



"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

Disciplemaking 1 - Abiding in His Word

LESSON 6 - THE NEW TESTAMENT... beyond the Gospels

"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Acts 1:8

At the Ascension in Acts 1, Jesus told His disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them and that they would be witnesses, starting where they were in Jerusalem ... then expanding into the surrounding areas of Judea and Samaria ... and then to the remotest part of the earth. They did receive power at Pentecost in Acts 2 and they became witnesses. The rest of the book of Acts recorded the expansion of their ministry into Jerusalem, into Judea and Samaria, and into the Gentile world and eventually Rome.

Peter and the other Apostles began in Jerusalem. The church grew by large numbers. Intense persecution, beginning at the stoning of Stephen, drove the early church into Judea, Samaria, and Galilee. Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus and Peter's vision opened the door for expansion to the Gentiles ... and eventually into the remotest part of the earth. The apostle James was executed.

The *first missionary journey* took Paul and Barnabas from Antioch through Southeast Asia Minor. After this trip, they and Peter attended the Jerusalem Council that recognized that Gentile new Believers did not have to be circumcised to be saved.

The *second missionary journey* took Paul and Silas from Antioch into Macedonia and Greece accompanied by Luke and Timothy. Because of a disagreement with Paul, Barnabas took John Mark on their own mission trip to the island of Cyprus.

The *third missionary journey* took Paul and his companions from Antioch through western Asia Minor. At the end of that trip, they returned to Jerusalem. Paul was arrested there and imprisoned in Caesarea. That gave Paul the opportunity to give the Gospel to Governors Felix and Festus ... and to King Agrippa.

Appealing his case to Caesar, Paul set sail as a prisoner to Rome on his *fourth missionary journey*. He was shipwrecked along the way ... giving him the opportunity to minister on the Island of Malta.

During his first Roman imprisonment, Paul ministered to many people while under house arrest for two years. He was released and revisited the churches. Paul was arrested a second time and held in a Roman prison. Then he was executed.

After Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD, the apostle John moved to Ephesus and then was exiled to Patmos where he wrote Revelation.

THE 27 BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT ... 5 – 9 – 4 – 9

The New Testament books are arranged in an easily understood order. There are five books of history, the Gospels and Acts ... nine letters from Paul to groups four letters from Paul to individuals ... and finally nine books by other writers. [5 - 9 - 4 - 9]

5 Books of history

The first four New Testament books deal with the life of Jesus Christ. Then Luke's account is continued in the book of Acts. This fifth book of history records what Jesus continued to do through His followers after the Ascension.

9 Letters from Paul to groups

Paul wrote nine letters to new churches to encourage, teach, and correct them. During his missionary trips, he wrote Galatians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, Romans, and 1 and 2 Corinthians. After these trips, during his first Roman imprisonment, he wrote Ephesians, Colossians, and Philippians. These nine books are titled according to the recipients of the letters.

4 Letters from Paul to individuals

Paul also wrote four letters to individuals. During his first imprisonment in Rome, he wrote to Philemon, a brother in the Colossian church. After Paul's release he wrote to two church leaders . . . to Timothy in Ephesus and then to Titus in Crete. Then during his final Roman imprisonment, just before his death, Paul wrote his last letter . . . to Timothy. These four books are titled according to the recipients of the letters.

9 Books by other writers

James [a half-brother of Jesus] and an unidentified author of Hebrews each wrote a letter to Jewish Believers. The seven remaining books include two by the apostle Peter, three by the apostle John, one by Jude [a half-brother of Jesus], and the apostle John's prophetic Revelation of Jesus Christ.

5 History Books

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts

9 Paul's Letters to groups

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians

4 Paul's Letters to individuals

1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

9 Books by others

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude
Revelation

27 Books total

THE BOOK OF ACTS - AN OUTLINE OF NEW TESTAMENT HISTORY

The author. Luke was a Gentile, a Greek, a doctor, historian of the early church, and missionary. He was Paul's companion from as early as the second missionary journey ... and as late as Paul's second Roman imprisonment. Luke wrote more of the New Testament than anyone else did if we assume that Paul did not write Hebrews.

The book of Acts is a continuation of Luke's Gospel ... and a record of the Apostles' obedience to the Great Commission. After Christ's Ascension in Acts 1 and the Holy Spirit's arrival at Pentecost in Acts 2, the Apostles went into action. Acts 2-7 records their ministry in Jerusalem where thousands believed in Jesus.

