

New Testament



#	Book	Chapters	Length of Time
			Listening/Reading
1	Matthew	28	2 hours 20 minutes
2	Mark	16	1 hour 25 minutes
3	Luke	24	2 hours 25 minutes
4	John	21	1 hour 55 minutes
5	Acts	28	2 hours 15 minutes
6	Romans	16	1 hour 5 minutes
7	1 Corinthians	16	1 hour
8	2 Corinthians	13	40 minutes
9	Galatians	6	21 minutes
10	Ephesians	6	19 minutes
11	Philippians	4	14 minutes
12	Colossians	4	13 minutes
13	1 Thessalonians	5	12 minutes
14	2 Thessalonians	3	7 minutes
15	1 Timothy	6	16 minutes
16	2 Timothy	4	12 minutes
17	Titus	3	7 minutes
18	Philemon	1	3 minutes
19	Hebrews	13	45 minutes
20	James	5	16 minutes
21	1 Peter	5	16 minutes
22	2 Peter	3	11 minutes
23	1 John	5	16 minutes
24	2 John	1	2 minutes
25	3 John	1	2 minutes
26	Jude	1	4 minutes
27	Revelation	22	1 hour 15 minutes

Matthew

Author: Matthew

Date: AD 50-60

Audience: Jewish Christians in Palestine

Chapters: 28

Theme: Jesus is the Christ (Messiah), King of the Jews

People: Joseph, Mary (mother of Jesus), Wise men (magi), Herod the Great, John the Baptizer, Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Matthew, Herod Antipas, Herodias, Caiaphas, Mary of Bethany, Pilate, Barabbas, Simon of Cyrene, Judas Iscariot, Mary Magdalene, Joseph of Arimathea

Places: Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Egypt, Nazareth, Judean wilderness, Jordan River, Capernaum, Sea of Galilee, Decapolis, Gadarenes, Chorazin, Bethsaida, Tyre, Sidon, Caesarea Philippi, Jericho, Bethany, Bethphage, Gethsemane, Cyrene, Golgotha, Arimathea.

Written From: Palestine or Syria

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to prove that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah and the gospel was for all nations – even Gentiles (Matthew 28:19, 20).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Incarnation and Early Preparation of Jesus (1:1 – 4:11)
- II. Jesus's Ministry in Galilee (4:12 – 18:35)
- III. Jesus's Ministry in Perea (19:1 – 20:16)
- IV. Jesus's Ministry in Judea (20:17 - 34)
- V. Jesus's Ministry in Jerusalem (21:1 - 25:46)
- VI. The Passion and Death of Jesus (26:1 – 27:66)
- VII. The Resurrection of Jesus (28:1 – 17)
- VIII. The Great Commission (28:18 – 20)

Mark

Author: John Mark

Date: AD 50-60

Audience: Gentile Christians in Rome

Chapters: 16

Theme: Jesus the Christ, Servant of the Lord

People: John the Baptizer, Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Matthew (Levi), Jairus, brothers of Jesus (James, Joses, Judas, and Simon), Herod Antipas, Herodias, Bartimaeus, Mary of Bethany, Judas Iscariot, Caiaphas, Pilate, Barabbas, Simon of Cyrene, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene

Places: Judean wilderness, Jordan River, Nazareth, Galilee, Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Tyre, Sidon, Jerusalem, Decapolis, Dalmanutha, Bethsaida, Caesarea Philippi, Jericho, Bethphage, Bethany, Mount of Olives, Gethsemane, Cyrene, Golgotha, Arimathea

Written From: Rome

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to show the world what the perfect servant of God does to please God.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Preparation of Jesus's Ministry (1:1 - 13)
- II. Jesus's Ministry in Galilee (1:14 – 9:50)
- III. Jesus's Journey to Jerusalem (10:1 – 52)
- IV. Jesus's Ministry in Jerusalem (11:1 – 13:37)
- V. The Passion and Death of Jesus (14:1 – 15:47)
- VI. The Resurrection of Jesus (16:1 – 13)
- VII. The Great Commission (16:14 – 20)

Luke

Author: Luke

Date: AD 60-61

Audience: Theophilus (and other Gentiles – in Rome?)

