



Pauline Authorship

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Paul's Epistles in Mostly Scriptural Order

Foundational	Prophetic	Prison	Pastoral
Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Galatians	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians	Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon	1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus
Christ & the Cross	Christ & the Second Coming	Christ & the Church	Christ & the Congregation
Soteriology	Eschatology	Christology	Ecclesiology



Support for Paul as Author

- **The letter claims** to be from Paul (Romans 1:1).
- **No opposition** to his authorship was ever raised in the early church.
- **Historical notes** in the epistle agree with known facts of Paul's life.
- **The book's doctrine** is typical of Paul compared to other letters he wrote.



AUTHORSHIP

External Evidence

1. Upheld by **Church Fathers**:
 - ◆ Clement of Rome (AD 95)
 - ◆ Ignatius (ca. AD 115)
 - ◆ Polycarp (ca. AD 115)
2. Romans was **included among Paul's letters** in all extant NT book lists before AD 200, even that of the heretic Marcion.
3. Even **all radical modern critics agree** on Pauline authorship of Romans except Baur.

Internal Evidence

1. **Consistent with all other Pauline's writings** in the following:
 - ◆ vocabulary
 - ◆ style
 - ◆ logic
 - ◆ theological development
2. Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, and Galatians are **the standard** to judge other books as Pauline.
2. **Tertius** (likely Paul's scribe) penned the letter (16:22).

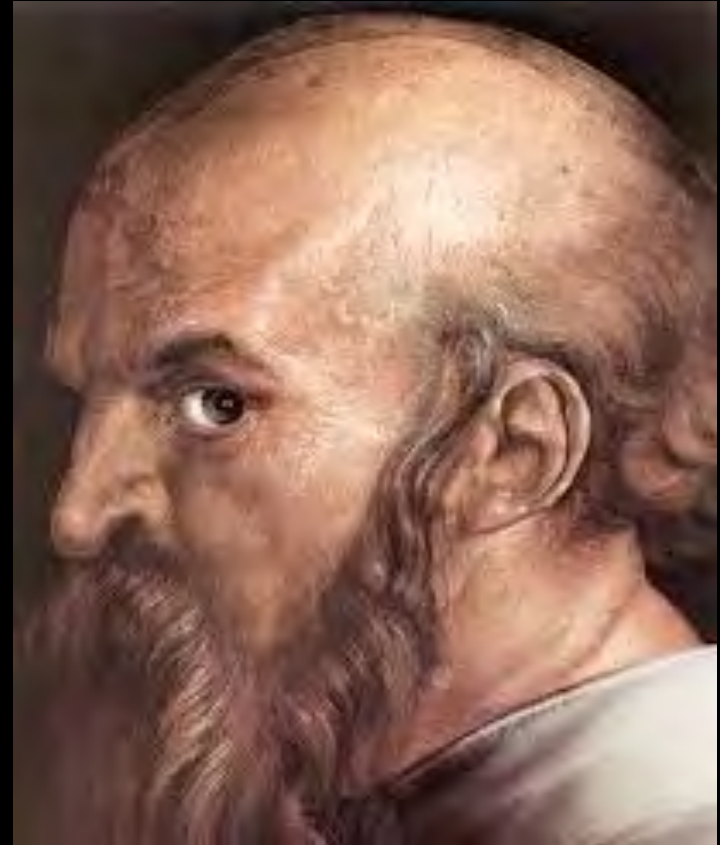


Paul's Biographical Argument (Gal. 1-2)

**Paul defends
apostleship**



A Different Type of Salutation (1:1 NLT)



"This letter is from Paul, an apostle. I was not appointed by any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ himself and by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead."

A topographical map of the Mediterranean region. A white dot on the Italian peninsula is labeled 'Rome'. A white arrow points from this dot to another white dot on the western coast of Asia Minor, labeled 'Ephesus'. The word 'EPHESIANS' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the map. Below the map, there is a block of text in white with a black outline, and a reference '(Ephesians 1:1 NIV)' centered below it.

Rome

Ephesus

EPHESIANS

"This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus ["To the saints in Ephesus" NIV], who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus."

(Ephesians 1:1 NIV).

How do the Pastorals **differ** from Paul's earlier letters?

