

CLASS NOTES - NEW TESTAMENT OVERVIEW

Taught By Robert Stapleton



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NEW TESTAMENT OVERVIEW

Robert Stapleton

CLASS DESCRIPTION:

1. This class will provide a brief overview of each of the books of the New Testament including such information as author, date of authorship, outline of each book, etc.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Outline book for N.T. Overview is to be read during the quarter with a reading log kept.
 - A. This is to be done outside the classroom, as you would normally read other required books.
2. Instructions concerning listening or reading log.
 - A. Keep a typewritten log of your listening or reading, with dates and chapters listened to or read.
 1. Your log should be turned in to instructor no later than the beginning of class day during the finals week – late papers count one grade per day off.
 - B. Your log will count for 10% of your total course grade.
3. Tests:
 - A. Five scheduled tests will be administered.
 1. Each will account for 18% of your total score.
 2. Any additional credit will be at the instructor's discretion.
4. Memory Verses:
 - A. The following verses are to be committed to memory:

See Memory Verse Chart

- B. Memory work should be done in the ASV, ESV, KJV, or NKJV unless the instructor grants permission to use another version.
- C. I realize this represents a considerable amount of work.
 1. However, please do the best you can, you will be glad you did later.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

A GOD BREATHED BOOK

INTRODUCTION:

1. If the Bible is not a collection of inspired writings, then it cannot affect how we live, believe, or worship.
2. The Bible is the most unique book in the entire world:
 - A. One of the oldest books in the world.
 - B. The most often translated book in the world.
 - C. Most loved and most hated book in the world.
 - D. Most read and most neglected book in the world.

BODY:

1. CLAIMS TO BE THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD.
 - A. Can the Bible serve to testify on its own behalf pertaining to its inspiration?
 1. Witness is allowed to testify in court on his own behalf.
 2. The ore found in it determines value of a mine.
 3. Bible has every right to serve as its own witness!
 - B. O.T. claims of inspiration.
 1. Over 3,800 O.T. expressions such as “Thus saith the Lord.”
 2. David made a claim to inspiration - 2 Samuel 23:2.
 - C. N.T. claims of inspiration.
 1. 1 Corinthians 14:37.
 2. 1 Thessalonians 2:13.
 3. Paul quoted from both Old and New Testaments in 1 Timothy 5:18.
 - A. Deuteronomy 25:4; Luke 10:7.
 4. Paul’s writing were said by Peter to be Scripture - 2 Peter 3:15, 16.
2. WHAT IS INSPIRATION?
 - A. “Inspire” comes from Latin word meaning “to breathe upon, into or out.”
 1. 2 Timothy 3:16 - literally, God breathed.
 - B. Various views of inspiration:
 1. Genius View.
 - A. Would include gifted artists, musicians and writers.
 1. Contradicts Matthew 4:4.
 2. Partial View.
 - A. Suggests that the Bible is inspired in areas of doctrine, but not so in history, geography or science.
 1. View has infiltrated denominational churches, schools, and seminaries.
 - B. Contradicts 2 Timothy 3:16 - “All scripture...”
 3. Neo-Orthodox View.
 - A. Suggests that the Bible is of human origin and contains errors, but God uses it even with the errors.

- B. If it has errors how do we know which parts are true and which are in error?
 - 1. Is the plan of salvation, as outlined within the N.T. correct?
 - A. How do we know if the Bible contains error, and where?
 - 2. What of other matters - 2 Peter 1:3?
 - 4. Mechanical or Dictation View.
 - A. Would not allow for the individual styles and personalities we see in the Bible.
 - B. God used this method only occasionally - Number 22:22-35.
 - 5. Thought View.
 - A. Suggests that God only gave the idea, but left it up to the writer to choose the words used.
 - B. What if the writer chose the wrong words?
 - 1. Bible claims word inspiration - Jeremiah 1:9.
 - 6. Verbal, Plenary View.
 - A. Bible claims to be inspired this way - 2 Samuel 23:2; Jeremiah 1:9; 1 Corinthians 2:9-13.
 - B. Plenary means fully or completely inspired.
- 3. BIBLE CLAIMS PLENARY INSPIRATION.
 - A. O.T. claims verbal inspiration - 2 Samuel 23:2; Jeremiah 1:9.
 - B. N.T. claims verbal inspiration - 1 Corinthians 2:9-13.
 - 1. Holy Spirit revealed the mind of God through men of God - 2 Peter 1:20, 21.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Entire Bible is inspired.
 - A. Must understand certain times inspiration is found in the written record rather than the actual event or words - Genesis 3:4, 5, etc.
- 2. Since Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God, man rejects it at his eternal peril - John 12:48.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

PROVIDENTIAL PROVISION AND PROTECTION

INTRODUCTION:

1. Bible given by verbal, plenary inspiration.
2. Bible student needs to study concerning the preservation of the Bible to date.

BODY:

1. VARIOUS SOURCES FOR THE TEXT.

A. Need to define major words of discussion:

1. Canon - from the Greek word meaning a straight rod or rule.
 - A. Has reference to the books, which bear the marks of inspiration and are, therefore, accepted as Scripture.
2. Autograph - reference to the original document written by an inspired author.
3. Apocrypha - certain books which have been often included in the Bible, but which are not perceived to be inspired.
 - A. Found in Catholic Bible.

B. O.T. Canon

1. O.T. was written by some thirty-two authors ranging from Moses (cir. 1500 B.C.) to Malachi (cir. 400 B.C.).
 - A. Deuteronomy 31:26 - "Book of the law" placed in the ark.
 - B. Daniel 9:10-13 - "Law of Moses" mentioned by Daniel.
 - C. Isaiah 34:16 - "Book of the Lord" mentioned by Isaiah.
 - D. 2 Kings 22:8 - "The book of the law" found in Josiah's time.
2. Jewish tradition credits Ezra with gathering the books of the O.T. into one volume.
3. Josephus wrote that since the death of Artaxerxes (424 B.C.) nothing has been added to the O.T., nor has any changes been made in the text.

C. N.T. Canon

1. N.T. books were considered as Scripture from the time they were written.
 - A. 1 Corinthians 14:37; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Timothy 5:18; 2 Peter 3:15, 16.
2. N.T. books circulated soon after they were written - Colossians 4:16.
3. During the first and early second centuries, N.T. books were quoted as the Word of God.
 - A. Clement (cir. A.D. 95) wrote two letters to Corinth quoting from 1st and 2nd Corinthians.
 - B. Papias, a disciple of Polycarp who was a disciple of John the Apostle, referred to Matthew and Mark as being the first two books of the N.T.
 - C. By the 4th century, all the books of the N.T. were gathered into one collection.

2. PRESERVATION OF THE TEXT.

- A. The survival of the Bible through the ages has served to show its inspiration.
- B. O.T. text carefully guarded to preserve accuracy.
 1. Scribes copied text by hand.