Persecution, beginning with the stoning of Stephen, forced the early Christians out of Jerusalem into Judea, Samaria, and Galilee. Compare Acts 1:8 to Acts 8:1. The oppressor Saul was converted on the road to Damascus ... and the door began to open to take the Gospel to the remotest part of the earth. Peter's vision opened the Apostles' hearts towards taking the Gospel to the Gentiles. Saul became the great Apostle Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles. In addition, the Apostle James was killed.

Paul's *first missionary journey* took him and Barnabas through Southeast Asia Minor. A dispute about the Gentile converts arose. Paul and Barnabas attended a council with Peter in Jerusalem to resolve the problem. The truth was recognized that new Gentile Believers did not have to be circumcised to be saved ... and that heresy was avoided. Paul and Silas left Antioch for the *second missionary journey* ... into Macedonia and Greece. Luke and Timothy were with them. Barnabas and John Mark split off from them at the beginning of that trip to take the Gospel to the island of Cyprus. Paul's *third missionary journey* took him and his companions through western Asia Minor. Then they went back to Jerusalem.

Paul was arrested in Jerusalem ... and then confined at Caesarea. Confined there, he told the Gospel to governors Felix and Festus and to King Agrippa. Paul exercised his right as a Roman citizen to appeal his case to Caesar. That set his course for Rome ... which was his *fourth missionary journey*. On his way to Rome he was shipwrecked on the Island of Malta, giving him an opportunity to minister there. Finally in Rome, he was under house arrest in his own rented quarters for two years. Large numbers of people came to him, and he told them of the Kingdom of God and about Jesus. And some believed.

Beyond the book of Acts. Paul was released from prison and ministered for a few years before he was put in a Roman prison. He apparently was executed in the mid-to-late 60's AD. The Apostle John's ministry continued beyond the other Apostles. When Jerusalem's destruction in 70 AD, John moved to Ephesus where he wrote 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John. When exiled to the Island of Patmos, he wrote Revelation.

ACTS ... THE EXPANSION OF THE EARLY CHURCH

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all of Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Acts 1 The Ascension ... Jesus went up to Heaven.

Acts 2 Pentecost ... the Holy Spirit came down.

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you..."

Acts 3-6 The Church went out into Jerusalem.

"and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem..."

Acts 7 Stephen gave his message and was martyred.

Acts 8 The Church went out into Judea and Samaria.

"and in all of Judea and Samaria..."

Acts 9-12 Paul was converted, Peter had a vision, James was killed.

Acts 13-14 Paul's first missionary journey ... to SE Asia Minor.

Acts 15 The Jerusalem circumcision council kept the Gospel pure.

Acts 15:36 Paul's second missionary trip ... to Macedonia and Greece.

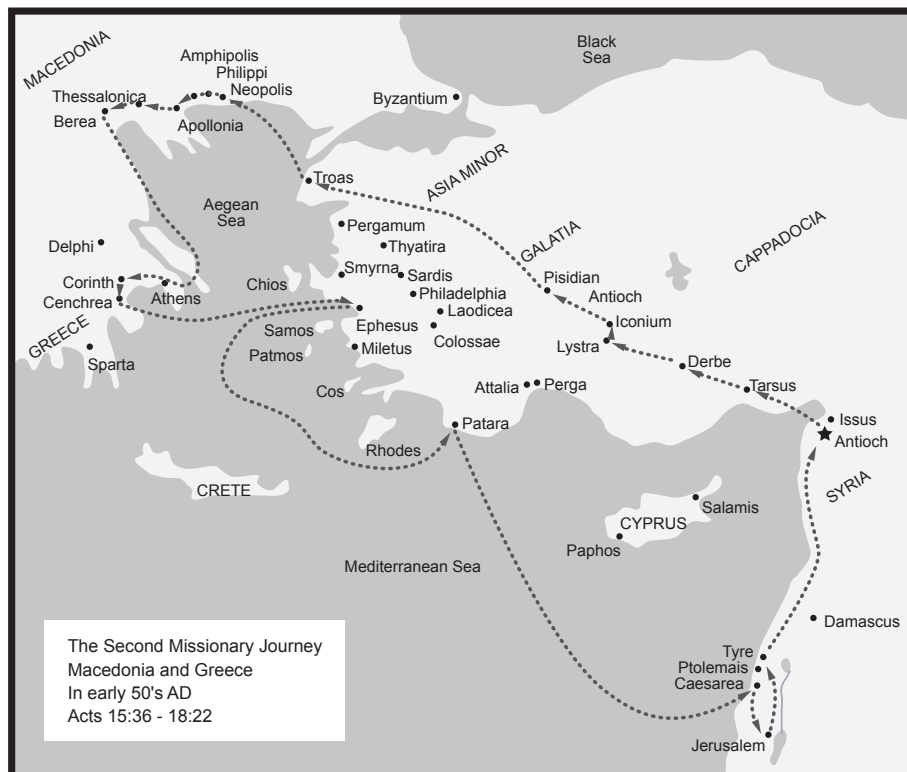
Acts 18:23 Paul's third missionary journey ... to western Asia Minor.