Chapters: 24

Theme: Jesus, Son of Man - Savior of the Gentiles

People: Zacharias, Elizabeth, Gabriel, Mary, Simeon, Anna, John the Baptizer, Simon Peter, James, John, Matthew (Levi), Simon the Pharisee, Mary Magdalene, Jairus, Mary, Martha, Zacchaeus, Judas Iscariot, Herod Antipas, Simon of Cyrene, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene, Cleopas

Places: Herod's temple, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Judean wilderness, Jordan River, Galilee, Capernaum, Lake of Gennesaret, Tyre, Sidon, Nain, Gerasenes (Gadarenes or Gergesenes)

Written From: Rome?, Palestine?, or Asia Minor?

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to write an orderly account for most excellent Theophilus, that he may have certainty concerning the things he had been taught concerning all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. (Luke 1:3b-4; Acts 1:1, 2)

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Prologue (1:1 – 4)
- II. The Incarnation of Jesus (1:5 – 2:52)
- III. The Preparation of Jesus's Ministry (3:1 – 4:15)
- IV. Jesus's Ministry in Galilee (4:16 – 9:50)
- V. Jesus's Journey to Jerusalem (9:51 – 19:27)
- VI. Jesus's Ministry in Jerusalem (19:28 – 21:38)
- VII. The Passion and Death of Jesus (22:1 – 23:56)
- VIII. The Resurrection of Jesus (24:1 – 53)

John

Author: John

Date: AD 80-90

Audience: Christians of Asia Minor (Modern day Turkey)

Chapters: 21

Theme: Jesus the Christ is Divine (God)

People: John the Baptizer, Andrew, John, Simon Peter, Philip, Nathanael (Bartholomew), Mary, Nicodemus, Judas Iscariot, Lazarus, Mary, Marth, Thomas, Caiaphas, Malchus, Annas, Barabbas, Pilate, Joseph of Arimathea, Mary Magdalene

Places: Aenon, Jordan River, Bethsaida, Cana, Capernaum, Samaria, Sychar, Galilee, Judea, Jerusalem, Bethesda, Sea of Galilee, Pool of Siloam, Solomon's porch, Bethany, Ephraim, Kidron Brook, Gethsemane, Gabbatha, Golgotha, Arimathea

Written From: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned so that all may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing all may have life in his name. (John 20:31)

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Prologue (1:1 – 18)
- II. The Teaching and Signs of the Messiah (1:19 – 12:50)
- III. Jesus's Teachings to His Disciples (13:1 – 17:26)
- IV. The Passion and Death of Jesus (18:1 – 19:42)
- V. The Resurrection of Jesus (20:1 – 21:25)

Acts

Author: Luke

Date: AD 61-62

Audience: Theophilus (and other Gentiles – in Rome?)

Chapters: 28

Theme: The Spread of the Gospel of Christ to the World

People: Luke, Theophilus, Peter, Matthias, John, Annas, Caiaphas, Ananias, Sapphira, Barnabas, Gamaliel, Stephen, Philip, Simon the sorcerer, Eunuch from Ethiopia, Saul of Tarsus, Aeneas, Dorcas (Tabitha), Cornelius, Agabus, Herod Agrippa, James the apostle, Rhoda, Elymas (Bar-jesus), Sergius Paulus, John Mark, James (brother of Jesus), Silas, Timothy, Lydia, Epicureans, Stoics, Aquila, Priscilla, Gallio, Apollos, Demetrius, Eutychus, Felix, Festus, King Agrippa, Julius, Publius

Places: Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Akeldama, Beautiful Gate, Solomon's Porch, Samaria, Gaza desert, Damascus, Lydda, Joppa, Caesarea, Antioch of Syria, Cyprus, Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe, Troas, Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Miletus, Tyre, Fair Havens, Malta, Rome

Written From: Rome?

