

New Testament Book Charts

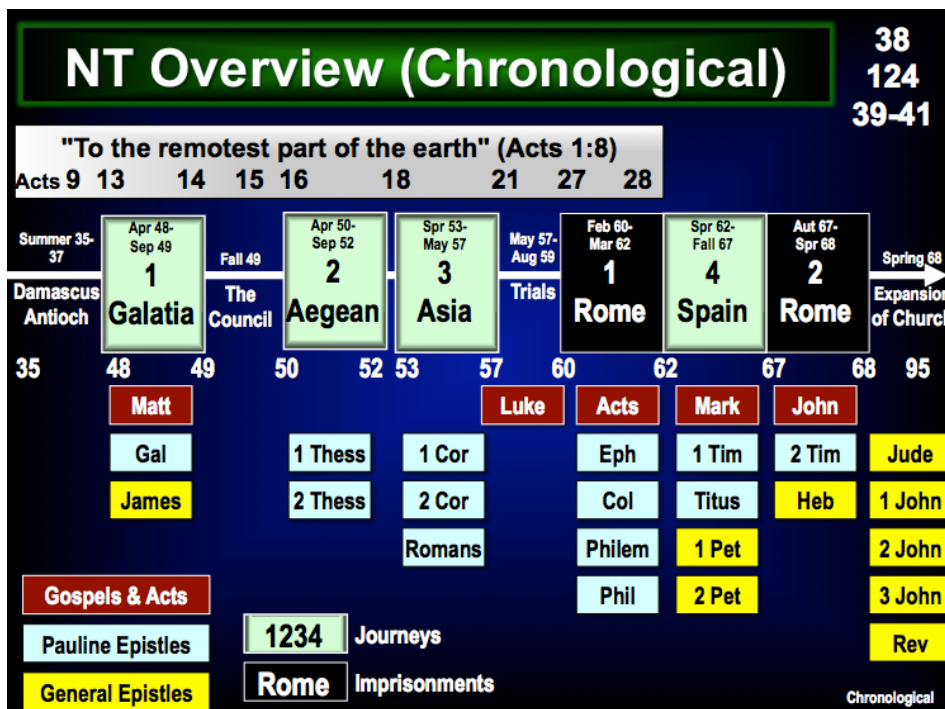
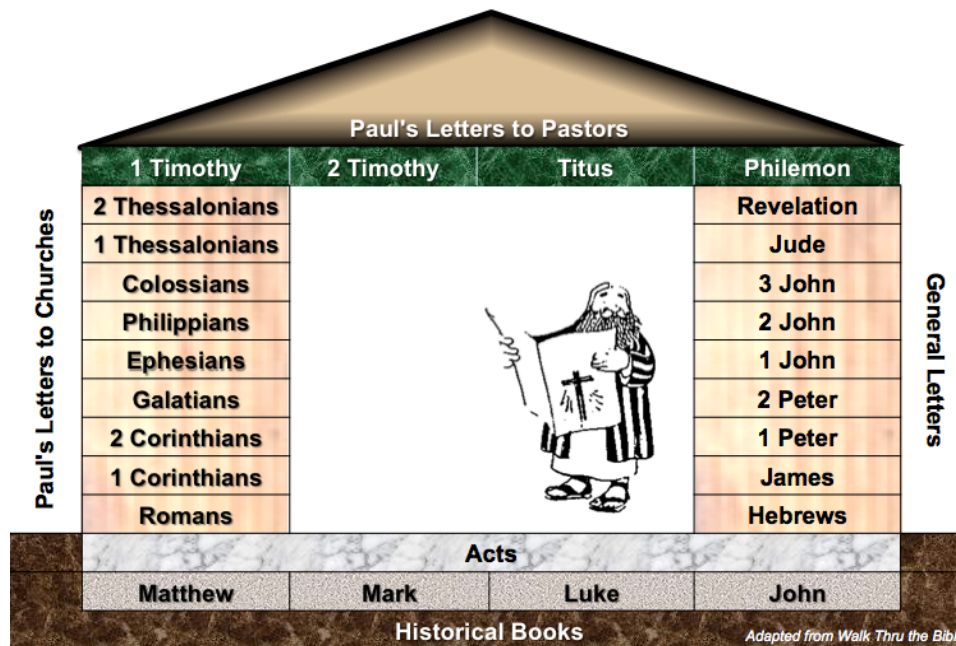
Matthew to Revelation

Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary (JETS)
Rick Griffith, ThM, PhD

Fourth Edition
© December 2022

1st printing (digital copies; 1st ed. Jan 17)
2nd printing (digital copies; 2nd ed. Mar 17)
3rd printing (digital copies; 3rd ed. Apr 17)

The New Testament "Building" 21



Matthew

Messiah with Authority over the Church

Preliminary Evidence that Jesus is Messiah		Rejections and Interadvent Age			Final Evidence that Jesus is Messiah			
Chapters 1–10		Chapters 11–27			Chapter 28			
The King Offered		The King Rejected			The King Re-offered			
Teaches Doves		Teaches Disciples						
Topical		Chronological						
Bethlehem & Nazareth 1:1–4:11	Galilee 4:12–16:12			Judea 16:13–28:15			Galilee 28:16-20	
Advent & Approvals 1:1–4:11	Early Ministry & Proclamation 4:12–7:29	Miracles & Authority 8–10	Rejection & Postponement 11:1–16:12	Prepares Disciples 16:13–20:34	Official Presentation & Rejection 21–27	Empty Tomb 28:1-10	False Report 28:11-15	Great Commission 28:16-20
Prelude	Preaching	Power	Postponed	Prepares	Presented	Proof	Perjury	Plan
Written in Israel								
Written in AD 40s Covers 5 BC–AD 33								

Key Word: Kingdom

Key Verses: “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey’” (Matthew 21:5).

“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘...you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it’” (Matthew 16:16-18).

Summary Statement:

Matthew proves Jesus is the Messiah so that unbelieving Jews will trust Him. Matthew also explains that the earthly kingdom is delayed because Israel rejected Jesus as their king. This explanation is to convince the believing Jews that Christ's present kingdom authority resides in the church.

Application:

Do you trust the King right now?

What is holding you back in your own kingdom before you can embrace Christ's kingdom?

Mark

Deity Who Models Suffering As Servant								
Service					Suffering			
Sayings and Signs					Sacrifice			
Galilee and Perea					Judea and Jerusalem			
Coming		Ministry Opposition			Self-Sacrifice		Resurrection	
1:1-13		1:14-10:52			Chapters 11-15		Chapter 16	
Deity & John 1:1-8	Baptism & Temptation 1:9-13	Mission 1:14-2:12	Opposition 2:13-8:26	Instruction 8:27-10:52	Rejection 11-13	Passion 14-15	Proof 16:1-8	Ending 16:9-20
Authority of Christ Emphasized				Authority-Servanthood Tension	Servanthood of Christ Emphasized			
3 Years				6 Months	8 Days			
Rome								
Written AD 64-68 Covers AD 29-33								

Key Word: Discipleship

Key Verse: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45).

Summary Statement:

Mark presents in a pastoral concern selected events about Christ, the Son of God (deity) who serves as the model *Suffering Servant*, to exhort persecuted Roman believers to true *discipleship* for Christ.

Application:

How can you be a disciple who suffers after Jesus’ example?

Luke

Universal Savior Ministers in Sovereign Kingdom Progress

To Seek the Lost					To Save the Lost				
Introduction			Ministry		Passion		Conclusion		
1:1–4:13			4:14–21:38		22–23		24		
Sources 1:1-4	Advent 1:5– 2:52	Prepared 3:1–4:13	Galilee 4:14– 9:50	Travelogue 9:51–19:27	Rejection 19:28– 21:38	Night 22:1– 23:25	Crucifixion 23:26-56	Resurrection 24:1-44	Commission 24:45-53
0 kingdom references	1	0	8	25	2	4	2	0	0
30 years		3 years		3-4 months	8 days				
Miracles Prominent				Teaching Prominent					
Caesarea									
Written AD 57-59 Covers 5 BC–AD 33									

Key Word: Sovereignty I

Key Verse: “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost” (Luke 19:10).

Summary Statement:

Luke presents the *sovereignly directed progress of the kingdom message* from the Jewish rejection of Christ as Messiah to Gentile acceptance to confirm the faith of Gentile believers by affirming Him as *Savior of believing Gentiles* as well as Jews.

Application:

Jesus is the Universal Saviour—but do you need to be confirmed that he is your Saviour?