Pastorals:

- (1) Address leaders instead of churches**
- (2) Focus on church issues from a leader's view**
- (3) Use different words than the earlier letters**
- (4) Show a more developed church leadership**
- (5) Have a different style**

Early Letters:

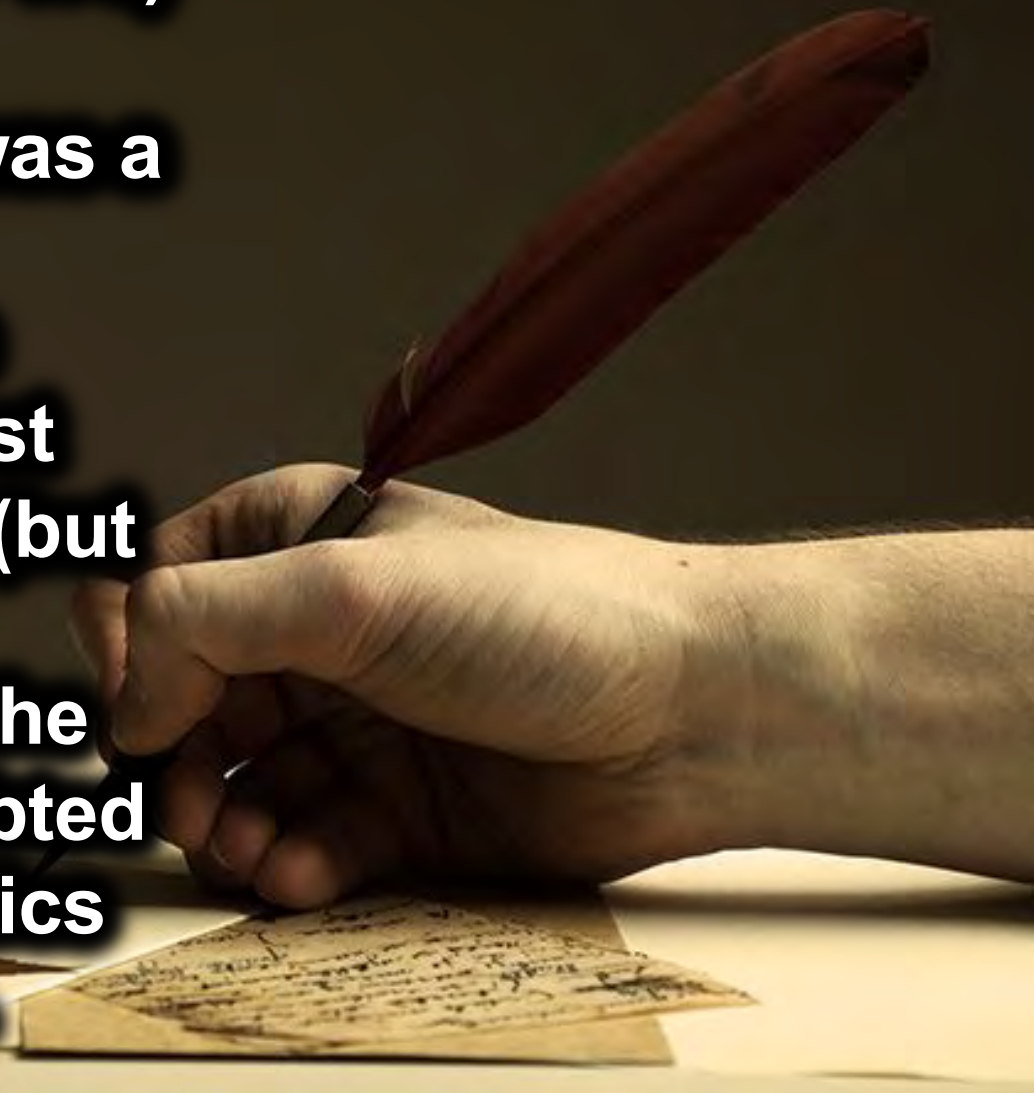
Doctrine → Practice

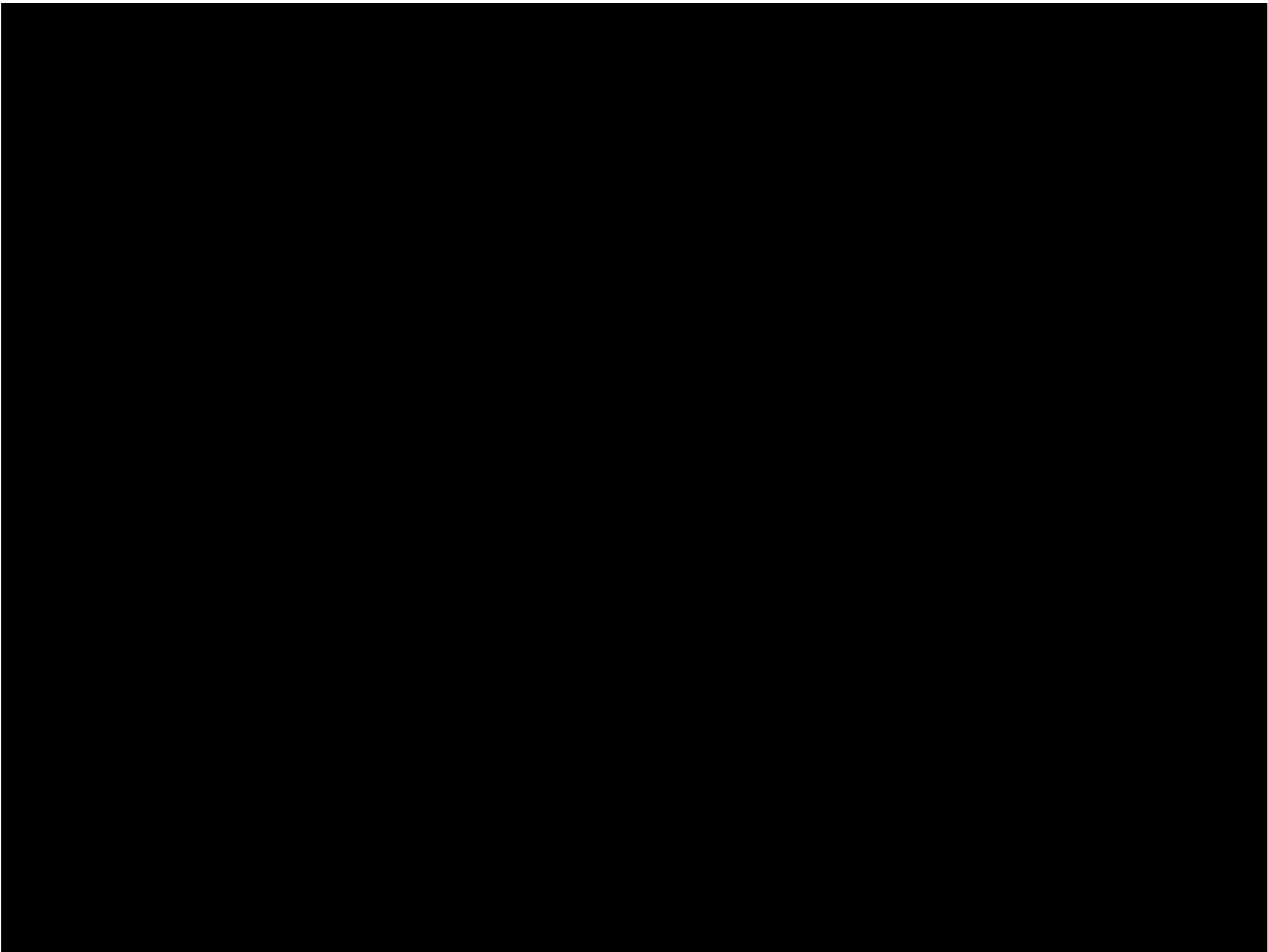
Pastorals:

**Doctrine &
Practice**

What concerns scholars on the **authorship** of the Pastorals?

- (1) Marcion's Canon (AD 170) had only 10 Pauline letters (but Marcion was a heretic).
- (2) They are absent from *p*⁴⁶—one of the earliest Pauline manuscripts (but we don't know why).
- (3) Paul's authorship of the Pastorals wasn't doubted until 1800s (when critics superseded the text).





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