Acts 21:17 Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and confined in Caesarea.

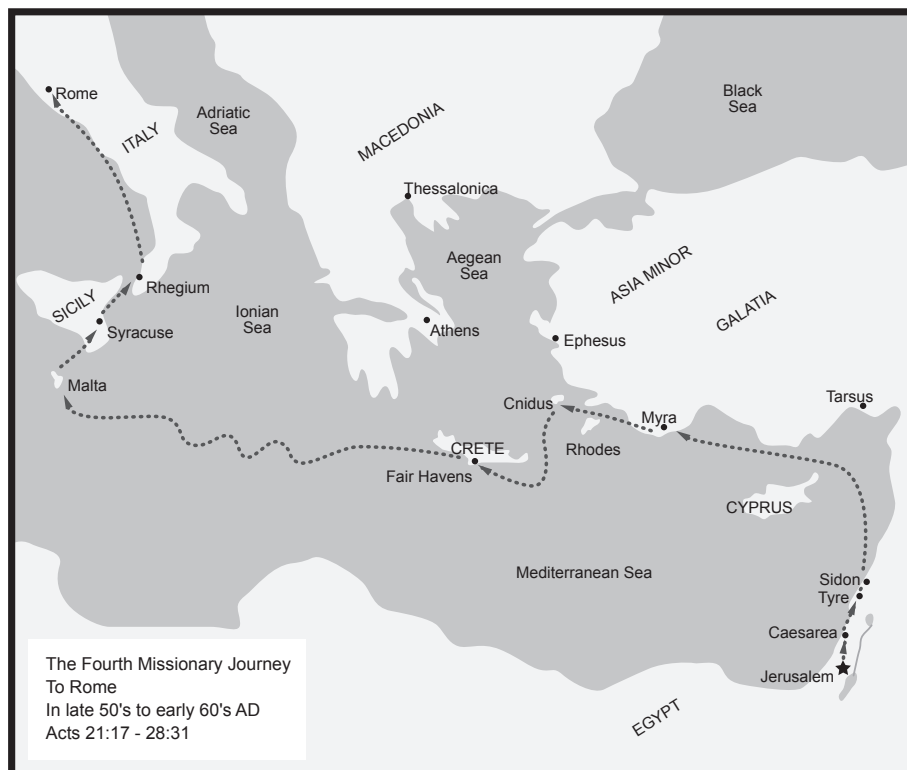
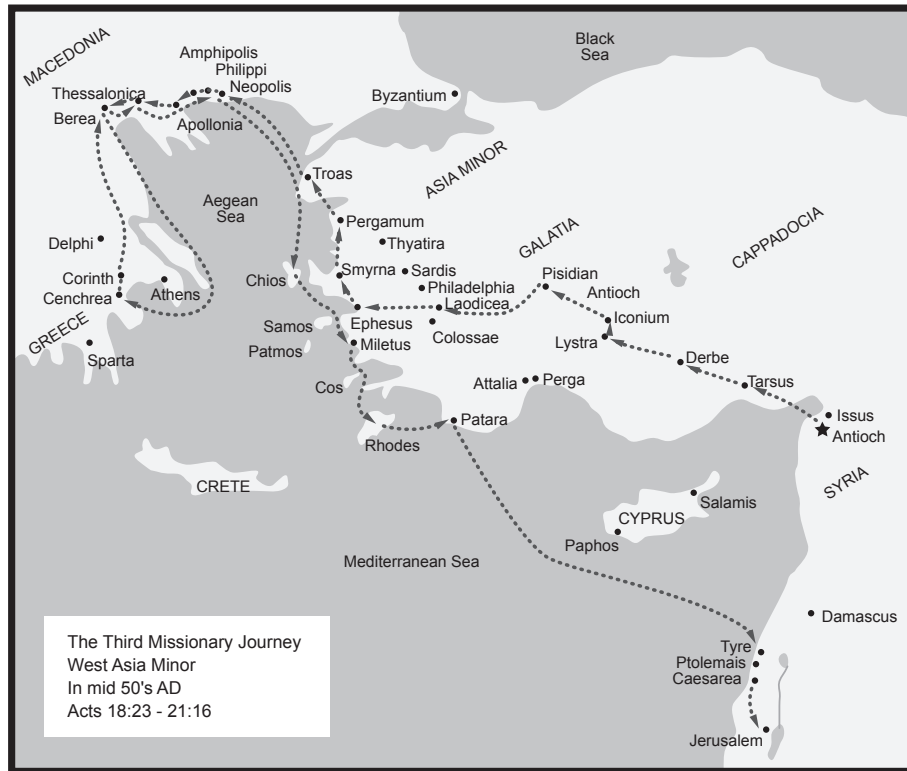
Acts 27-28 Paul's fourth missionary journey ... to Malta and Rome