John

Deity Made Man for Eternal Life					
Deity of the Son of God	Revelation of the Son of God		Preparation of the Son's Disciples	Passion/Resurrection of the Son of God	Adequacy of the Son of God
1:1-18	1:19-12:50		13-17	18-20	21
Prologue	Public		Private	Public	Private
Incarnation	2 Signs Received 1:19-4:54	5 Signs Rejected 5-12	Upper Room Discourse (no signs)	Ultimate Sign	Last Sign
Eternity Past	Fall AD 29- Monday, 30 March 33		Thursday, 2 April 33	Friday, 3 April 33- Sunday, 5 April 33	May 33
Ephesus					
AD 65-69					

Key Word: Believe

Key Verse: “Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:30-31).

Summary Statement:

John proves Jesus to be the *Son of God* (deity) made man through selected signs and discourses of Christ to convince unbelieving Gentiles to *believe* in Him and receive eternal life.

Application:

- Admit you have sinned
- Believe that Jesus died for you
- Confess that you have changed your mind about what or who can save you (repent)

Acts

Universal Savior Proclaimed in Sovereign Kingdom Progress

Jerusalem		Judea and Samaria		Uttermost Part	
1:1–6:7		6:8–8:40		Chapters 9–28	
Jews		Samaritans (mixed breeds)		Gentiles	
AD 33-35 (2 years)		AD 35 (a few months)		AD 35-62 (27 years)	
Peter		Stephen & Philip		Paul	
Establishing Home Base		Nearby Outreach		Missionary Journeys	
Established 1–2	Expands 3:1–6:7	Stephen 6:8–8:3	Philip 8:4-40	Damascus 9:1-31	to Rome 10:1–28:31
Rome					
AD 62 (completed after Paul's house arrest)					

Key Word: Sovereignty II

Key Verse: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Summary Statement:

Luke presents God's *sovereignly directed progress of the kingdom message* from Jerusalem Jews to Roman Gentiles in early church history in order to prove *God as responsible* for His Church and to exhort believers to *witness everywhere*.

Application:

Is God extending his kingdom message through you?

How are you fitting into His overall purpose to spread the gospel throughout the entire earth?

Romans

God's Righteousness/Justification by Faith in Christ—Not the Law						
Righteousness Explained					Righteousness Applied	
Theological					Practical	
Chapters 1–11					Chapters 12–16	
Relationship to God					Relationship to Others	
Righteousness Theme	Righteousness Needed	Righteousness Provided	Righteousness Imparted	Righteousness Vindicated	Righteousness Applied	Righteousness Disseminated
Introduction 1:1-17	Condemnation 1:18–3:20	Justification 3:21–5:21	Sanctification 6–8	Election 9–11	Transformation 12:1–15:13	Propagation 15:14–16:27
Sin		Salvation	Set Apart	Sovereignty	Service	
Corinth						
Winter AD 56/57						

Key Word: Righteousness

Key Verse: “For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from the first to last, just as it is written, “The righteous will live by faith” (Romans 1:17).

Summary Statement:

Paul expounds the *righteousness of God* which requires that justification be only by faith in Christ and not by works of the Law in order to solve *conflicts between Jewish and Gentile* believers at Rome before his soon arrival.

Application:

Do you experience peace with other believers as fellow recipients of God’s righteousness by faith? Or do you have conflicts with them stemming from pride?

1 Corinthians

Proper Functioning of the Church											
Answers a Report from Chloe's men (1:11; 5:1)						Answers a Letter from the Church (7:1; 8:1; 12:1; 15:1; 16:1)					
Divisions		Disorders				Doctrine					
Leadership		Relationships				Theology					
Pride		Immorality				Selfishness					
Chapters 1-4		Chapters 5-6				Chapters 7-16 -----Corporate Worship-----					
Greeting & Problem 1:1-17	Misunderstandings 1:18-4:21	Incest 5	Lawsuits 6:1-11	Prostitution 6:12-20	Marriage 7	Liberty 8:1-11:1	Head Coverings 11:2-16	Lord's Supper 11:17-34	Gifts 12-14	Resurrection 15	Gospel Advance 16
Ephesus											
May 56 (on third missionary journey)											

Key Word: Sanctification

Key Verse: “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you have been bought with a price. Therefore honor God with your body” (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

Summary Statement:

Paul explains the *proper functioning of the church* in response to reports about the Corinthians' divisions, disorders, and doctrinal difficulties to assure that the church makes its *positional sanctification practical*.

