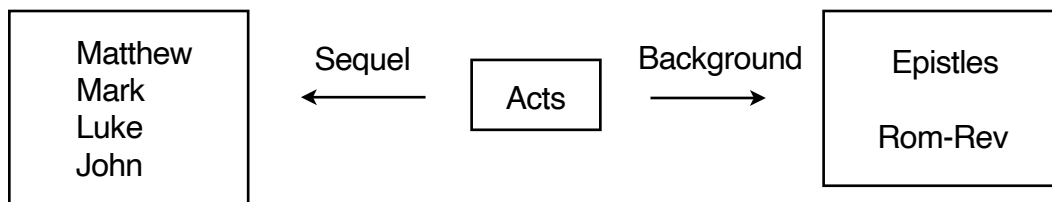
- Jerusalem, **chapters 1-7**
- Judea and Samaria, **chapters 8-12**
- Remotest part of the earth, **chapters 13-28**

The two apostles most prominent in Acts are Peter and Paul. Some outline the book based on this feature:

- Acts of Peter, **chapters 1-12**
- Acts of Paul, **chapters 13-28**

Relation of Acts to the rest of the NT

Sequel to the gospels . . . Background to the epistles



Evidence and value of understanding this relationship

- Confirms the gospel
Mk 16:19-20...Ac 14:3. See also Heb 2:3-4
- Explains the commission
Mt 28:19-20...Ac 2:14,37,38,41,42
- Divine commentary on the promised mission of the Holy Spirit
Lk 24:48-49; Jn 14:26; 15:26,27; 16:13...Ac 1:1-8
- Contains vital information concerning the church’s establishment, growth, work, and organization (universal and local)
Mt 16:15-18...Ac 2:36,41,47
- Provides background information that enables us to better understand and appreciate the epistles
Example: **1Co 16:8-9**. Likely referring to **Ac 19:19,20**

Lesson 5 - Gospel To Gentiles

Drill Questions

1. The author of Acts is
 - a. Luke
 - b. A Gentile
 - c. A physician
 - d. An apostle

2. Acts is
 - a. A sequel to the gospels
 - b. Background to the epistles
 - c. The record of the apostles carrying out their mission
 - d. None of the above

3. Acts
 - a. Aids in understanding the rest of the New Testament
 - b. Confirms the gospel message as being from heaven
 - c. Explains the great commission
 - d. Serves as a commentary of the mission and work of the Holy Spirit
 - e. Contains vital information concerning the nature, work, and organization of the church

4. Acts was written
 - a. About 98 A.D.
 - b. About 63 A.D.
 - c. About 33 A.D.
 - d. About 52 A.D.

5. The two apostles most prominent in Acts are
 - a. Peter and Paul
 - b. Luke and John
 - c. Paul and Barnabas
 - d. Peter and James

6. Why is "Acts" so named and what is it about?

7. Give a brief outline of the book of Acts.

8. What is the relation of Acts to the rest of the New Testament?

9. What are the epistles? (E.g., wives of apostles? cities? etc. Not their names.)

Gospel to the Gentiles (salvation by faith)

Cornelius - Acts 10-11. First Gentile convert.

Note especially 11:15-18; 15:7-9. Compare Acts 2:39 with Eph 2:11-18

Judaizing teachers - a severe and recurring problem

Acts 15; Romans; 2Co 3; Galatians; Php 3:1ff; 1Tim 1:6ff; Tit. 1:14; Hebrews; Rev 2:9

Cessation of Spiritual Gifts

Their purpose

Reveal and confirm - Jn 14:26; 15:26-27; 16:13; Mk. 16:14-20; Heb 2:3-4; 1Co 12:7; 14:6.