2. They bathed before making copies.
 3. Each letter on every page was counted.
 4. If a mistake was made, the pen was broken and the page rewritten.
- C. Three major sources of the O.T.
1. Greek Septuagint translated in Alexandria, Egypt in 3rd century B.C.
 - A. Helped prepare for the coming of Christ.
 - B. Served as the “Bible” of Christ, the apostles and the early Christians.
 2. Masoretic text made by Jewish scribes in the 9th century A.D.
 3. Dead Sea Scrolls found in 1947.
 - A. Every book of the O.T. but Esther is represented.
 - B. Dates back to 200 B.C.
 - C. Agrees perfectly with the Masoretic text.
- D. N.T. books have greater attestation than many of the classics, which are accepted without question.
1. Many classical works only have five to six manuscripts.
 2. Approximately 3,000 manuscripts and texts of the N.T. dating to the 1st century.
- E. Three major sources for the N.T.
1. Manuscripts.
 2. Versions.
 3. Quotations from the “apostolic fathers.”
- F. Major manuscripts of the N.T.
1. Codex Vaticanus - 4th century A.D.
 - A. Located in Vatican Library since 1481.
 - B. Has 759 pages out of the original 820.
 - C. Guarded by the Catholic Church and not generally available until 1889-90.
 2. Codex Sinaiticus - 4th century A.D.
 - A. Found in Russian Orthodox Monastery at Mt. Sinai by German scholar Tischendorf.
 - B. Presented to the Czar of Russia 1859.
 - C. Bought by the British Museum in 1933 for 100,000 pounds.
 - D. Contains all the N.T. and most of the O.T.
 3. Codex Alexandrius - 5th century.
 - A. In the British Museum in London.
 - B. Missing only a few verses of the Old and New Testaments.
 4. Codex Ephraemi - 5th century.
 - A. In the National Museum of Biblical Studies in Paris, France.
 - B. Calfskin manuscript of the Greek Bible, which was written over by a scribe in the 14th century.
 - C. Includes portions of the O.T. and every N.T. book but 2 Thessalonians and 2 John.
 5. The Papyri.
 - A. The Chester Beatty Papyri contains parts of the Greek Bible from the 2nd to the 4th centuries A.D.

- B. The Rylands Papyrus 457 in the John Rylands Library in Manchester, England.
 - 1. Contains oldest surviving fragment of the N.T. from John 18:18-31, 37, 38.
- G. Early translations.
 - 1. Date back earlier than oldest manuscripts.
 - 2. Old Syriac Version made near the close of the 1st century A.D.
 - 3. Old Latin Version made as early as the mid 2nd century A.D.
 - 4. Syriac Peshitta made about 425.
 - A. Based on the Byzantine text, which is the Textus Receptus from which the KJV is translated.
 - 5. Coptic Version made in Egypt as early as 200 A.D.
 - 6. Latin Vulgate produced by Jerome.
 - A. N.T. in 384 A.D. and O.T. in 404 A.D.
- H. Writings of the “church fathers.”
 - 1. Writings date back to within the lifetime of the apostles.
 - 2. Quotes extensively from the Scriptures.
 - 3. Older than our oldest manuscripts.
 - 4. Entire text of N.T. can be reproduced from these writings.
- 3. DO WE HAVE AN INSPIRED BIBLE TODAY?
 - A. Do not have the autographs of the N.T. books.
 - 1. Instead, we have copies of copies of copies.
 - 2. If originals had been preserved, men would have made idols of them - 2 Kings 18:4.
 - 3. The writers of the N.T. were inspired, translators were not.
 - B. Accurate translation is as inspired as the original writings.
 - 1. If the translated language is true to what the original conveyed in the Bible languages, it is just as inspired as the original.
 - 2. Jesus and apostles quoted from the Septuagint (Greek translation of the O.T. Hebrew) and called it “the word of God” or “the Scriptures.”
 - 3. If there is no present day inspired translations, we are without the Word of God.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE N.T.

INTRODUCTION:

1. God prepared people for the coming of His Son.
 - A. He came “in the fullness of time” - Galatians 4:4, 5.

BODY:

1. CHRIST CAME DURING THE RULE OF ROME - Daniel 2:31-45.
 - A. Rome founded in 753 B.C. as a city-state.
 1. By 265, had conquered Italy.
 2. Conquered Carthage in 146 B.C. ending a 200-year rivalry.
 3. Next, conquered the Empire of Alexander the Great.
 4. Palestine conquered by Pompey for Rome in 63 B.C.
 5. Britain and Gaul conquered by Julius Caesar.
 6. By the first century, Rome ruled much of the eastern world.
 - B. Early history of the church was influenced by Roman rulers - Daniel 4:17.
 1. Under Julius Caesar Rome changed from a republic to a military dictatorship.
 2. Civil war broke out at the assassination of Caesar.
 3. Octavius, Caesar’s nephew and heir (who was also the victor in the war) ruled from 27 B.C. to A.D. 14 as Augustus - Luke 2:1.
 4. Ministry of Jesus and birth of church was under Tiberius who ruled from A.D. 14 to 37 - Luke 3:1.
 5. Caligula ruled from A.D. 37 to 41.
 - A. He was mentally unstable, and sought to be worshipped as a god.
 1. Died before he could enforce this rule.
 6. Claudius ruled from A.D. 41 to 54.
 - A. Roman historian, Suetonius, wrote that Claudius expelled the Jews from Rome because of riots “instigated by Christus” - Acts 18:1, 2.
 - B. Adopted Nero, the son of his wife from a previous marriage.
 7. Nero ruled from A.D. 54 to 68.
 - A. Blamed Christians for burning Rome in A.D. 64.
 - B. Condemned Paul.
 - C. Committed suicide (A.D. 68), with civil war breaking out afterwards.
 8. Rome was briefly ruled by Galba, Otho, and Vitellius for about one year total.
 9. Vespasian ruled from A.D. 69 to 79.
 10. Titus, who conquered Jerusalem in A.D. 70, served as emperor from A.D. 79 to 81.
 11. Domitian ruled from A.D. 81 to 96.
 - A. Declared himself to be a god and demanded people to worship him as a test of their loyalty to the Roman Empire.
2. ISRAEL SERVED AS A VITAL PART OF GOD’S PLAN.
 - A. Seed line of Christ - Adam, Seth, Noah, Shem, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Jesse,