Application:

Be different by being united, moral, and selfless. Do you live like this?

2 Corinthians

Defense of Apostolic Authority											
Ministry Sincerity				Giving				Ministry Authority			
Chapters 1–7				Chapters 8–9				Chapters 10–13			
Defense of Paul's Motives				Defense of Paul's Worth				Defense of Paul's Traits			
Character of Paul				Collection for Saints				Credentials of Paul			
Greeting 1:1-11	Defends Conduct 1:12– 2:17	Defends Ministry 3:1– 6:10	Restore Confidence 6:11– 7:16	Examples 8:1-9	Purpose 8:10-15	Arrange- ments 8:16– 9:5	Benefits 9:6-15	Defense 10	Offense 11:1– 12:18	Warning 12:19– 13:10	Closing 13:11-14
Macedonia											
Fall AD 56											

Key Word: Apostleship

Key Verse: “For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ” (2 Corinthians 4:5-6).

Summary Statement:

Paul *defends his apostleship* against attacking false teachers to assure both the Corinthians’ *doctrinal foundation* and their promise to give to Jerusalem saints, thus providing an example of respect for and giving to church leaders today.

Applications:

I can best open my heart to God by...

Galatians

Justification by Faith						
Judaizer Attack #1 “Paul teaches this doctrine by his own authority!”		Judaizer Attack #2 “This is a new teaching contrary to the OT!”		Judaizer Attack #3 “Teaching faith alone will encourage a sinful lifestyle!”		
Paul’s Defense: “God called me and the 12 apostles affirmed this”		Paul’s Defense: “Salvation has always been by faith—even in the OT”		Paul’s Defense: “No, justification by faith naturally leads to godly living”		
Biographical		Theological		Practical		
Chapters 1–2		Chapters 3–4		Chapters 5–6		
Upholds Apostleship		Upholds Justification by Faith		Upholds Responsibilities		
Rebuke	Relationships	Affirmed	Illustrated	Balance	Service	Warnings
1:1-9	1:10–2:21	3	4	5	6:1-10	6:11-18
Antioch of Syria						
Fall AD 49 (after first missionary journey)						

Key Word: Justification

Key Verse: “[We Jews] know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified” (Galatians 2:16).

Summary Statement:

Paul defends his apostleship and *justification by faith* so that the Galatians would not seek salvation through adherence to the law.

Application:

Do you add *any* other requirements for salvation except faith in Christ—baptism, tongues, good works or any other good deed?

The logical result of justification by faith is godliness.

Ephesians

Jew-Gentile Unity Shown in Love								
Unity as Equals				Love as Testimony				
Chapters 1–3				Chapters 4–6				
Doctrine				Application				
Position				Practice				
Belief				Behaviour				
Privileges				Responsibilities				
Salutation 1:1-2	Position 1:3-23	Reconciliation 2	Uniqueness 3	Unity 4:1-16	Holiness 4:17-5:20	Submission 5:21-6:9	Reliance 6:10-20	Love 6:21-24
Rome								
Fall AD 60 (first Roman imprisonment)								

Key Word: Unity

Key Verses: “As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace” (4:1-3).

Summary Statement:

Paul explains God's mystery—the *unity of Jews and Gentiles* in the Church who are equal positionally—to exhort these two groups at Ephesus to live worthy of this calling through a *unified love* for one another as a testimony to the world.

Application:

Do you *really* believe you are equal with other members of the body of Christ?

- Filipino maids?
- Former Muslims (Malays)?
- Believers in prison?
- Poor churches of India, Myanmar, Bangladesh, etc.?

How do you express your unity with believers who are different from you?

Philippians

Results of Imitating Christ's Attitude

Joy			Humility		Protection		Peace		
Chapter 1			Chapter 2		Chapter 3		Chapter 4		
Joy (5x)			Joy (7x)		Joy (1x)		Joy (4x)		
Attitude (1x)			Attitude (7x)		Attitude (8x)		Attitude (4x)		
Suffering			Submission		Salvation		Sanctification		
Salutation 1:1-2	Thanks & Prayer 1:3-11	In Prison Ministry 1:12-30	Exhorted 2:1-4	Exemplified 2:5-30	From Legalism 3:1-16	From Indulgence 3:17-21	With People 4:1-3	With God 4:4-9	Always 4:10-20 – Greetings 4:21-23
Rome									
Early Spring AD 62 (first Roman imprisonment)									

Key Word: Attitude

Key Verse: “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus”
(Philippians 2:5).

