

New Testament II - Acts and Paul

Acts

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Luke (as second part of his gospel)
 - Date – AD 60-62
 - Audience - Theophilus
- ✓ Themes
 - Work of Holy Spirit
 - Birth and growth of the church
- 1) Witnessing in Jerusalem (1:1-8:3)
 - a) Birth of the Church at Pentecost (1:1-2:47)
 - b) Expansion of the Church in Jerusalem (3:1-8:3)
- 2) Witnessing in Judea and Samaria (8:4-12:25)
 - a) Ministry of Philip (8:4-40)
 - b) Conversion of Paul (9:1-31)
 - c) Ministry of Peter (9:32-12:25)
- 3) Witnessing to the Uttermost Parts of the Earth (13:1-28:31)
 - a) Paul's First Missionary Journey (13:1-14:27)
 - b) Jerusalem Council (15:1-35)
 - c) Paul's Second Missionary Journey (15:36-18:22)
 - d) Paul's Third Missionary Journey (18:23-21:19)
 - e) Paul's Arrest, Imprisonment, and Voyage to Rome (21:20-28:31)

Romans

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – Winter of AD 56/57
 - Audience – Believers at Rome
- ✓ Themes
 - Salvation
- 1) Introduction (1:1-17)
- 2) Doctrine (1:18-11:36)
 - a) Condemnation: The Revelation of God's Wrath (1:18-3:20)
 - b) Justification: The Imputation of God's Righteousness (3:21-5:21)
 - c) Sanctification: The Impartation of God's Holiness (6:1-8:39)
 - d) Vindication: Israel's Future Redemption (9:1-11:36)
- 3) Duties (12:1-15:13)
 - a) Toward the Brothers (12:1-21)
 - b) Toward the Government (13:1-14)
 - c) Toward the Weak and the Strong (14:1-15:3)
- 4) Conclusion (15:14-16:27)

1 Corinthians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 56
 - Audience – Church at Corinth
- ✓ Themes
 - Practical holiness
- 1) Introduction (1:1-9)
- 2) Reproof: “I Urge You” (1:10-4:21)
- 3) Correction: “You Are Inflated with Pride” (5:1-6:20)
- 4) Instruction: “Do Not... Be Unaware” (7:1-14:40)
- 5) Teaching: “I... Tell... You a Mystery” (15:1-16:12)
- 6) Final Exhortations, Greetings, and a Benediction (16:13-24)

2 Corinthians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 56
 - Audience – Church at Corinth
- ✓ Themes
 - Role of leadership in the church
 - Repentance leads to holiness
- 1) Introduction (1:1-11)
- 2) Personal Defense (1:12-7:16)
 - a) Explanation of Paul’s Previous Plans (1:12-2:13)
 - b) Paul’s Inside Perspective on the Gospel Ministry (2:14-6:10)
 - c) Paul’s Relationship with the Corinthians (6:11-7:16)
- 3) Practical Needs (8:1-9:15)
- 4) Powerful Appeal (10:1-13:10)
- 5) Conclusion (13:11-14)

Galatians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 49-55
 - Audience - Churches in Galatia
- ✓ Themes
 - Freedom is the gift of the new covenant
 - Faith leads to good works, not vice versa
- 1) Personal Section (1:1-2:21)
 - a) Paul’s Greeting and Theme (1:1-9)
 - b) Paul’s Apostolic Authority (1:10-17)

- c) Paul's First Visit to Jerusalem (1:18-24)
- d) Paul's Second Visit to Jerusalem (2:1-10)
- e) Paul's Rebuke of Peter at Antioch (2:11-21)
- 2) Doctrinal Section (3:1-4:31)
 - a) Paul Rebukes the Galatians (3:1-14)
 - b) The Law and Abraham's Covenant (3:15-22)
 - c) The Law and Christian Faith (3:23-4:7)
 - d) The Folly of Returning to the Law (4:8-20)
 - e) The Allegory of Ishmael and Isaac (4:21-31)
- 3) Practical Section (5:1-6:18)
 - a) Maintain Christian Liberty (5:1-12)
 - b) Walk by the Spirit (5:13-26)
 - c) Bear One Another's Burdens (6:1-10)
 - d) Concluding Remarks (6:11-18)