- David, Christ - Genesis 12:1-3; Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38.
- B. A land and a law was given to Israel by God - Genesis 17:1-8; Exodus 20-31; Joshua 21:43-45.
 1. The law served as a “schoolmaster” to bring them to Christ - Galatians 3:23-25.
 2. Israel ruled by judges - Acts 13:20.
 3. United kingdom lasted 120 years - Acts 13:21; 1 Kings 2:11; 11:42.
 - A. Divided at death of Solomon - 1 Kings 12:1-33.
 - B. Israel went into Assyrian captivity in 721 B.C. - 2 Kings 17:6-23.
 - C. Judah went into Babylonian captivity in 586 B.C. - 2 Kings 25:1-21.
 4. Jews permitted to return by Cyrus in 536 B.C. - Ezra 1:1-8.
 5. Ruled by Persians and Greeks.
 6. Were independent and lead by the Maccabees for a period of about 100 years.
 7. Jews fought by Pompey under Roman rule in 63 B.C.
 - C. The Herodian family became “puppet” kings for Israel in N.T. era.
 1. Edomites incorporated into Judah during time of the Maccabees and became known as the Idumaeans.
 2. An Idumaeen named Antipater was named ruler of Judah by the Romans.
 3. Herod the Great, the son of Antipater, ruled from 37 B.C. to 4 A.D.
 - A. Had many rivals, including family members, killed.
 - B. Greatly enlarged and adorned the temple - John 2:19, 20; Matthew 24:1.
 - C. Had the male babies killed in Bethlehem because he feared a rival - Matthew 2:16.
 4. Other “Herods” named in the N.T.
 - A. Archelaus, son of Herod the Great, ruled at the death of his father - Matthew 2:22.
 - B. Phillip, son of Herod the Great, built Caesarea Phillippi - Luke 3:1; Matthew 16:13.
 - C. Herod the tetrarch, also called Antipas, had John killed - Matthew 14:1-12; Luke 13:31, 32; 23:6-12.
 - D. Herod Agrippa I, grandson of Herod the Great, had James killed - Acts 12:1-3, 20-23.
 - E. Herod Agrippa II, appeared before by Paul - Acts 25:13-26:32.
 3. CHRIST CAME AT THE “FULLNESS OF TIME.”
 - A. Political conditions were right.
 1. Much of the world under one government.
 2. Travel was easier and safer than it had ever been.
 3. A common currency was used.
 4. For nearly 100 years peace has prevailed.
 - B. Culture and language were common.
 1. Greek language was the universal language of the Roman Empire.
 2. O.T. translated into Greek in Alexandria, Egypt in the 3rd century B.C.
 - C. Social and moral conditions were so bad that a widespread desire for something better was prevalent.

1. Prostitutes served as priestesses in pagan temples.
2. Abortion and homosexuality were commonly accepted - Romans 1:18-32.
3. Divorce was very common.
 - A. Seneca wrote that some women counted their age by the number of husbands they had.
- D. Human life was held in low esteem.
 1. Abortion and exposure of unwanted babies were practiced widely.
 2. Suicide was considered a right of the people.
 3. Sport activities were cruel, bloody and violent.
 4. Euthanasia ("mercy killing") was considered acceptable.
 5. Slavery was so common that often times the number of slaves outnumbered the freemen.
- E. Both Greek and Roman religions had lost their influence.
 1. A void was left in the lives of the worshippers.
- F. Judaism had done much to prepare the world for the coming of Christ.
 1. Jews scattered over the world.
 2. Wherever there were ten adult male Jews there existed a Synagogue.
 3. The One and True God had been preached and people expected the Messiah.
 4. Judaism stressed a high standard of morality.
 5. Many Gentiles had become Jewish proselytes or "God-fearers" - Acts 10:2.
 6. Synagogues provided a place to begin evangelism - Acts 13:5, 14; 14:1; 17:1-4, 10, 17; 18:4.

CONCLUSION:

1. The world was prepared by God for the coming of His Son - Galatians 4:4, 5.
2. Conditions were right for the spread of the gospel.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

MATTHEW - THE KING AND HIS KINGDOM

INTRODUCTION:

1. Matthew is the first book in the N.T.
 - A. Contains 28 chapters.
 - B. Covers the life of Christ from His birth to the giving of the Great Commission.
2. Most widely read book of the Bible.
3. Bridges the gap between the O.T. and the N.T.
 - A. One cannot understand the N.T. if he does not know the O.T.
 1. Neither can one understand the O.T. if he does not know the N.T.
 - B. Augustine stated, "The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed; the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed."
 - C. Between the time of the completion of Malachi to the time of the events of Matthew revelation had been silent for more than 400 years.
 - D. Book of Matthew directed to the Jews.
 - E. Quotes at least 65 times from the O.T.
 - F. Shows that Jesus is the Messiah of O.T. prophecy.
 - G. Traces Christ's lineage from Abraham through David.
 1. Shows that Christ was a true Jew and the promised Seed of Abraham.
 2. Also shows that Christ was the heir to the throne of Israel and the son of David.
4. "Most Jewish" of the four accounts of the life of Christ.
5. Not a biography.
 - A. Contains no physical description of Christ.
 - B. Omits most of the life of Christ.
 1. Concentrates on the birth, baptism, teaching, ministry, death and resurrection.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF MATTHEW?
 - A. Some modern "scholars" dispute that Matthew was written first.
 1. They speak of the "Synoptic problem."
 - A. "Synoptic means "to see the whole together."
 - B. Matthew, Mark and Luke are referred to as the "Synoptic Gospels" due to the fact they record so many similar things.
 2. The "Synoptic problem" raises the question of how do we account for the many similarities and differences between the accounts?
 3. The present theory from the liberals is that Mark was the first written account of the gospel.
 - A. It is suggested that Mark wrote using a collection of the sayings of Jesus known as "Q" (from quelle, the German word for source).
 1. It is further suggested that Matthew then wrote using Mark and Q followed by Luke who used Matthew, Mark and Q.

- B. However, concerning “Q,” there is no record of its existence.
 - 1. Such a theory destroys the verbal inspiration of Matthew - 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.
 - C. The similarities are explained by the fact that all three authors wrote of the same person and events and were inspired by the same Holy Spirit.
 - D. The differences are explained by the fact each author wrote to different people, highlighting things important for their understanding.
 - B. Matthew was accepted by the early church as the author.
 - 1. Irenaeus, who studied under Polycarp and who knew John the Apostle, accepted Matthew as the author.
 - 2. Even though Matthew is not mentioned in the book as the author, it seems fairly clear that he did indeed write it.
 - A. However, even if he did not, it matters little who wrote it.
 - C. Matthew was a tax collector - Matthew 9:9; Mark 2:14; Luke 5:27, 28.
 - 1. May have been among the “publicans and sinners” that were attracted to the teachings of Jesus.
 - 2. He left everything without hesitation and followed Jesus at His call - Luke 5:27, 28.
 - 3. Most likely a well educated man, as his profession would require such.
 - 4. Probably a very wealthy man.
 - A. He was a tax collector - Matthew 9:9.
 - B. Owned a house - Matthew 9:10-13; Mark 2:14-17; Luke 5:29.
 - C. Was financially able to make a feast for Jesus - Luke 5:29.
 - 5. Lived in Capernaum - Matthew 9:1, 9; Mark 2:1.
 - 6. Was also called “Levi, the son of Alphaeus” - Mark 2:14.
 - D. Very little known of his life after Pentecost.
 - 1. Last time mentioned in the N.T. is Acts 1:13.
 - 2. According to others of his time he preached among the Jews for 15 years after Pentecost and then carried the gospel to Syria, Persia, Parthia, Media and Ethiopia.
 - 3. Tradition varies some on his death.
 - A. Certain ones claim he died a martyr’s death.
 - B. Others, such as fifth century writer Socrates, claim he died a natural death while preaching in Ethiopia.
2. WHEN AND WHERE WAS BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Early Christian writers declare Matthew to be the first of the four writers of the life of Christ.
 - 1. Date varies.
 - A. Some say as early as 37 A.D.
 - B. Irenaeus claims Matthew was written while Peter and Paul were in Rome preaching.
 - 1. However, there is no evidence that Peter was ever in Rome.
 - C. Clearly written before A.D. 70 as it predicts the destruction of Jerusalem - Matthew 24.
 - D. There is internal evidence that some time passed between the time of the events actually happening, and his recording of them - Matthew 27:8; 28:15.