"... and even to the remotest part of the earth." Acts 1:8

PAUL'S FIRST AND SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEYS



PAUL'S THIRD AND FOURTH MISSIONARY JOURNEYS



PAUL'S LETTERS TO GROUPS

The author. Saul of Tarsus was a highly educated Jew, a Pharisee, of the tribe of Benjamin. He was a Roman citizen by birth. This persecutor of the early church was converted after his experience on the road to Damascus. Also known as Paul [his Greek name] from Acts 13:9 on, he became a missionary to the Gentiles and author of 13 books of the New Testament.

Romans - Paul wrote this letter *to all who are beloved of God in Rome*. He wrote to them before he had visited their great city. This letter was written from Corinth, near the end of the third missionary journey in the mid-50's AD. The book of Romans is the most doctrinal and formal of Paul's letters. He wrote detailed foundational truth covering the subjects of sin [chapters 1-3] ... salvation [chapters 3-5] ... sanctification [chapters 6-8] ... sovereignty [chapters 9-11] ... and service [chapters 12-16].

1 Corinthians - This letter is written *to the church of God at Corinth*. It was a church founded on Paul's second missionary journey. The church was struggling in the midst of that very immoral port city. Paul wrote to them from Ephesus during his third missionary journey in the mid-50's AD. The worldliness of Corinth had infiltrated their church. Paul wrote about factions, sexual immorality, lawsuits, marriage, food, the Lord's Supper, and the use of spiritual gifts. Chapter 15 provides comprehensive teaching on the importance of the Resurrection of Jesus.

2 Corinthians - Apparently the Believers in Corinth had not responded favorably to Paul's first letter. He made a trip to see them. And he wrote another strong corrective letter to them. That letter is not included in the Bible. Following the repentance of the majority, Paul wrote another letter, 2 Corinthians, during his third missionary journey in the mid-50's AD from somewhere in Macedonia. Paul wrote of his joy that they had repented ... defended his character and his ministry ... taught on giving ... and defended his authority as an Apostle.

Galatians - Paul wrote this letter *to the churches of Galatia* [a region rather than just one city]. He had visited them on his first or second missionary journey. However, the date and location of the writing of this letter are unclear. The Believers in Galatia had been misled to mix the law [good works] into salvation. Paul strongly presented salvation by faith alone. He warned against the dangers of legalism. He also warned against license ... as he explained Christian liberty.

Ephesians - This letter was sent to the *saints who are at Ephesus*. Paul had been there on both his first and third missionary journeys. He wrote this letter to them from his first Roman imprisonment in the early 60's AD. Paul described the Believers' spiritual wealth ... chosen, sealed, saved by grace, and united in one Body of Believers. Then he exhorted them to walk worthy of the heavenly calling and position given to them in the Body. He described how to follow God in life, against sin, in the Spirit, at home, at work, and in the warfare.

Philippians - Paul wrote to *all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi*. He had been to Philippi during his second missionary journey. He wrote to them from his second Roman imprisonment in the mid-60's AD. Paul expressed his thankfulness for their consistent testimony ... and for their support of his ministry. He encouraged them to be at peace ... to be humble like Christ ... to be on guard ... and to rejoice.