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to provide a history of the origin of the church and offer a defense for the Christian belief (faith). [Some have argued that it (along with Luke) could have aided as a defense for Paul before the Roman court.] It shows how the church fulfilled Jesus's promise that they would be His witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (1:8).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Witness in Jerusalem (1:1 – 8:3)
- II. Witness in Judea and Samaria (8:4 – 12:25)
- III. Witness to the End of the Earth (13:1 – 28:31)

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1. Paul's 1st Missionary Journey (Acts 13:1 – 14:28)
 2. Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36 – 18:22)
 3. Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey (Acts 18:23 – 21:17)
 4. Paul's Journey to Rome (Acts 27:1 – 28:31)

Romans

Author: Paul

Date: AD 55-56

Audience: Jewish-Gentile Christians in Rome

Chapters: 16

Theme: The Righteousness of God Revealed in the Gospel

People: Paul, Phoebe, Priscilla, Aquila, Epaphroditus, Mary, Andronicus, Junia, Amplias, Urbanus, Stachys, Apelles, Aristobolus, Herodion, Narcissus, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis, Rufus, Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, Philologus, Julia, Nereus, Olympas, Timothy, Lucius, Jason, Sospater, Tertius, Gaius, Erastus, and Quartus

Places: Rome, Spain, Cenchrea, and Achaia

Written From: Corinth (Greece)

Bearer of the Letter: Phoebe (Romans 16:1–2)

Church Established By: Unknown (possibly some who had attended Jerusalem at Pentecost when the church began (Acts 2:10) or perhaps when the church dispersed after the stoning of Stephen (Acts 8:1–4)).

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to prepare them for his visit and to address the tension between the Gentile and Jewish Christians. Also, the Gentiles who were in the majority needed to exude humility toward the Jewish Christians – realizing their spiritual roots.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Righteousness Revealed (1:1 – 11:36)
- II. Righteousness Applied (12:1 – 15:13)

1 Corinthians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 55-56

Audience: the church of God, which is at Corinth

Chapters: 16

Theme: Sanctification

People: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, Stephanas, Fortunatus, Achaicus, Aquila, and Priscilla

Places: Corinth, Ephesus, Achaia, and Asia Minor

Written From: Ephesus (1 Corinthians 16:8, 9, 10)

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Act 18: 1–17)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to correct a misunderstood previous letter (1 Cor 5:9); to address news he had received from the household of Chloe (1 Cor 1:11); and to answer questions they had written to him about (1 Cor 7:1; 8:1; 12:1; 15:1(?), and 16:1). Maybe some questions were brought to him from the congregation when Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus came to see him as well (16:17).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Reported Problems by Chloe's Household (1:1 – 6:20)
- II. Reported Problems in Letter Written from Corinth (7:1 – 16:24)

2 Corinthians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 55-56

Audience: the church of God which is at Corinth

Chapters: 13

Theme: Reconciliation; Sufficiency of God's Grace

People: Paul, Timothy, Silvanus, and Titus

Places: Corinth, Macedonia, Troas, and Damascus

Written From: Macedonia

Bearer of the Letter: Titus and brothers (2 Corinthians 8:16–24)

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Act 18: 1–17)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to defend Paul's apostleship; to prepare them for his visit (13:10), to encourage them to have their collection for poor saints in Jerusalem ready when he comes (9:1–5). Also, Paul answers those who are questioning his authority as an apostle (1:1–7:16).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Paul's Defense of His Apostleship (1:1 – 7:16)
- II. Collection for the Saints in Jerusalem (8:1 – 9:15)
- III. Paul's Defense of His Apostolic Authority (10:1 – 13:14)

Galatians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 49-50

Audience: the churches of Galatia (southern regions of Roman province)

Chapters: 6

Theme: Freedom in Christ

People: Paul, James (brother of Jesus), Titus, Peter, Cephas, and Barnabas

Places: Galatia, Jerusalem, and Antioch

Written From: Antioch in Syria? Or Corinth? Or Ephesus?