Summary Statement:

Paul exhorts the Philippian believers to *imitate Christ's attitude* that they may experience joy, humility, and peace to be protected from *false teachers and disunity* in the church.

Application: How do you need to show a more Christ-like attitude during difficulty?

Note: Words for “joy” total 17 times in the letter but words for “attitude” total 20 times.

Colossians

Deity of Christ vs. Syncretistic Heresy					
Supremacy/Deity			Practical Instruction		
Chapters 1–2			Chapters 3–4		
Heretical Living			Holy Living		
Belief			Behaviour		
Greeting & Prayer 1:1-14	Supremacy & Deity 1:15–2:3	Syncretistic Heresy 2:4-23	Position: Union with Christ 3:1-4	Practice: Holiness in Relationships 3:5–4:6	Conclusion 4:7-18
Rome					
Autumn AD 61 (first Roman imprisonment)					

Key Word: Deity

Key Verse: “For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form” (Colossians 2:9).

Summary Statement:

Paul instructs the Colossian church in the supremacy and *deity of Christ* and exhorts practical outworking of this doctrine in order to fight a *syncretistic heresy* threatening the life and ministry of the church.

Application:

Know the deity of Christ well so you can warn your church members.
Avoid legalism & asceticism

1 Thessalonians

Preparation for the Rapture					
Innocence of Greed			Principles for Growth		
Chapters 1–3			Chapters 4–5		
Personal			Practical		
Silence Slanders			Strengthen Stand		
Historical			Hortatory		
Reflections			Exhortations		
Looking Back			Looking Forward		
Commendation 1:1-10	Conduct 2:1-16	Concern 2:17–3:13	Love 4:1-12	Eschatology 4:13–5:11	Church Life 5:12-28
“You’re great!”	“I’m innocent”	“I care for you”	“Please God”	“Be comforted but watchful”	“Live holy”
Corinth					
Early Summer AD 51 (on second missionary journey)					

Key Word: Rapture

Key Verse: “May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones” (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13).

Summary Statement:

Paul prepares the Thessalonians for the Rapture by defending his motives for starting the church (to silence accusations of greed) and instructing the believers (to strengthen the church’s doctrinal and relational foundation so it can continue to grow).

Application:

Be prepared for Christ’s return with your money, friends and Bible.

2 Thessalonians

Tribulation Corrections							
Persevere in Persecution		Day Still Future			Discipline the Idle		
Chapter 1		Chapter 2			Chapter 3		
Emotional		Theological			Practical		
Encouragement in Persecution		Explanation of the Day			Exhortation in Body Life		
Discouraged Believers		Disturbed Believers			Disobedient Believers		
Correction of Perspective		Correction of Doctrine			Correction of Behaviour		
Salutation 1:1-2	Reward vs. Judgment 1:3-12	Pretrib. Teaching 2:1-2	Antichrist Prerequisite 2:3-12	Stand Firm 2:13-17	Prayer Requests 3:1-5	Discipline Idle 3:6-15	Blessing Given 3:16-18
Corinth							
Late Summer AD 51							

Key Word: Tribulation

Key Verse: Do not “become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction” (2 Thessalonians 2:2-3).

Summary Statement:

Paul corrects the persecuted Thessalonians' misconception that the *day of the Lord* (Tribulation) had already begun to exhort perseverance among the disheartened and industry among the idle to help them stand firm in correct doctrine despite *false teachers*.

Application: Do you study eschatology, believing that it affects your behaviour as a Christian?

1 Timothy

Church Order (is maintained by giving priority to...)				
Combat False Teachers	Church Life	Personal Life/Doctrine	Various Church Groups	Warning Against Materialism
Chapter 1	Chapters 2–3	Chapter 4	5:1–6:10	6:11-21
Doctrine	Worship	Example	Respect	Priorities
Warning	People	Warning	People	Warning
Salutation Fight heresies God’s grace Charge	Prayer Gender Roles Leader Qualities Purpose of Epistle	Future heresy Watch life Watch doctrine	Respect everyone Widows Elders Slaves False teachers	Spiritual goals Wealthy must give Closing charge
Practical Exhortations Throughout (in contrast to the normal theology then application Pauline epistle structure)				
From Macedonia to Ephesus				
Autumn AD 62				

Key Word: Order

Key Verse: “... I am writing you these instructions so that...you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of truth” (1 Tim. 3:14-15).