- B. Certain ancient writers have said that Matthew first wrote in Hebrew and translated his book into Greek.
 - 1. However, nothing in the book would indicate this is true.
 - A. Greek was widely spoken in Palestine.
 - B. No copies of a Hebrew text of Matthew have ever been found.
 - C. This theory also raises the question of why would Matthew translate Hebrew phrases if the entire book was a translation from Hebrew to Greek?
 - 1. See Matthew 1:23; 27:33; 27:46.
 - 2. Since it appears that the book was written for a wider circulation, it most likely was written in the common language of Greek.
 - C. The place of writing is unknown.
 - 1. Perhaps Jerusalem or Judea.
3. WHY WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN?
- A. It is a message of the King and His Kingdom.
 - 1. Phrase “Kingdom of heaven” found 33 times.
 - 2. “Kingdom of God” four times.
 - 3. Jesus referred to as “the son of David” nine times.
 - B. Jesus is shown to be the fulfillment of the O.T. prophecies of the Messiah.
 - 1. Phrase “that it might be fulfilled” occurs many times - Matthew 1:22; 2:17; 2:23; 4:14; 8:17; 12:17; 13:35; 21:4; 27:9.
 - 2. Records Peter’s confession - Matthew 16:16.
 - C. Fulfilled the need for an inspired, authoritative, eyewitness account of the life of Christ.
 - 1. Christianity was rapidly spreading.
 - 2. Those who had seen Jesus were passing away.
 - 3. Numerous false stories were being circulated - Luke 1:1.
4. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Each gospel account written to different people.
 - 1. Matthew - Jews.
 - 2. Mark - Romans.
 - 3. Luke - Greeks.
 - 4. John - Universal.
5. OUTLINE OF MATTHEW.
- A. Book written both chronologically and topically.
 - 1. Chapters 1-4 are chronological.
 - A. Birth.
 - B. Sojourn to Egypt.
 - C. Ministry of John.
 - D. Jesus’ baptism.
 - E. Jesus’ temptation.
 - F. Beginning of Jesus’ ministry.
 - 2. Chapters 20-28 are chronological.
 - B. Topical arrangement of portions of Matthew.
 - 1. Six discourses of Jesus recorded:

- A. Sermon on the mount - chapters 5-7.
- B. Miracles - chapters 8-9.
- C. Limited Commission given - chapter 10.
- D. Parables of the Kingdom - chapter 13.
- E. Discourse on humility and forgiveness - chapter 18.
- F. Denunciation of Scribes and Pharisees - chapter 23.
- G. Olivet discourse - chapters 24-25.

CONCLUSION:

1. Interesting facts:
 - A. Matthew means “gift of God.”
 - B. According to Eusebius the book of Matthew was known in India in the 2nd century.
 - C. Word “church” used three times - Matthew 16:18; 18:17.
 - D. Fifteen parables found in Matthew.
 1. Ten of which are not found elsewhere in the N.T.
 - E. Twenty miracles found in Matthew.
 1. Three of which are not found elsewhere in the N.T.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

MARK - THE SERVANT OF JEHOVAH

INTRODUCTION:

1. Second book of the N.T. is Mark's account of the life of Christ.
 - A. Has 16 chapters
 - B. Shortest of the four gospel accounts.
2. Mark is a fast moving portrayal of the ministry of Jesus.
 - A. Uses the words "immediately," "straightway," or "forthwith" 41 times.
 - B. Shows us how busy Christ was in His ministry.
3. It is believed that Mark wrote the account of the life of Christ as Peter preached it.
 - A. Actual name is John Mark - Acts 12:12.
 - B. Was a companion of Peter in Peter's later years - 1 Peter 5:13.
 - C. Papias, a Christian, wrote in the early 2nd century "Mark, having become the interpreter of Peter, wrote down accurately everything that he remembered without however recording in order what was either said or done by Christ..."
 - D. Irenaeus said in the late 2nd century, "...Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, did also hand down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter."

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF MARK?
 - A. Early writers universally accepted Mark as the writer.
 1. Papias, Justin Martyr, Tertullian and Irenaeus in the 2nd century.
 2. Origen in the 3rd century.
 3. Eusebius in the 4th century.
 - B. Mark was well qualified to write on the life of Christ.
 1. He was the son of Mary whose home was a meeting place for the early church - Acts 12:12.
 - A. It is believed that the upper room where Jesus ate the last supper and where the disciples met after the ascension of Jesus was in Mary's home - Mark 14:12-26; Acts 1:13.
 - B. Only Mark writes of the young man who followed Jesus when he was arrested - Mark 14:51, 52.
 1. Many believe this young man was Mark.
 2. Mark was either a cousin or nephew of Barnabas - Colossians 4:10.
 3. He would have known all of the apostles due to their meeting at his mother's house.
 4. He accompanied Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey - Acts 13:4-13.
 - A. He did not complete the journey, but turned back at Pamphylia.
 - B. Paul later refused to take Mark on the second missionary journey - Acts 15:36-41.
 1. This led to a split up of Paul and Barnabas.
 - A. Paul took Silas and went to Syria and Cilicia.
 - B. Barnabas took Mark and went to Cyprus.