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Acts 13:14-14:23)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to refute the Judaizing false teachers who were perverting the gospel of Christ by teaching that Gentile Christians need to be circumcised. Also, he defends his authority as an apostle of Jesus Christ.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Paul's Defense of His Apostleship (1:1 – 2:21)
- II. Paul's Defense of Justification by Faith (3:1 – 4:31)
- III. Paul's Defense of Christian Liberty by the Gospel (5:1 – 6:18)

Ephesians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 60-62

Audience: the saints who are in Ephesus (and other churches in the area)

Chapters: 6

Theme: Preeminence of the church

People: Paul and Tychicus

Places: Ephesus

Written From: Rome (the two years while under house arrest cf. Acts 28:14b, 16; 30–31)

Bearer of the Letter: Tychicus and Onesimus (Eph 6:21–22; Col 4:7–8; Philemon 1:10–12)

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Acts 18:18–19; 19:1,10; 20:31; 19:1-7; 19:9-10; 19:23–20:1)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned as a circulation letter designed to enlighten the Christians in the area concerning Christ and his church – the reconciliation of Jews and Gentiles in one body (the church).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Unity of the Church in Christ (1:1 – 3:21)
- II. Unity of the Church - Practiced in Christ (4:1 – 6:24)

Philippians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 60-62

Audience: all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi

Chapters: 4

Theme: Joy in Christ

People: Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus, Euodia, Syntyche, and Clement

Places: Philippi

Written From: Rome (the two years while under house arrest cf. Acts 28:14b, 16; 30–31)

Bearer of the Letter: Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25–30)

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Acts 16:13–15; 25–34)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to thank them for monetary gifts received from Epaphroditus (4:10, 18); to inform them of his hope to send Epaphroditus back to them (who had been sick) and his desire to soon send Timothy to them (2:19-30).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Paul's Reflection on His Imprisonment in Rome (1:1 – 26)
- II. Paul's Exhortation for Humility (1:27 – 2:18)
- III. Paul's Warnings against Opponents (3:1 – 21)
- IV. Paul Encourages Unity and Joy (4:1 – 23)

Colossians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 60-62

Audience: saints and faithful brethren in Christ in Colossae

Chapters: 4

Theme: Preeminence of Christ

People: Paul, Timothy, Epaphras, Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Mark (Marcus), Barnabas, Jesus (Justus), Luke, Demas, Nympha (or Nymphas), Archippus, and Scythians

Places: Colossae, Laodicea, and Hierapolis

Written From: Rome

Bearer of the Letter: Tychicus and Onesimus (Eph 6:21–22; Col 4:7–8; Philemon 1:10–12)

Church Established By: Epaphras? (cf. Col 1:5–8; 4:12–13)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to address some sort of heresy that seemed to be a mixture of Jewish asceticism and Greek philosophy (commonly called -The Colossian Heresy) and show that Jesus Christ is preminent of everyone and everything – even angels.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Preeminence of Christ (1:1 - 2:7)
- II. The Colossian Hersey (2:8 – 23)
- III. Christian Living (3:1 – 4:18)

1 Thessalonians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 51-52

Audience: church of the Thessalonians in God and Christ

Chapters: 5

Theme: The Return of the Lord

People: Paul, Silvanus, Timothy, Aristarchus, Secundus, and Jason

Places: Thessalonica, Macedonia, and Achaia

Written From: Corinth

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Ac 17:1–18:11)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned because Paul's visit was cut short and needed to encourage them (being a young church); to correct misunderstandings concerning Christ's second coming; and to admonish them to live holy lives. It had learned about their state from Timothy (1 Thessalonians 3:1–6).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Paul's Personal Relationship to the Thessalonians (1:1–3:13)
- II. Paul's Instructions for Godly Living and Exhortation Concerning the Second Coming (4:1–5:28)