Colossians - Paul wrote to *the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are at Colossae*. Epaphras, a convert during Paul's ministry in Ephesus, brought Christianity to Colossae. Philemon was part of their church. This letter was written during Paul's first Roman imprisonment in the early 60's AD. He stressed the deity and supremacy of Christ to correct the hybridizing effect of false teaching ... which had brought the bad influences of legalism, philosophy, and mysticism into the church. Paul wrote that Christ is supreme [chapters 1-2] and therefore, Believers should seek the things above and live accordingly [chapters 3-4].

1 Thessalonians - Paul wrote to *the church of the Thessalonians which was founded during his second missionary journey*. Persecution had forced Paul to leave them, Acts 17:1-10. He wrote from Corinth in the early 50's AD. Paul's personal comments about their ministry and about his own ministry gave examples of a walk worthy of the God who calls each believer. He exhorted them to withstand sexual temptation ... to lead quiet lives ... to work ... to be at peace about the return of Christ ... and to fulfill their duties toward spiritual leaders, in conduct, and in worship.

2 Thessalonians - Paul wrote this second letter to *the church of the Thessalonians* shortly after his first letter ... from Corinth in the early 50's AD. He encouraged them in growth and in endurance under persecution. Some had misunderstood his teaching on the return of Christ and had ceased their work, thinking the Day of the Lord had come. Paul wrote about the coming events of the last days. He commanded them to work if they expected to eat ... working and waiting as they lived holy lives.

PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS

Paul and people. Paul's letters followed a basic pattern. First, he presented personal concerns and greetings. Then he taught spiritual truth. Then he taught application of that truth. He concluded with personal comments. Paul's commitment to God's truth was equaled by his concern for people. He would give the truth ... then teach them to live the truth. Even in Romans, his most formal and doctrinal letter, he devoted an entire chapter [16] to personal greetings and concern. Paul was committed to the three things in life that last forever . . . God, God's Word, and people. The four letters described in this section are specifically focussed on his concern for Timothy, Titus, Philemon, and Philemon's runaway slave Onesimus.

1 Timothy - Paul wrote to Timothy as his *true child in the faith*. Timothy was the son of a Greek father and a Jewish mother ... and was associated with Paul from the second missionary journey. Paul left Timothy in Ephesus to oversee the ministry there. This letter was written in the early 60's AD after Paul's first Roman imprisonment. Paul instructed and encouraged Timothy to be a good leader. Many subjects are covered . . . prayer, women in the church, leaders, dangers and defenses, the older men and women, widows, elders, masters and slaves, false teachers, and money. Paul exhorted Timothy to *fight the good fight of faith*.

2 Timothy - Paul wrote this final letter in the mid to late 60's AD from his second imprisonment in Rome. He wrote it shortly before his death. This is an extremely personal letter from Paul to his *beloved son* Timothy. Paul encouraged Timothy to be strong . . . to not be ashamed . . . to minister faithfully . . . to stand true in the coming apostasy ... to do the work of an evangelist . . . and to fulfill his ministry.

TITUS - Paul wrote to Titus, his *true child in a common faith*, in the mid-60's AD after Paul's first Roman imprisonment. He left Titus in Crete to *set in order what remains* and to *appoint elders in every city*. Paul encouraged Titus to carry out that task. Paul taught Titus about elders ... about rebellious, empty talking, deceiving men ... and about older men, older women, younger men, younger women, and slaves. He wrote about subjection to governments, consideration for all men, false teachers, and salvation producing a people zealous for good works.

PHILEMON - Paul wrote this letter in the early 60's AD during his first Roman imprisonment. It is Paul's personal plea to his friend Philemon in Colossae. The slave Onesimus had run away from his master Philemon. Onesimus came to faith in Christ through Paul's ministry while Paul was in prison in Rome. Paul sent the new believer back to his master with this personal plea for forgiveness of the slave who had become a beloved brother. Paul offered to repay anything that Onesimus owed.