- C. Paul later referred to Mark in a favorable way, which indicates they must have reconciled - 2 Timothy 4:11.
- 5. Mark traveled with Peter who was his “father” in the faith - 1 Peter 5:13.
- 2. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Certainly written before A.D. 70 due to its prediction of the destruction of Jerusalem - Mark 13.
 - 1. Conservative scholars date the book between 56 and 66 A.D.
 - B. Tradition says it was written in Italy, probably Rome.
 - 1. Mark was in Rome during the first imprisonment of Paul - Colossians 4:10.
 - 2. He was later summoned to Rome by Paul during his second imprisonment - 2 Timothy 4:11.
- 3. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN, AND TO WHOM?
 - A. What Jesus taught was emphasized by Matthew while Mark emphasized what He did.
 - B. Mark wrote with the Romans in mind.
 - C. His book differs from that of Matthew and Luke.
 - 1. Mark omits the genealogy of Jesus.
 - 2. No mention of the birth and childhood of Jesus.
 - 3. Begins abruptly with the ministry of John the baptizer.
 - 4. Does not record some of the major discourses of Jesus such as the Sermon on the Mount, the denunciation of the scribes and Pharisee, and the parables of the second coming as seen in Matthew 25.
 - 5. He gives less space to the parables and more space to the miracles.
 - 6. He pictures Christ as the servant of Jehovah while Matthew pictures him as the Messiah and King of the Jews.
- 4. OUTLINE OF MARK.
 - A. Opening events in the public life of Jesus - 1:1-13.
 - B. Jesus’ ministry in Galilee - 1:14-9:50.
 - C. Jesus’ journey to Jerusalem - 10:1-52.
 - D. Jesus’ final week - 11:1-15:47.
 - E. The resurrection, giving of the great commission and ascension - 16:1-20.
- 5. IS MARK 16:9-20 PART OF THE INSPIRED WORD?
 - A. Liberals argue that this text should not be in the Bible.
 - 1. All modern English versions, except the New King James Version, omit it or place it as a footnote.
 - 2. Not a question of the teachings, but as to whether the text was written by Mark or added at a later date by someone else.
 - 3. Text is missing from a small number of ancient manuscripts.
 - A. Missing from the Sinai and Vatican Manuscripts.
 - B. Jerome and others of the 4th century indicate it was missing in some manuscripts of their day.
 - B. However, evidence is strong that the text should be considered as part of the Canon.
 - 1. It is in the majority of manuscripts including the Alexandrian.
 - 2. Was quoted by writers in the 2nd and 3rd centuries which indicates it was part of the

N.T. before the time of the Sinai and Vatican Manuscripts.

A. Irenaeus quoted Mark 16:19 in the 2nd century.

C. Ancient versions, which were made from manuscripts older than the Sinai and Vatican Manuscripts have it.

CONCLUSION:

1. Mark's book is more vivid than that of other gospel writers.
 - A. In Mark 1:12, 13 he gives more detail than others.
 - B. In Mark 6:39 he is the only writer who indicates that Jesus sat down on "green grass."
2. Mark quotes from the O.T. only once.
 - A. He records 19 times that Jesus quoted from the O.T.
3. Eusebius claimed that Mark established the church in Alexandria in Egypt.
4. Mark wrote to prove that Jesus was the Son of God and man's Savior.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

LUKE - JESUS THE PERFECT MAN

INTRODUCTION:

1. Third book in the N.T. is Luke's account of the life of Christ.
 - A. Has twenty-four chapters.
 - B. The second longest of the four gospel accounts.
2. Has been referred to as "the most beautiful book ever written."
 - A. According to Greek scholars Luke and Acts contain the finest Greek in the N.T.
3. Is the first of two volumes on the work of Christ and His church written by Luke.
 - A. Volume two is Acts - Acts 1:1.
 - B. Acts is a continuation of what Jesus did and taught through His inspired representatives on earth.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Book does not contain the author's name.
 - B. Universal testimony of the early church is that Luke was the author.
 1. Clement of Rome quoted from Luke around A.D. 95.
 2. The Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs, written between 100-120 A.D., quoted extensively from Luke.
 3. Around the middle of the 2nd century Heracleon wrote a commentary on Luke.
 4. In the middle of the 2nd century Justin Martyr quoted from Luke about 70 times.
 5. "The Gospel of Luke stands third in order, having been written by Luke, the physician, the companion of Paul, who, not being himself an eyewitness, based his narrative on such information as he could obtain, beginning from the birth of John."
 6. Around 180 A.D. Irenaeus wrote that Luke "recorded in a book the Gospel preached by Paul."
 7. In the late 2nd and early 3rd centuries, Clement of Alexandria and Tertullian quote from Luke and indicate its authorship as Luke.
 - C. By name Luke is only mentioned three times in the N.T.
 1. Colossians 4:14.
 - A. Luke is distinguished from others who were "of the circumcision."
 1. Indicates that Luke was not a Jew.
 - B. Luke was in Rome during Paul's first imprisonment.
 - C. Luke was a doctor.
 2. Philemon 24.
 - A. During Paul's second imprisonment.
 - B. Paul was probably put to death shortly after this - 2 Timothy 4:6-8.
 3. 2 Timothy 4:11.
 - D. Luke wrote both Luke and Acts.
 1. Both are written to the same person - Theophilus - Luke 1:3; Acts 1:1.

2. Acts chapter one begins where Luke 24 stops.
3. Both books have the same style of Greek.
4. Both contain medical vocabulary.
- E. Luke was in a good position to write the life of Christ.
 1. He traveled with Paul on the 2nd and 3rd missionary journeys.
 - A. Joined Paul's company at Troas - Acts 16:10.
 - B. Went with Paul to Philippi - Acts 16:40.
 1. Seems Luke stayed at Philippi while the rest went on.
 - C. Rejoined Paul's group during the 3rd missionary journey - Acts 20:5.
 - D. Passages in Acts where "we" is used indicate Luke's presence.
 2. Was with Paul when he was imprisoned in Caesarea.
 - A. May have used these two years to make acquaintance with the mother and brothers of Jesus and other eyewitnesses of Christ.
 - B. Accompanied Paul to Rome - Acts 27:1-28:16.
- F. Luke was the first church historian.
 1. Only N.T. writer who mentions Roman emperors and officials by name.
 2. Refers to numerous events, which can historically be verified.
 3. Liberals have charged that he erred in some facts:
 - A. They denied that Augustus issued an order for a census as stated in Luke 2:1.
 1. Now it is known that such a census was held every 14 years.
 - B. They denied that Cyrenius was governor of Syria when Christ was born.
 1. Now it is known that he served twice.
- G. Interesting facts about Luke.
 1. Eusebius claims that he was a native of Antioch of Syria - Acts 11-13.
 2. May have been educated at the medical college in Antioch.
 3. The only non-Jew who wrote a book of the Bible.
2. WHEN AND WHERE WRITTEN?
 - A. Addressed both books to Theophilus.
 1. Theophilus means "Lover of God."
 2. May have been the proper name of an individual.
 3. May have been a general term for all lovers of God.
 - B. Certainly written before Acts was written.
 1. Acts was probably written from Rome while Paul was in prison.
 2. This would have been about 63 A.D.
 3. Luke probably written while Paul was in prison in Caesarea around 61 A.D.
3. WHY WRITTEN AND TO WHOM?
 - A. Each writer wrote to a particular audience:
 1. Matthew - Jews.
 2. Mark - Romans.
 3. Luke - Greeks.
 4. John - Universal.
 - B. The Greeks sought to produce the perfect man.
 1. Luke writes to show that Christ is that man.