Their transmission

Laying on of apostles' hands - Acts 8:14-18

Their termination

1Co 13:8-13

Last day

All raised

Jn 5:28-29; 6:39-40,44,54; 11:24; 1Co 15:20-26,51-52

Judgment

Mt 7:22-23; 10:15; 11:22; 12:36; Jn 5:28-29; 12:48; Ac 17:31; 1Th 5:2; 2Pt 2:9; 3:7; 1Jn 4:17; Jude 6

Go to eternal reward or punishment

Mt 13:24-30, 36-43; 25:46; 1Th 4:16-5:3

Lesson 6 - Epistles of Paul

Drill Questions

1. A severe, recurring problem facing Christians in the first century was
 - a. Whether Gentiles must be circumcised and keep the law of Moses to be saved
 - b. Whether hats must be worn to worship assemblies
 - c. Whether the Lord's Supper was to be observed on Saturday or Sunday
 - d. None of the above

2. The purpose of miraculous gifts
 - a. Is to give a personal experience assuring one's salvation
 - b. Is to provide interpretation and revelation to supplement the Bible and guide churches
 - c. Was to reveal and confirm the revelation of God
 - d. Was to raise contributions to support the preachers in the first century

3. The power to work miracles and speak in tongues was transmitted to Christians of the first century
 - a. Through intense prayer
 - b. Randomly, unexpectedly, directly from heaven
 - c. Through the laying on of the apostles' hands
 - d. None but the apostles had the power to work miracles

4. In the resurrection at the end of time
 - a. The bodies of all people will be raised, some to life and some to judgment
 - b. Only the righteous will be raised, then the wicked will be raised 1,000 years later
 - c. Spirits will be raised, but not bodies
 - d. None of the above

5. At the end of time
 - a. All people will cease to exist consciously
 - b. All will be saved by the grace of God
 - c. Many will live on the earth eternally
 - d. People will either enter into eternal reward or punishment

6. Why is the letter to the "Hebrews" so named?

7. What does "Revelation" mean?

8. What is "Revelation" about?

9. Who was the first Gentile convert?

10. Where is his conversion recorded?

Paul

- Also = "Saul" - **Ac 13:9**
- Before conversion - **Ac 7:58; 8:1-3; 9:1-2; 22:3-5,19-20; 26:9-11; Gal 1:13-14; 1Tim 1:13-14**
- Conversion - **Ac 9; 22; 26**
- Apostle - **Ac 1:8,22...22:14-15; 26:16-18; 1Co 9:1; 15:8-10; Rom 1:1; 1Co 1:1; etc.**
- Apostle to the Gentiles – **Ac 9:15; 22:21; Rom 1:5; 11:13; 15:16; Gal 1:16; 2:8; Eph 3:1,18; 1Tim 2:7; 2Tim 4:17**

Epistles of Paul (13)

Letter	Date	Location Written From	Journey	Scriptures
Galatians	?	?	?	Ac 14:6 (?); 16:3,6; 18:23
1 Thessalonians	c. 51	Corinth	2 nd	Ac 17:1-15; 18:1-21
2 Thessalonians	c. 51	Corinth	2 nd	
1 Corinthians	c. 57	Ephesus	3 rd	Ac 18:1-21; 19; 1Co 16:5-9
2 Corinthians	c. 57	Macedonia	3 rd	Ac 20:1; 2Co 2:12-13; 7:5f
Romans	c. 57	Corinth	3 rd	Ac 20:2-3; Rom 15:25; 16:1,23
Ephesians*	c. 57-58	Rome (prison)		Ac 28:16-31
Colossians*	c. 61-63	Rome (prison)		Ac 28:16-31
Philemon*	c. 61-63	Rome (prison)		Ac 28:16-31
Philippians*	c. 61-63	Rome (prison)		Ac 28:16-31
1 Timothy‡	c. 63-68	Macedonia ?		1 Tim. 1:3
Titus‡	c. 63-68	?		
2 Timothy‡	c. 66-68	Rome (2 nd imprisonment)		2 Tim. 1:8,16-17; 4:6-8,16-18

* Commonly called “prison epistles”

‡ Commonly called “pastoral epistles”

Purpose: Give instructions and motivation to Christians to be faithful to Christ.