PIVOTAL EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF PAUL

	Paul's age	Reference
At Stephen's stoning	mid-30's	Acts 7-8
Persecuted the Early Church		Acts 8
Blinded on road to Damascus		Acts 9
Converted and healed		Acts 9
With Apostles in Jerusalem		Acts 9
Life threatened - sent to Tarsus		Acts 9
<i>... a gap ...</i>		Galatians 1:17 - 2:1
Retrieved by Barnabas	early 40's	Acts 11
Carried money to Jerusalem	mid-40's	Acts 11
Commissioned in Antioch		Acts 12-13
1st missionary journey	late-40's	Acts 13-14
2nd missionary journey	early 50's	Acts 15-18
3rd missionary journey	mid-50's	Acts 18-21
Arrested in Jerusalem	late-50's	Acts 21-23
Confined in Caesarea	~ 60	Acts 23-26
Sailed to Rome & Malta shipwreck	~ 60	Acts 27-28
House arrest in Rome	early-60's	Acts 28
Released to minister	mid-60's	beyond Acts
In Roman prison	late-60's	beyond Acts
Executed by Nero	~ 70?	beyond Acts

9 BOOKS BY 5 OTHER AUTHORS

The Authors. Five men authored the final nine books of the New Testament. The identity of the author of Hebrews is unknown to us. It was probably not Paul because the content is more Jewish than Paul's letters ... and because it uses a different vocabulary and is structurally different from Paul's writings. Hebrews was possibly written by Luke, Barnabas, or Silas. James [not the apostle] and Jude were half-brothers of Jesus ... each wrote one letter. Peter, the fisherman turned disciple, authored two letters. John, the fisherman and *disciple whom Jesus loved*, wrote his three letters and Revelation [the prophetic final book of the Bible].

Hebrews - This letter was written to Jewish Believers probably in the mid-to-late 60's AD. The author, location of writing, and original readers are unknown today. The theme is that the superior Christ gives us a superior life in Christ. Jesus is presented as better than the prophets ... better than the angels ... better than Moses ... better than Joshua ... and better than the Levitical priests. This eternal superior priest made a superior sacrifice. Moreover, He gave us an eternal, superior life with Him.

James - This book was addressed to *the twelve tribes* [Jewish Tribes] *who were scattered abroad*. It is an early New Testament book, written in the late-40's AD. James wrote practical instruction in everyday Christian living. He covered trials and temptations ... being a doer of the Word ... not showing personal favoritism ... and turning faith into works. He also gave instruction on the use of the tongue ... using wisdom from above ... and not being worldly. James concluded his letter, pointing out the power of prayer.

1 Peter and 2 Peter - These two letters, written in the mid-60's AD, deal with the difficulties and dangers facing Christians. External opposition to the Body is explained in 1 Peter and 2 Peter covers opposition from inside the Body.

In 1 Peter, he pointed out that salvation gives new hope in the face of outside persecution. He exhorted his readers to, "*Gird your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*" He continued with instruction in holiness, fear of God, love for one another, growth, submission, suffering, and service.

In 2 Peter, he attacked the problem of *internal* opposition. He stressed the need for continued growth rooted in Jesus Christ and in the Word of God. He wrote against false teachers ... reminding the readers to expect them in the last days before the return of Jesus Christ. Peter exhorted them to look for His promised return and to be diligent to be found holy at His return.

9 BOOKS BY 5 OTHER AUTHORS ... continued

1 John - This book explains that Believers can know that they have eternal life. John wrote that Believers should live in light rather than darkness ... in forgiveness and obedience rather than sin ... in love rather than hate ... and in assurance rather than fear. John's letters were written around 90 AD ... probably from Ephesus.

2 John - This short note to the *chosen lady and her children*, exhorted them to love one another ... obey God's commandments ... and be on guard against false teachers, showing them no hospitality.

3 John - This is a note to John's friend Gaius. John commented on the good report that he had received about Gaius. John also wrote a strong criticism of Diotrephes.

Jude - This was written between the mid-60's and late-70's AD. This short letter was a strong appeal to *contend earnestly for the faith* because of the dangers from false teachers. Jude wrote that they *have crept in unnoticed ... and are hidden reefs ...* grumblers, lustful, arrogant, and flatterers for the sake of gain. Such false teachers should be expected in the last days. Jude exhorted the Believers to walk obediently.