2. Jews and Romans were exclusive in outlook, while Greeks were universal.
 3. Luke presents Christ as the Universal Man of the Greeks.
 - A. Matthew presents Him as the Jewish Messiah.
 - B. Mark presents Him as the Man of Action.
 - C. Emphasis is seen that Christ is the Savior of the entire world, not just of the Jews.
 1. Simeon spoke of “a light to lighten the Gentiles” - Luke 2:32.
 2. Luke traces genealogy back to Adam - Luke 3:38.
 3. Only writer to mention the widow of Sarepta and Naaman the Syrian - Luke 4:25-27.
 4. Only writer to record the Parable of the Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37.
 5. Only writer to record the Samaritan who returned to give thanks for being healed - Luke 17:12-17.
 6. Only writer to quote Isaiah 40:5, “All flesh shall see the salvation of God” - Luke 3:6.
 - D. Emphasizes Christ’s love for the lost.
 1. At Zaccheaus’ house - Luke 19:1-10.
 2. Of the parables only Luke records:
 - A. The lost sheep - Luke 15:1-7.
 - B. The lost coin - Luke 15:8-10.
 - C. The lost son - Luke 15:11-24.
 - D. The lost elder brother - Luke 15:25-32.
4. OUTLINE OF LUKE.
- A. Preface - 1:1-4.
 - B. Infancy and childhood of John and Jesus - 1:5-2:52.
 - C. Beginning of Christ’s Ministry - 3:1-4:13.
 - D. Galilean Campaign - 4:14-9:6.
 - E. Withdrawal from Galilee - 9:7-50.
 - F. Later Judean and Peraean Ministry - 9:51-19:28.
 - G. Close of Public Ministry in Jerusalem - 19:29-21:38.
 - H. Sufferings and Death of Jesus - 22-23.
 - I. Resurrection and Ascension - 24.
5. LESSONS FROM LUKE FOR US TODAY.
- A. Life begins at conception.
 1. Holy Spirit filled John in mother’s womb - Luke 1:15.
 2. In Elisabeth’s womb, during her sixth month of pregnancy, John “leaped for joy” - Luke 1:26,41, 44.
 - B. Refutes Roman Catholic practice of worshipping Mary.
 1. Catholics call Mary the “mother of God” and a mediator.
 2. Jesus taught that anyone who hears and does His will has the same standing with Him that Mary does - Luke 8:19-21; 11:27, 28.
 - A. Note also 1 Timothy 2:5 to see who our Mediator is.
 - C. Luke’s account gives righteous women credit for fulfilling their God given roles.
 1. Elizabeth - mother of the forerunner of Jesus - Luke 1:5-25.
 2. Mary - became the mother of the Son of God - Luke 1:26-38.
 3. Anna - spoke of Jesus - Luke 2:36-38.

4. Mary Magdalene, Joanna and Susanna followed Jesus and financially supported his work - Luke 8:1-3.
 5. Mary and Martha showed Jesus hospitality in their home - Luke 10:38-42.
 6. Women present at the death and burial of Jesus - Luke 23:49, 55.
 7. Women were the first to see Jesus after His resurrection - Luke 24:1-10.
- D. Emphasizes the importance of prayer.
1. Records several teachings of Jesus on prayer that are not recorded elsewhere.
 2. Points out that Jesus prayed at critical times in His life:
 - A. His baptism - 3:21.
 - B. Prior to choosing the apostles - 6:12-16.
 - C. The Great Confession - 9:18-20.
 - D. The transfiguration - 9:28-36.
 3. Only writer to record Jesus' prayer for His murderers - Luke 23:34.
- E. Emphasizes the importance of repentance.
1. Uses "repent" and its derivatives 15 times - 13:1-5; 15:7, 10, 17-20; 19:1-9; 23:39-43.

CONCLUSION:

1. Book contains much information not found in Matthew, Mark or John.
 - A. The birth of John.
 - B. Jesus' visit to the temple at age 12.
 - C. Parables of the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son and others.
 - D. The accounts of the rich man and Lazarus and the thief on the cross.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

JOHN - JESUS, THE UNIVERSAL MAN

INTRODUCTION:

1. Of the four books which chronicle the life of Christ, it is said that:
 - A. Matthew wrote to the Jews and presents the King and His kingdom.
 - B. Mark wrote to the Romans and presents Jesus as the Servant of Jehovah, a man of action.
 - C. Luke wrote to the Greeks and presents Jesus as the perfect man.
 - D. John wrote to all mankind and presents Christ, as God became flesh in the universal man.
2. The book of John differs considerably from the other three accounts:
 - A. They are more biographical in their approach of the life of Christ.
 - B. John shows the nature of Christ.
 - C. The book of John was written many years later than the others.
 1. There would have been no need for him to write at such a late date if all he was going to do was repeat what already had been said.
 - D. He leaves out several things found in the other three records:
 1. Genealogy, birth, childhood, baptism, temptation, Sermon on the mount, etc.
 - E. He includes several things not found in the other three records:
 1. The miracle at Cana, the story of Nicodemus, the story of the woman at the well, the parable of the Good Shepherd, the raising of Lazarus, the washing of the disciple's feet, the Lord's prayer for unity, and the events of Thomas.
3. Book has been called "the holy of holies of the N.T."

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Critics attempt to date the N.T. books as late as possible in order to deny their inspiration and discredit their authorship.
 1. If it could be shown that the books were written during the 2nd century, or later, this would eliminate all the original authors and, therefore, discredit the entire N.T.
 2. We have fragments of John that date to within 25 years of his lifetime proving the critics wrong.
 - B. Internal evidence supports John's authorship.
 1. The author was familiar with the people, places and customs of Palestine, which indicated that he must have been a Jew such as John who lived there.
 2. Most of the quotations from the O.T. are from the Hebrew of which only a Palestinian Jew, such as John, would know.
 3. The personal insights and intimate details found within the book indicate that someone wrote it that was very close to Jesus, such as John.
 - A. Three apostles were the closest to Jesus - Peter, James and John - Mark 5:35-43. Matthew 17:1-9; 26:36, 37.
 1. James was beheaded in the early days of the church, which excludes him as author - Acts 12:1, 2.