2 Thessalonians

Author: Paul

Date: AD 51-52

Audience: church of the Thessalonians in God and Christ

Chapters: 3

Theme: The Day of the Lord Has Not Come

People: Paul, Silas, and Timothy

Places: Thessalonica

Written From: Corinth

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Ac 17:1–18:11)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to correct misunderstandings related to Christ's second coming which seems to be the result of a *forged* letter (2:2). Also, to admonish those who had apparently stopped working, to gain employment and not rely on others to take care of them (3:10).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Encouragement for the Persecuted Christians (1:1 – 12)
- II. Correction Concerning the Day of the Lord (2:1 – 17)
- III. Admonishment Relating to Christian Living (3:1 – 18)

1 Timothy

Author: Paul

Date: AD 62-64

Audience: Timothy and Christians in Ephesus

Chapters: 6

Theme: Godly Leadership Who Can Fight Error

People: Paul, Timothy, Hymenaeus, and Alexander

Places: Macedonia and Ephesus

Written From: Macedonia

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Ephesian church – Acts 18:18–19; 19:1,10; 20:31; 19:1-7; 19:9-10; 19:23–20:1)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to urge Timothy when Paul was going to Macedonia, to remain at Ephesus so that he may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith (1:3, 4). Also, if Paul was delayed, that Timothy may know how they ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God (3:15)

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Instructions Concerning Confronting False Teaching (1:1 – 20)
- II. Instructions Concerning Worship and Leadership (2:1 – 3:16)
- III. Instructions Concerning Apostasy and Timothy's Responsibility (4:1 – 16)
- IV. Instructions Concerning Certain Members in the Church (5:1 – 6:21)

2 Timothy

Author: Paul

Date: AD 64-67

Audience: Timothy

Chapters: 4

Theme: Preach the Word

People: Paul, Timothy, Lois, Eunice, Phygellus, Hermogenes, Onesiphorus, Hymenaeus, Philetus, Jannes, Jambres, Demas, Luke, John Mark, Crescens, Titus, Luke, Tychicus, Carpus, Alexander the coppersmith, Prisca, Aquila, Erastus, Trophimus, Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, and Claudia

Places: Rome, Thessalonica, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Galatia, Dalmatia, Ephesus, Troas, Corinth, and Miletus

Written From: Rome

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Ephesian church – Acts 18:18–19; 19:1,10; 20:31; 19:1-7; 19:9-10; 19:23–20:1)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned as a dying request of Paul to request Timothy to come to him in Rome; and to encourage Timothy in the work of the ministry – to Preach the Word at all times.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Instructions on Faithful Endurance (1:1 – 2:26)
- II. Instructions on Healthy Doctrine (3:1 – 4:22)

Titus

Author: Paul

Date: AD 62-64

Audience: Titus

Chapters: 3

Theme: Adhering to Sound (Healthy) Doctrine

People: Paul, Titus, Artemas, Tychicus, Zenas, and Apollos

Places: Crete and Nicopolis

Written From: Unknown, Corinth?, Philippi?, Asia Minor?

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul

The Book in Miniature:

Penned so that Titus might put what remained in order in Crete and appoint elders in every town as Paul directed him (1:5, cf., Acts 14:21–23). Titus was also commanded to address false teachers and to instruct the new Christians in Crete that the gospel message commanded godly living.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Instructions Concerning Setting Things in Order (1:1 – 16)
- II. Instructions Concerning False Teachers (2:1 – 3:15)

Philemon

Author: Paul

Date: AD 60-62

Audience: Philemon

Chapters: 1

Theme: Forgiveness

People: Paul, Philemon, Timothy, Apphia, Archippus, Onesimus, Epaphras, Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke

Places: Rome and Colossae

Written From: Rome

Bearer of the Letter: Tychicus and Onesimus (Eph 6:21-22; Col 4:7-8; Philemon 1:10-12)

Church Established By: Philemon as likely a member of the church at Colossae (cf. Philemon 1:1-2, Colossians 4:17) planted by Epaphras (cf. Col 1:5-8; 4:12-13).

