

Epistles

Timeline of writing: _____ AD

Timeline of events: 1st _____ of New Testament Church

The Epistles	
Book	When
Galatians	Written after his _____ missionary journey 49/55 AD
1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians	Written during his _____ missionary journey 51 AD
Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians	Written during his _____ missionary journey 56-57 AD
Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon	Written during his first _____ imprisonment 60-62 AD
1 Timothy Titus	Written after his _____ from prison 63-64 AD
2 Timothy	Written during his _____ Roman imprisonment 66 AD
James	Written within a _____ of Christ 40-42 AD
Hebrews	Written prior to _____ of Temple Pre 70 AD
1 Peter 2 Peter Jude	Written during Nero's reign and _____ 64 - 67 AD
1, 2, 3 John	John writes _____ his Gospel 85-95 AD

Theological significance:

- The Epistles are a _____ unlike any other in the Bible.
- Since they are _____ letters written to churches or individuals, they are not necessarily narrative, poetry, or prophecy.
- When the _____ for these letters is analyzed, it helps prove the _____ of the Gospel accounts.
- _____ of Gospel account details are mentioned in these letters, many of which were written _____ to the Gospels.
- Where the Gospels tell the _____ of Christ, the Epistles help _____ the details.

God's plan revealed through the Epistles:

- God's salvific plan in Christ is systematically laid out by _____ the issues of the church in real time.
- As the first century church _____ the teaching of Christ in the real world, several challenges are encountered including _____, fundamentalism, sin in the church, misunderstandings of _____, misunderstandings of judgement, etc.
- The epistles to the churches explain how the gospel _____, with real world situations.
- The hope of Christ is _____, in the midst of suffering and persecution.
- A plea to endure _____, while being on the watch for false teaching is given.
- The future _____ and _____ for the believer is discussed.

How to Interpret:

- Utilize basic interpretive principles (OICA)
 - Observation, Interpretation, Correlation, Application
- Use these books to develop or sharpen your view of God, man, sin, salvation, etc.
- Recognize the genre, these letters were meant to be read in their entirety
 - There is a _____ used in nearly all Epistles:
 - Introduction, _____, main teaching, closing
 - Identify the main _____ and interpret the letter through that lens
- Keep track of the _____, the author, and their _____
- Remember the chapters are not _____ of one another.
- Keep in mind how the passage can apply to you today, you are not just reading old letters

Analyze and apply a passage:

- Titus 1:1-5; 3:12-14
 - Who are the author and recipient?
 - What is their relationship?
 - What is the occasion/purpose for the letter?
 - How is letter relevant and practical to us now?
 - Who takes the letter to Titus?
 - How does the last command connect with the purpose of the letter?