Revelation - John's final book is the concluding book of the New Testament. He wrote it during his exile on the Island of Patmos in the 90's AD. The outline of the book is, "*The things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall take place after these things,*" Revelation 1:19. Chapter 1 contains, "*The things which you have seen*". Then, "*The things which are*" includes the letters to the seven churches in chapters 2 and 3. Then chapters 4-22 record "*The things which shall take place after these things.*" In these later chapters, John wrote about the Throne and the Book in Heaven, the seven seals, the seven trumpets, and the seven bowls of judgment. These chapters describe the return of Christ, the Millennium, the White Throne Judgement, and the New Heaven and New Earth. In the last verses of Revelation the words of Jesus tell us, "*Yes, I am coming quickly.*" And John added his "*Amen*" and the prayer, "*Come, Lord Jesus.*"

OTHER BOOKS ... No other religious books written today or in earlier times are God-breathed as are the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. No other religious writings, Christian or otherwise, are equal to the Bible or superior to the Bible. And any church or church leader who proclaims anything contrary to the Bible does not speak for God. Such people should take heed of this warning from Jesus, "*Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.' Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men,*" Mark 7:6-8.

NEW TESTAMENT FLOWCHART



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Disciplemaking 1 - Review Questions

Lesson 6 - The New Testament ... pages 81 - 93

Part of learning is review ... storing new knowledge into your long term memory. Print this review test or use separate paper to answer the following questions. Then repeat this test, open book or closed book, until you can accurately and easily answer all the questions. These *review exams* are available with correct answers on VirtualBibleAcademy.org.

MULTIPLE CHOICES TO COMPLETE ALL STATEMENTS 1 - 19 BELOW

Antioch	Crete	Patmos
Ascension	Early Church	Persecuted
Baptism	Egypt	Power
Baptized	Galilee	Remotest part of the Earth
Bible	Instructions	Resurrection
Caesarea	Jerusalem	Rome
Circumcision	Judea & Samaria	Southeast Asia Minor
Coliseum	Macedonia & Greece	West Asia Minor
Corinth	Malta	Witnesses

1. The book of Acts begins with the _____ .
2. At that time, Jesus told the disciples that they would receive _____ .
3. At that time, Jesus told the disciples that they would be _____ .
4. Jesus said that they would do that starting in _____
5. ... *and* then into _____
6. ... *and* finally into the _____ .
7. Acts records the expansion of the Gospel starting in _____ .
8. ... *and* then into _____ .
9. ... *and* finally to the _____ .

10. Acts ends with Paul in rented quarters in _____ .
11. Paul's First Missionary Journey went through _____ .
12. Peter and Paul settled an early conflict at the Council in _____ .
13. ... where they discussed salvation and _____ .
14. Paul's Second Missionary Journey went into _____ .
15. Paul was shipwrecked on the Island of _____ .
16. Paul's Third Missionary Journey went into _____ .
17. Paul witnessed to Felix and Festus while under arrest in _____ .
18. Paul was in prison twice in _____ .
19. The Apostle John was exiled on the Island of _____ .
20. The answer to this question is a number.
Which one of the answers 11-19 is out of chronological order? _____ .

Disciplemaking 1 - Answers to Review Questions

Lesson 6 - The New Testament ... questions pages 94 - 95

Do not use these answer sheets to find your answers. Please use them only to check your answers. Go back into the lesson to find the information to correct your answers. Repeat the test until you can accurately and easily answer all the questions. All the lessons, review tests, and answer pages are available on VirtualBibleAcademy.org.

MULTIPLE CHOICES TO COMPLETE ALL STATEMENTS 1 - 19 BELOW

Antioch	Crete	Patmos
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1. The book of Acts begins with the Ascension.
2. At that time, Jesus told the disciples that they would receive power.
3. At that time, Jesus told the disciples that they would be witnesses.
4. Jesus said that they would do that starting in: Jerusalem
5. ... *and* then into Judea and Samaria
6. ... *and* finally into the remotest part of the Earth.
7. Acts records the expansion of the Gospel starting in Jerusalem.
8. ... *and* then into Judea and Samaria
9. ... *and* finally to the remotest part of the Earth.

10. Acts ends with Paul in rented quarters in Rome.
11. Paul's First Missionary Journey went through Southeast Asia Minor.
12. Peter and Paul settled an early conflict at the Council in Jerusalem.
13. ... where they discussed salvation and Circumcision.
14. Paul's Second Missionary Journey went into Macedonia and Greece.
15. Paul was shipwrecked on the Island of Malta.
16. Paul's Third Missionary Journey went into West Asia Minor.
17. Paul witnessed to Felix and Festus while under arrest in Caesarea.
18. Paul was in prison twice in Rome.
19. The Apostle John was exiled on the Island of Patmos.
20. The answer to this question is a number.
Which one of the answers 11-19 is out of chronological order? 15.