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage Philemon to forgive Onesimus - his runaway slave who had apparently stolen from Philemon but had met Paul in Rome and had obeyed the gospel (Philemon 1:10). He tells Philemon to receive Onesimus now as a brother in Christ. Paul promised to pay what was owed to Philemon.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Paul's Thanksgiving (1 - 7)
- II. Paul's Plea for Onesimus (8 - 25)

Hebrews

Author: Unknown

Date: AD 64-67

Audience: Jewish Christians

Chapters: 13

Theme: The Superiority of Christ and the New Covenant

People: Timothy, Moses, Melchizedek, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Esau, Rahab, Abel, Cain, Enoch, Noah, Joseph, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel,

Places: The Old Testament Tabernacle, Ancient Egypt, Red Sea, Jericho,

Written From: Unknown; Italy? (cf. Hebrews 13:24)

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Col 1:5-8; 4:12-13)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage Christians not to abandon Christianity for Judaism and to endure persecution. This is done by showing the superiority of Christ and the New Covenant over the Old Covenant laws and system.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Superiority of Christ to Prophets, Angels, Moses, Aaron and Priesthood (1:1 - 8:6)
- II. The Superiority of the New Covenant to the Old Covenant (8:7 - 10:18)
- III. Admonishment to Endure (10:19 - 13:25)

James

Author: James (brother of Jesus)

Date: AD 44-49

Audience: Twelve Tribes Scattered Abroad (Jewish Christians)

Chapters: 5

Theme: Faith that Works

People: James, Abraham, Rahab, Job, and Elijah

Places: Mount Moriah, Jericho, and Mount Carmel

Written From: Jerusalem

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: These Are Dispersed Christians throughout the Roman Empire

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage poverty-stricken Christians to endure persecution. James calls his readers to maturity as it relates to enduring trials and resisting temptations.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Endure Trials and Temptations (1:1 - 18)
- II. Applying the Word (1:19 - 2:26)
- III. Taming the Tongue and True Wisdom (3:1 - 18)
- IV. Warnings against Worldliness and those Who Are Rich (4:1 - 5:20)

1 Peter

Author: Peter

Date: AD 62-64

Audience: Jewish-Gentile Christians (scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia)

Chapters: 5

Theme: Stand Firm in the Grace of God in the Midst of Suffering

People: Peter, Silas, Sarah, and Mark

Places: Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia, and Babylon

Written From: Rome? (cf. 1 Peter 5:13 – called Babylon)

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul and perhaps churches planted by converts of Paul – see Acts and Acts 16:6-7 in relation to Bithynia

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage Christians in Asia Minor to endure persecution. Peter reminds and instructs his readers on how a holy nation (the church) should conduct themselves in the midst of persecution. If anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name (4:16).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Our Hope and Salvation in Christ (1:1 – 12)
- II. Our Duty to Live Godly and Holy Lives while Suffering for Christ (1:13 – 5:13)

2 Peter

Author: Peter

Date: AD 64-67

Audience: Jewish-Gentile Christians

Chapters: 3

Theme: Beware of False Teachers, Grow - Grace/Knowledge

People: Simon Peter, Noah, Lot, Balaam, and Paul

Places: Sodom and Gomorrah,

Written From: Rome

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Paul (cf. Col 1:5-8; 4:12-13)

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage Christians in Asia Minor to continue to endure persecution. Peter's death was imminent (1:13 - 14) and he wanted to remind them of truths that they had already been taught (1:12 - 15; 3:1) and stand firm in the truth. They should live godly lives in view of Christ's return (3:11).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of Jesus Christ (1:1 - 21)
- II. Beware of False Teachers (2:1 - 22)
- III. The Day of the Lord Will Surely Come (3:1 - 18)