2. As we have noted the book of Mark contains Peter's preaching, therefore no need for another history from Peter's perspective.
 3. This leaves only John.
- D. External evidence also suggests John as the author.
1. Justin Martyr, about A.D. 150, credits John as the author.
 2. Muratorian Canon, about A.D. 170, claims John is the author.
 3. Irenaeus, about A.D. 180, wrote that Polycarp, who was a friend of John, credited John with the authorship.
 4. Tertullian, about A.D. 200, credited John with writing it.
- E. John was well qualified to write an account of the life of Christ.
1. He was the brother of James and the son of Zebedee and Salome - Matthew 4:21; 20:20, 21; 27:56; Mark 15:40, 41.
 2. He was probably the younger brother of James as he was always mentioned second - Matthew 4:21; 10:2; 17:1; Mark 1:29; 10:35.
 3. He was a partner in a fishing business with his father, brother and Peter and Andrew - Luke 5:10.
 4. Salome is believed to be one of the women who followed Jesus and financially supported his efforts - Mark 16:1.
 5. He was one of the first disciples and enjoyed a special closeness to Jesus.
 - A. He was the "disciple whom Jesus loved" - John 13:23; 19:26; 21:20.
 6. Before his death Jesus commended the care of His mother to John - John 19:25-27.
 7. John and Peter worked close together - Luke 22:8; John 20:2-10; Acts 4:13-22; 8:14.
 8. He was the apostle who Jesus called a "son of thunder," but became the "apostle of love" - Mark 3:16, 17; 9:38-40; Luke 9:51-56.
 9. Was one of the leaders of the Jerusalem church - Galatians 2:9.
 10. History says that he remained in Jerusalem until the death of Jesus' mother.
 11. And that he spent the remaining years of his life in Ephesus.
 - A. Following the destruction of Jerusalem, Ephesus became the center of Christianity.
 - B. He was exiled to Patmos during the reign of Domitian - Revelation 1:9.
 - C. Died during the reign of Trajan, about 100 A.D. and was buried at Ephesus.
2. WHEN AND WHERE WRITTEN?
- A. John was the third author by content following Luke and Paul.
1. He wrote John, 1st, 2nd, 3rd John and Revelation.
- B. Evidence indicates that the book of John was probably written from Ephesus near the end of the 1st century.
1. "Last of all, John, observing that in the other Gospels those things were related that concerned the body, and being persuaded by his friends and also moved by the Spirit of God, wrote a spiritual Gospel." - Clement of Alexandria, about 100 years after John's death.
 2. Irenaeus claimed that John wrote about the life of Christ about 60 years after the

- ascension of Christ.
- A. He also stated that John wrote after the death of Domitian following his return from Patmos.
- B. He referred to John's account as the last of four accounts of the life of Christ.
- 3. John's exile was in the latter part of Domitian's rule.
 - A. Domitian died in A.D. 96.
 - B. The book of John was written after the exile to Patmos.
 - C. Therefore, this would date the book around A.D. 97 or 98.
- 3. WHY WAS BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. To support the claims of the deity of Christ.
 - 1. Eight great miracles are listed by John to prove this deity:
 - A. Water to wine - 2:1-11.
 - B. Long distant healing of the nobleman's son - 4:46-54.
 - C. 5,000 fed - 6:1-13.
 - D. Jesus walking on water - 6:16-21.
 - E. Man born blind healed - 9:1-7.
 - F. Lazarus raised from the dead - 11:1-46.
 - G. The resurrection - 20.
 - H. The great catch of fish - 21:1-8.
 - B. John records nothing of the first 30 years of the life of Jesus.
 - C. Purpose was to supplement what Matthew, Mark and Luke had already written.
- 4. OUTLINE OF JOHN.
 - A. The Word in eternity - 1:1-5. (Word refers to Jesus)
 - B. The Word became flesh - 1:6-18.
 - C. The Word revealed to Israel - 1:19-12:50.
 - D. The Word revealed to the disciples - 13:1-17:26.
 - E. The Word crucified for man's sins - 18:1-19:42.
 - F. The Word resurrected from the dead - 20:1-31.
 - G. The Word manifested to the disciples after the resurrection - 21:1-25.
- 5. LESSONS FROM JOHN FOR US TODAY.
 - A. Christ is Deity, the creator, and one of the three Persons in the Godhead - John 1:1-3, 14; 20:24-28.
 - B. Despite Catholic claims, Christ did not perform miracles before Cana - John 2:11.
 - C. The mark of a disciple is love - John 13:34, 35.
 - D. Holy Spirit sent to guide the apostles into all truth - John 14:26; 16:13.
 - E. The apostle of love did not ignore false teaching - 1 John 2:4.
 - F. Claims of Christ set forth in the "I Am" passages:
 - 1. The bread of life - 6:35.
 - 2. The light of the world - 8:12; 9:5.
 - 3. The door of the sheepfold - 10:7.
 - 4. The good shepherd - 10:11, 14.
 - 5. The resurrection and the life - 11:25.
 - 6. The way, the truth, and the life - 14:6.

- 7. The true vine - 15:1.
- G. Jesus is the “only begotten Son of God” - John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18; 1 John 4:9.
 - 1. Liberals are attempting to destroy the teaching that “Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God” - Matthew 16:16.
 - A. They translate “only begotten” as “only.”
 - B. Also change “virgin” to “young woman.”
 - 2. Only three ways one can become a son of God:
 - A. Creation - Genesis 1:27.
 - B. Adoption - Romans 8:14-17.
 - C. Only Jesus is the “only begotten Son of God.”
 - 1. That is, God was His Father and Mary was His mother.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Key word in John is “believe.”
 - A. Occurs about 100 times.
- 2. Books written that man might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and have eternal life - John 3:16; 20:30, 31.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES - REDEMPTION REALIZED

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Book of Acts is often referred to as “the hub of the Bible.”
2. The previous four books would be incomplete without Acts.
3. As we have seen, Acts is the second book written by Luke - Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1.
4. Does not give details on all of the apostles, but mainly with the works of two:
 - A. Peter - chapters 1-12.
 - B. Paul - chapters 13-28.
5. Acts is a book of beginnings:
 - A. The carrying out of the Great Commission - 1:8.
 - B. Preaching of the resurrected Lord - 2:14-36.
 - C. The church - 2:41, 47; 8:12.
 - D. Worship - 2:42; 20:7.
 - E. Persecution for the faith - 4, 5, 7, 8, 12.
 - F. Gentiles enter the church - 10, 11.
 - G. A new name for God’s people - 11:26.
 - H. Elders for the church - 11:30; 14:23; 20:17, 28.
6. N.T. epistles, especially those of Paul, should be read with the background of Acts in mind.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. The “we” passages indicate Luke was a participant in many of the recorded events - Acts 16:10-17; 20:6-15.
 - B. Irenaeus states that Luke wrote Acts.
 - C. Who was Luke?
 1. Perhaps a native of Antioch of Syria.
 2. A physician - Colossians 4:14.
 3. A Greek.
 4. An accurate historian - the first church historian.
 5. Missionary and co-worker with Paul, Silas, Timothy, Titus, etc.
2. WHEN AND WHERE WRITTEN?
 - A. Probably from Rome since it ends with Paul’s first imprisonment there - Acts 28:30, 31.
 - B. History indicates Paul was martyred during the persecution of Nero - A.D. 64-68.
 - C. Probably late A.D. 62 or early 63.
3. WHY WRITTEN?
 - A. Jesus had died on the cross, was buried in the tomb, and arose from the dead to make salvation possible - 1 Corinthians 15:1-4.
 1. He gave the Great Commission - Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16; Luke 24:44-47.
 2. Acts shows how it was carried out.
 - B. Acts is a book of conversions.