Ephesians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 61-62
 - Audience – Church at Ephesus
- ✓ Themes
 - Unity of the church in the midst of diversity
 - Proper conduct in the church, home, and world
- 1) Plan of God (1:1-2:22)
 - a) Blessings in Christ (1:1-23)
 - b) Body of Christ (2:1-22)
- 2) Provision of God (3:1-4:16)
 - a) Mystery of Grace (3:1-21)
 - b) Message of Unity (4:1-16)
- 3) Power of God (4:17-6:24)
 - a) Believer's Walk (4:17-6:9)
 - b) Believer's Warfare (6:10-24)

Philippians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 60
 - Audience – Church at Philippi
- ✓ Themes
 - Joyfulness
 - Spilling-out quality of Christ's life in us makes us happy
- 1) Joy of Christ (1)
- 2) Humility of Christ (2)

- 3) Goal of Christ (3)
- 4) Peace of Christ (4)

Colossians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 60-62
 - Audience – Church at Colossae
- ✓ Themes
 - Life “in Christ” or Christ as the center of life
- 1) Doctrine: Preeminence of Christ (1:1-2:23)
 - a) Exaltation of Christ (1:1-23)
 - b) Explanation of Wisdom (1:24-2:3)
 - c) Examination of Heresy (2:4-23)
- 2) Ethics: Identification with Christ (3:1-4:18)
 - a) Position in Christ (3:1-4:6)
 - b) Commendations and Greetings in Christ (4:7-18)

1 Thessalonians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 51
 - Audience – Church at Thessalonica
- ✓ Themes
 - Return of Christ
- 1) Example of the Believer (1:1-10)
- 2) Exhortation of the Believer (2:1-3:13)
- 3) Encouragement of the Believer (4:1-5:28)

2 Thessalonians

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 51
 - Audience – Church in Thessalonica
- ✓ Themes
 - Clarification of the return of Christ
 - Living with Christ’s return in mind
- 1) Revelation of Jesus Christ (1:1-12)
- 2) Rebellion of the Antichrist (2:1-17)
- 3) Responsibility of the Church (3:1-18)

1 Timothy

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 64
 - Audience - Timothy
- ✓ Themes
 - How to be a leader in the church
- 1) Church Instructions (1:1-3:16)
 - a) Defend the Faith (1:4-20)
 - b) Public Worship (2:1-15)
 - c) Church Leaders (3:1-16)
- 2) Personal Instructions (4:1-5:25)
 - a) Preach the Truth (4:1-15)
 - b) Pastoral Care (5:1-6:2)
 - c) Prescription for Leaders (6:3-21)

2 Timothy

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 66 (just before his execution)
 - Audience – Timothy (at Ephesus)
- ✓ Themes
 - How to be a leader in the church
 - Importance of developing leaders
- 1) Perseverance (1:1-18)
- 2) Propagation (2:1-26)
- 3) Perilous Times (3:1-9)
- 4) Perfect Word (3:10-17)
- 5) Precious Ministry (4:1-22)

Titus

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 63
 - Audience – Titus (and believers at Crete)
- ✓ Themes
 - How to be a leader in the church
 - Importance of a mentor
- 1) Task of Titus (1:1-16)
- 2) Teaching of Titus (2:1-15)
- 3) Testimony of Titus (3:1-15)

Philemon

- ✓ Background
 - Author – Paul
 - Date – AD 60-62
 - Audience – Philemon, at Colossae
 - ✓ Themes
 - Restoration of relationships
- 1) Concerning Onesimus (1)