1 John

Author: John

Date: AD 90-95

Audience: Mostly Gentile Christians (some Jewish) (circular letter)

Chapters: 5

Theme: Maintaining Fellowship with Christ

People: John and Cain

Places: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

Written From: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Not Applicable

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage Christians that Jesus had come in the flesh and to warn them against false teachers who had left the church (2:19). He informs them how to recognize truth versus error (4:1-3). John deals with several different themes in this writing, which makes it difficult to organize the book in an orderly fashion.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Fellowship with God (1:1 - 2:17)
- II. False Teachers (2:18 - 27)
- III. Living as God's Children (2:28 - 3:10)
- IV. Dwell in Love - for God is Love (3:11 - 4:21)
- V. Overcoming the World - Faith, Love, and Obedience (5:1 - 21)

2 John

Author: John

Date: AD 90-95

Audience: Christian Lady or Congregation (Asia Minor)

Chapters: 1

Theme: Do Not Support (Fellowship with) False Teachers

People: John

Places: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

Written From: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Not Applicable

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to encourage Christians to continue to walk in truth (1:4) and warn them to exercise discernment when offering hospitality to gospel preachers. False teachers were teaching things other than the teachings of Christ (1:8 - 11).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Rejoicing That They are Walking in Truth (1:1 - 6)
- II. Admonishes Them to Abide in the Truth and Watch Out for Deceivers Who Do Not Walk in Truth (1:1 - 13)

3 John

Author: John

Date: AD 90-95

Audience: Christian named Gaius (Asia Minor)

Chapters: 1

Theme: Fellowship with Truth

People: John, Gaius, Diotrephes, and Demetrius

Places: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

Written From: Ephesus (Asia Minor)

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Not Applicable

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to commend Gaius for supporting teachers/preachers of the gospel - even though he did not know them (1:5). John condemns the actions of Diotrephes who does not acknowledge John's authority (1:9, 10), but he commends the example of Demetrius (1:12). He wants all to display hospitality to messengers of the truth.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Commendation of Gaius (1:1 - 8)
- II. Condemnation of Diotrephes (1:9 - 10)
- III. Recommendation of Demetrius (1:11 - 14)

Jude

Author: Jude

Date: AD 64-70

Audience: Jewish-Gentile Christians

Chapters: 1

Theme: Contend for the Faith

People: Jude, Michael, Cain, Balaam, Korah, and Enoch

Places: Egypt, Sodom, and Gomorrah

Written From: Jerusalem?

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Not Applicable

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to admonish Christians to earnestly contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints (1:3), since he has heard that false teachers have crept into the church (1:4). Jude had initially wanted to write to encourage them concerning the common salvation that is shared (1:3).

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. The Purpose of the Letter (1:1 - 4)
- II. The Judgment of the Ungodly (1:5 - 19)
- III. Exhortation to the Christians (1:20 - 25)

Revelation

Author: John

Date: AD 94-96

Audience: Seven Churches of Asia Minor

Chapters: 22

Theme: Victory

People: John, Antipas, Balaam, Jezebel, Abaddon (Apollyon), and Michael

Places: Island of Patmos, Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea, River Euphrates, Sodom, Gomorrah, Mount Zion, Babylon, Armageddon (Mount Megiddo), Heaven, Hell, and New Jerusalem

Written From: Patmos

Bearer of the Letter: Unknown

Church Established By: Not Applicable

The Book in Miniature:

Penned to seven churches in Asia Minor concerning things which were to shortly come to pass (1:1). John was told to write about the things he had seen, those that are (present things) and those that are to take place after this (future things) (1:19). The book of Revelation's purpose was to encourage persecuted Christians that Jesus was in control and victory would be won.

Brief Outline of the Book:

- I. Those Things He Had Seen: Past (1:1 - 1:20)
- II. Those Things That Are: Present (2:1 - 3:22)
- III. Those Things That Are to Take Place After This: Future (4:1 - 22:21)