Summary Statement:

Paul exhorts Timothy to courageously guard his personal *life, doctrine, and local church order* in order to preserve the ministry of the Ephesian church against ascetic and speculative *false teachers*.

Application:

We can defeat heresy by obeying God’s priorities for church order.

2 Timothy

Sound Doctrine Against Opposition				
Persevere in Present Hardship		Persevere in Future Hardship		
Chapters 1–2		Chapters 3–4		
Examples of Faithfulness 1	Characteristics of Faithfulness 2	Problem: Apostasy 3:1-9	Solution: Preach the Word 3:10–4:5	Paul's Hope 4:6-22
Eunice Lois Paul Onesiphorus	Discipling Single-minded Obedient Hardworking Biblical Holy Gentle	Godlessness Hypocrisy	Preaching Persevering Rebuking Encouraging Evangelism	Martyrdom Betrayals Greetings Benediction
Rome to Ephesus				
Autumn AD 67 (second Roman imprisonment)				

Key Word: Doctrine

Key Verse: “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work... Preach the Word” (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 4:2).

Summary Statement:

Persevere against apostasy despite hardship by faithfully *preaching the Word*.

Application:

Faithfully obey and preach God's Word.

Titus

Sound Conduct Against Opposition											
Appoint Elders		Set Things in Order									
Prevent False Doctrine		Practice True Doctrine									
Elders vs. False Teachers		Conduct for Various Groups					Grace Leads to Godliness				
Chapter 1		2:1-10					2:11-3:15				
Organize		Teach					Grace				
Truth leads to godliness 1:1-4	Elders 1:5-16	Older Men 2:1-2	Older Women 2:3	Younger Women 2:4-5	Younger Men 2:6-8	Slaves 2:9-10	Educates 2:11-15	Empowers 3:1-2	Motivates 3:3-8	Protects 3:9-11	Concl. 3:12-15
Asia Minor to Crete											
Summer AD 66											

Key Word: Conduct

Key Verse: “This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone” (Titus 3:8).

Summary Statement:

The way we can be reputable amidst false teachers is through godly elders who teach respectable conduct based on God’s grace.

Application:

Our elders must teach respectable conduct based on God’s grace.

Philemon

Forgive Others and Seek Forgiveness							
Greeting 1-3		Prayer & Commendation 4-7		Appeal for Onesimus 8-21			Conclusion 22-25
Preface		Praise		Petition			Postscript
People Concerned		Philemon's Character		Onesimus' Conversion			Paul's Co-Workers
Authors 1a-b	Recipients 1c-3	Thanks 4-5	Relationships 6-7	General Appeal 8-11	Reasons for Return 12-16	Specific Appeal 17-21	Preparations Greetings Blessing 22-25
Rome to Colosse							
Fall AD 61							

Key Word: Forgiveness

Key Verse: “So if you consider me a partner, welcome him [Onesimus] as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me” (Philemon 17-18).

Summary Statement:

Paul requests the Christian slave owner, Philemon, for *forgiveness* for his runaway but repentant slave, Onesimus, whom Paul led to Christ and sent back to Philemon for restatement as Christian brother to teach *how to forgive and be forgiven*.

Application: With whom do best relate to now?

1. **Philemon:** Whom do you need to *forgive* a wrong done to you?
2. **Onesimus:** Whose forgiveness do you need to *request*?
3. **Paul:** How can you *help* two others reconcile?
4. **The Church:** How can you *affirm* the reconciliation of others?

Hebrews

Christ's Superiority over Judaism as High Priest

Superiority in His Person to...			Superiority in His Priestly Work to...					Endurance Through Faith					
1:1–4:13			4:14–10:18					10:19–13:25					
Prophets 1:1-3	Angels 1:4–2:18	Moses 3:1–4:13	Aaron 4:14– 6:20	Melch. 7	Old Cov. 8	Taber- nacle 9:1-10	Sacri- fices 9:11– 10:18	Will- ful Sin 10:19- 39	Models 11:1– 12:3	Endure as Sons 12:4-13	Ethics 12:14- 17	Ignoring God 12:18-29	Exhor. 13
Christ's Majesty			Christ's Ministry					Christian's Manifestation					
Theology							Practice						
Unknown Author, Recipients, Origin, and Destination!													
AD 67-68													

Key Word: Superiority

Key Verse: “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Summary Statement:

An unknown author shows Hebrew believers the *superiority of Christ as High Priest* and the superiority of Christianity over Judaism to exhort them to endure persecution rather than *return to their former life* under Judaism.