Rom 15:14-15; 1Co 4:14-17; 2Co 12:19; Gal 1:6-9; Eph 4:1; Php 1:27; 2:14-16; Col 2:6-8; 3:1-4; 1Th 4:1-2; 2Th 2:15; 1Tim 3:14-15; 2Tim 4:1ff; Tit 2:15; 3:1; Phm 21

Lesson 7 - General Epistles

Drill Questions

1. The apostle Paul wrote the following number of the New Testament letters
 - a. Five
 - b. Thirteen
 - c. Eighteen
 - d. All of them but the four gospels

2. The letters commonly called the “prison epistles” are
 - a. Ephesians
 - b. Philippians
 - c. Colossians
 - d. Philemon
 - e. 2nd Timothy

3. The letters commonly called the “pastoral epistles” are
 - a. Philemon
 - b. 1 Timothy
 - c. 2 Timothy
 - d. Titus

4. The apostle Paul’s other name was
 - a. Saul
 - b. Epaphras
 - c. Sergius
 - d. None of the above

5. Paul was known especially as
 - a. The apostle to the Jews
 - b. The apostle of the circumcision
 - c. The mighty apostle
 - d. The apostle to the Gentiles

6. Who was the apostle to the Gentiles?

7. What was his other name?

8. How many books of the New Testament did the apostle John write?

John's letters (5)

Author

John, the apostle, "whom Jesus loved" **John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7,20,24**

- **Gospel of John**

Purpose - **20:30-31**

Covers only about 20 days of the Lord's ministry.

Chapters 13-19, about one-third of the gospel = one day.

- **1 John - purpose = 5:13. See 1:5-9.**
- **2 John - purpose = vv. 5,6,9**
- **3 John - vv. 8,11**
- **Revelation**
 - Of what - **1:1**
 - To whom - **1:4**
 - Purpose - **1:3; 2:7,11,17, etc.; 21:5-8; 22:6-7**
 - Theme - **17:14**

Author - John, the apostle - **1:1**

"General" epistles

Seven: James, 1,2 Peter, 1,2,3 John, Jude

"James"

Author - probably "James, the Lord's brother," **Gal 1:19**, of prominence in N.T., **Ac 12:17; 15:13; 21:18; 1Co 15:7; Gal 1:19; 2:9,12.**

Jam 1:22-25; 2:26 - Faith without works is dead!

"1 & 2 Peter"

Author - Apostle Peter, **1:1; 2:1**

1Pt 5:12; 2Pt 3:1,2...11...14, 17-18

"Jude"

Author - brother of James, **1:1**. Probably brother of author of "James" and thus a brother of the Lord.

Purpose and occasion of writing, **v3**.

“Hebrews”

Author - unknown

Theme of the epistle - The Superior High Priesthood of Christ
1:3...2:17f...3:1...4:14... etc.

Exhortation of the epistle - **2:1-3; 10:26-31**

Note “Let us”, **4:1,11,14,16; 6:1; 10:22,23,24; 12:1,28; 13:13,15.**

Key word - “better” - **1:4; 3:3; 7:19,22; 8:6; 9:11,14,23; 10:34; 11:40; 12:24.**

Concluding Questions

1. The apostle John wrote
 - a. Revelation
 - b. Acts
 - c. 1, 2, 3 John
 - d. Gospel of John

2. The epistles commonly referred to as the “General” or “Catholic” epistles are
 - a. The ones the Roman Catholic Church put in the Bible
 - b. James, 1,2 Peter, 1,2,3 John, Jude
 - c. The apocryphal books found in the Roman Catholic Scriptures
 - d. None of the above

3. Revelation was written to
 - a. Foretell the political condition of the world in the 21st century before Christ’ second coming
 - b. Give a prophetic description of the rise of the Roman Catholic Church
 - c. Reveal things shortly to come to pass for the comfort of suffering disciples in the first century
 - d. Describe what will happen at the end of the world

4. The theme of Hebrews is
 - a. The glorious history of the Hebrew nation
 - b. Why Hebrews have a special relationship with God due to their physical lineage
 - c. God’s special and different plan of salvation for Hebrews
 - d. None of the above

5. The following letter particularly focuses on living godly in the face of an ungodly society, including government, employers, marriage partners, and associates
 - a. James
 - b. 1 Peter
 - c. 2 Peter
 - d. Jude
 - e. Hebrews