Application:

Where do you need to press on?

James

Faith is Revealed through Works

Rejoices in Difficulty	Obeys the Word	Avoids Favoritism	Produces Works	Speaks Wisely	Produces Humility	Triumphs
1:1-18	1:19-27	2:1-13	2:14-26	3	4:1—5:6	5:7-20
Salutation Trials Temptations	Listening Anger Obedience Speech Compassion Purity	Discrimination Materialism Egalitarianism	Meeting Needs Validation	Influence Untamable Use Wisdom	Conflict Judging Presumption	Patience Prayer Confrontation
Jerusalem						
AD 44-47						

Key Word: Works

Key Verse: “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says” (James 1:22).

Summary Statement:

James exhorts early Jewish believers throughout the Roman Empire that Christian *faith is shown through works* that they might replace their *hypocrisy* with good deeds in maturity and holiness.

Application:

If you believe, show it!

1 Peter

Endurance in Righteous Suffering by God’s Grace (is achieved by...)												
Sanctification			Submission				Selflessness					
1:1–2:12			2:13–3:12				3:13–5:14					
Holiness			Humility				Honoring Others					
Salu- tation 1:1-2	Praise for Hope 1:3-12	Holy Life Exhorted 1:13— 2:12	Gov’t 2:13- 17	Work Place 2:18- 25	Marri- age 3:1-7	Church & all of life 3:8-12	Christ’s Triumph 3:13—4:6	Edify Others 4:7-19	Elders 5:1-4	Young Men 5:5a	Humility/ Watchfulness 5:5b-11	Purpose 5:12-14
Rome to Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia												
Early AD 64												

Key Word: Suffering

Key Verses: “Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.... I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it” (1 Peter 4:12-13; 5:12).

Summary Statement:

Believers must *suffer properly for Christ* as holy, submissive, and selfless witnesses motivated by Christ's example and the hope of future glory to help *attract others* to hear their message.

Application:

Show a holy humility that honors others.

"When it is all over, you will not regret having suffered;
rather you will regret having suffered so little—
and suffered that little so badly."

— Sebastian Valfre (1629-1710) —

2 Peter

Knowledge to Combat False Teaching									
God's Election			Future Apostasy			Lord's Return			
Chapter 1			Chapter 2			Chapter 3			
Salutation 1:1-2	Provides Every Need 1:3-11	Foundation of Knowledge 1:12-21	False Teachers Coming 2:1-3a	End in Hell 2:3b- 10a	Character Described 2:10b-22	Scoffers Before Rapture 3:1-4	Destroys Heaven & Earth 3:5-13	Motivates Holiness 3:14-16	Protection/ Growth Exorted 3:17-18
Adequacy of Believers			Inadequacy of Unbelievers			Expectancy of Believers			
Holiness			Heresy			Hope			
Disciples of the Lord			Diabolical Leaders			Day of the Lord			
Rome to North Asia Minor									
AD 64									

Key Word: Knowledge

Key Verse: “Therefore, dear friends, since you already *know* this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and *knowledge* of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen” (2 Peter 3:17-18).

Summary Statement:

Peter reminds north Asian believers of their *knowledge* of the characteristics and future destruction of false teachers and of the grace of Jesus Christ in order to combat *false teaching* and stimulate *growth in godliness*.

Application:

Is God's Word shaping you to grow in the grace and the knowledge of Christ?

1 John

Obedience in Love Combats Early Gnosticism

Necessity of Obedience	Characteristics of Love	Benefits of Obedience
Chapters 1–2	3:1–5:3	5:4-21
Humanity of Christ Prerequisites to obedience Hindrances to obedience	Don't sin Don't hate believers Compassion Confidence before God Obey apostolic teaching Care for believers Obey God's commands	Victory over the world Assurance of salvation Guidance in prayer Freedom from sin Fidelity to God
Ephesus to Asia Minor Churches		
AD 85-95		

Key Word: Love

Key Verse: “I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray... And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming” (1 John 2:26, 28).

Summary Statement:

John writes a general letter encouraging his readers to *obey God's commands by loving others* in order to protect them from *early Gnosticism* which denied either Christ's deity or humanity.

Application:

How can you show love to another believer so that heresy might be thwarted?

Whom do you know that needs to see Christian love shown to turn from false teaching?

2 John

Limits to Love				
Aid True Teachers			Avoid False Teachers	
Verses 1-6			Verses 7-13	
Walk in Commandments			Watch for Counterfeits	
Positive			Negative	
Demonstrate Truth			Defend Truth	
Greeting in Truth and Love (1-3)	Children's Obedience Commended (4)	Exhortation to Love (5-6)	Prohibition to Help False Teachers (7-11)	Expected Visit & Greetings (12-13)
Ephesus				
AD 85-95				

Key Word: Limits

Key Verses: “Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your home or welcome him” (2 John 9-10).

Summary Statement:

John exhorts *limitations to love* for a Christian woman and her children who show hospitality to missionaries but need warning not to extend the same to false teachers to warn against *aiding the spread of destructive heresies*.

Application:

Live the gospel by not aiding those who hinder the gospel.

3 John

Supporting Missionaries								
1-8			9-11			12-14		
Gaius			Diotrephes			Demetrius		
Commended			Condemned			Recommended		
Supported Missionaries			Opposed Missionaries			Is a Missionary		
Greetings & Prayer 1-2	Joy over Godliness 3-4	Support Confirmed 5-8	for Rejecting John 9	for Opposing Missionaries 10	for Doing Evil 11	Good Reputation 12	Visit Anticipated 13-14a	Affectionate Greetings 14b-d
Asia Minor								
c. AD 90								

Key Word: Missionaries

Key Verse: “We ought therefore to show hospitality to such men [missionaries] so that we may work together for the truth” (3 John 8).

Summary Statement:

John encourages Gaius to continue *supporting missionaries* such as Demetrius despite opposition from Diotrephes (a godless leader who opposes supporting them) to help the church to see its *responsibility to finance God’s work*.

Application:

How are you advancing the gospel by supporting missionaries through hospitality and finances?

Jude

Contending Against Pretenders										
Why to Contend						How to Contend				
Intro		Pretenders' Practices				How to Avoid Pretenders' Snares			Praise for Preservation	
Verses 1-2		Verses 3-16				Verses 17-23			Verses 24-25	
Greet- ing 1	Bless- ing 2	Purpose of Epistle: Defend the faith 3-4	OT Pretenders 5-7 (Past)	Charac- teristics 8-13 (Present)	Judgment 14-16 (Future)	Remember Apostles' Predictions 17-19	Nurture Oneself in God's Love 20-21	Show Mercy to Pretenders' Followers 22-23	Source of Victory 24	Only Savior 25
Unknown Origin to Probably Palestine										
c. AD 75										

Key Word: Pretenders

Key Verse: "...Contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord" (Jude 3b-4).

Summary Statement:

Jude warns Christians at large of *pretenders*—unbelievers who have infiltrated their churches masking themselves as Christians but perverting the truth by their lifestyles of license—in order to defend the holiness of the church.

Application:

Do you fight those who introduce godlessness in the church—or do you let them get away with lowering the standard?

Revelation

Sovereignty of Christ in Future Victory

Sovereignty in His Person			Sovereignty over Churches	Sovereignty in End-Time Events				
Chapter 1			Chapters 2–3	Chapters 4–22				
“What you have seen” (1:19a)			“What is now” (1:19b)	“What will take place later” (1:19c)				
Past			Present	Future				
Christ Unveiled			Churches Unveiled	Consummation Unveiled				
God on Earth			God’s Ambassadors on Earth	Hell on Earth to Heaven on Earth				
The Judge			The Assignments	The Judgments & Rewards				
Subject 1:1-3	Worship of Trinity 1:4-8	Glorified Christ 1:9-20	Seven Churches of Asia: Ephesus Smyrna Pergamum Thyatira Sardis Philadelphia Laodicea	Tribulation 4:1–19:10	Second Coming 19:11-21	Millennium 20	Eternal State 21:1–22:5	Closing: Imminency 22:6-21
Island of Patmos (c. AD 95)								

Key Word: Triumph

Key Verse: “Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later” (Revelation 1:19).

Summary Statement:

God discloses through John the *sovereignty of Jesus Christ* in His ultimate future triumph to encourage believers to *persevere despite internal compromise and external opposition*.

Application:

Jesus rules the world! So he can handle your puny problem.