- C. Certain ones selected by the Holy Spirit as models for future generations:
 - 1. Jews on Pentecost - chapter 2.
 - 2. Samaritans - 8:5-12.
 - 3. Simon the sorcerer - 8:13.
 - 4. Ethiopian eunuch - 8:26-40.
 - 5. Saul - chapters 9, 22, 26.
 - 6. Cornelius - chapters 10, 11.
 - 7. Lydia - 16:13-15.
 - 8. Jailer at Philippi - 16:25-34.
 - 9. Corinthians - 18:1-18.
 - 10. Disciples at Ephesus - 19:1-6.
- D. Basic steps found in these cases of conversion are:
 - 1. Gospel preached - Mark 16:15; Romans 10:17.
 - 2. Hearers believed - Mark 16:16; John 8:24.
 - 3. Repented of past sins - Luke 13:3; 24:47.
 - 4. Confessed Christ as the Son of God - Acts 8:37.
 - 5. Baptized for the remission of sins - Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:4; Acts 2:38.
 - 6. Added to the church by the Lord - Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47.
 - 7. If man does the same thing today he will receive the same results as those above.
- E. Acts is a missionary book - Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8.
 - 1. Gospel preached:
 - A. At Jerusalem - chapters 2-6.
 - B. In Judea - chapters 2-9.
 - C. In Samaria - 8:4-25.
 - D. Uttermost parts of the earth - chapters 10-28.
- 4. TO WHOM WRITTEN?
 - A. Addressed to Theophilus - Acts 1:1; Luke 1:1-4.
 - B. Intended to be a history of the beginning and growth of the church.
- 5. OUTLINE OF ACTS.
 - A. Divided according to centers of influence.
 - 1. Jerusalem - chapters 1-12.
 - 2. Antioch - chapters 13-28.
 - B. Divided according to the work of Peter and Paul.
 - 1. Peter - chapters 1-12.
 - 2. Paul - chapters 13-28.
- 6. LESSON FROM ACTS FOR US TODAY.
 - A. Tongues in Acts 2 were actual languages - Acts 2:4-8.
 - B. Miraculous gifts were given by laying on of the hands of the apostles.
 - 1. Since no living apostles today, such gifts cannot be passed on - Acts 8:14-18; 19:6.
 - C. God is no respecter of persons - Acts 10:34, 35.
 - D. Only one church and all the saved are added to it by the Lord - Acts 2:41, 47.
 - E. The question of "What must I do to be saved?" is answered by the book of Acts - Acts

- 2:37, 38; 9:6; 16:30-34; 22:16.
- F. "Christian" is the name given by God for His faithful children to wear - Isaiah 62:1, 2; Acts 11:26.
 - G. Baptism is necessary for salvation - Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12, 13, 26-39; 9:18; 10:47, 48; 16:15, 30-34; 18:8; 19:1-5.
 - H. False teachers would come from both within and without the church - Acts 15:1-11; 20:28-32.
 - I. There is a pattern for proper worship of the church - Acts 2:42; 20:7.
 - J. There is a pattern for the organization of the church - Acts 14:23; 20:17, 28.
 - K. The church must practice benevolence - Acts 2:44, 45; 4:34-37; 6:1-6; 11:27-30.
 - L. The church can expect persecution - Acts 4:21; 5:40; 7:1-60; 8:1-3; 12:1, 2; 14:22.
 - M. Discipline is demanded by God - Acts 5:1-11.
 - N. Souls will be added to the church daily if daily teaching is done - Acts 2:47; 5:42.
 - O. The kingdom has been established and Christ is reigning over it - Acts 2:29-36; 8:12; 19:8; 20:25; 28:30, 31.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Acts reveals two laws of pardon:
 - A. Believe and be baptized - Acts 8:12, 13.
 - B. Repent and pray - Acts 8:22.
 - 1. One is for the alien sinner and the other for the fallen child of God.
- 2. Acts serves as the first history of the church.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

ROMANS - THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

INTRODUCTION:

1. Considered to be one of the most difficult books in the Bible to understand.
2. Also considered to be the greatest of Paul's epistles.
 - A. Martin Luther said that Romans changed his entire view of salvation.
 - B. Remember, "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God," and therefore is of equal importance - 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.
3. Probably the most misunderstood book in the N.T.
 - A. Luther added the word "only" to Romans 3:28 resulting in millions misunderstanding the plan of salvation.
 - B. Key to understanding Romans is the phrase "the obedience to the faith" which is found at the beginning and end of the book - Romans 1:5; 16:26.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Internal evidence points to Paul.
 1. The book is the work of a Jewish Christian who was familiar with the Greek O.T. as well as the Hebrew.
 2. Writer refers to himself as Paul (1:1) and describes himself in such a way as only Paul could - Romans 11:13; 15:15-20.
 - B. External evidence points to Paul.
 1. Marcion, about A.D. 140, said Paul wrote Romans.
 2. Irenaeus claimed Paul wrote it.
 3. All ancient writer from Irenaeus on pointed to Paul as the author.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The City of Rome was the greatest city of its day.
 1. Founded in 753 B.C.
 2. Ruled the world.
 3. All roads led to Rome.
 - B. A large settlement of Jews lived in Rome.
 1. Jews from Rome were present on Pentecost - Acts 2:10.
 2. Jewish community dated back to the 2nd century B.C.
 - A. However, grew greatly after Pompey annexed Judea in 63 B.C.
 3. Cicero referred to the large size and influence of the Jewish community in Rome in 59 B.C.
 4. Emperor Tiberius forced the Jews to leave Rome in A.D. 19.
 - A. Most returned when the ban was lifted.
 5. They were also banned by Claudius, who reigned from A.D. 41-54.
 - A. Priscilla and Aquila were among those who had to leave - Acts 18:2.
 - C. Who planted the church in Rome?

1. It could not have been Paul as it was already established before he had been there - Romans 1:10-13.
 2. It could not have been Peter as there is no record of him being there.
 3. More than likely the gospel was brought by Roman Jews who were converted on Pentecost - Acts 2:10.
 4. It would have been easy for the gospel to reach Rome since it was such a great center of commerce.
 5. The church was well established by the time Paul wrote - Romans 1:8.
2. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. The Jews were expelled in A.D. 52 by the decree of Claudius.
 1. Priscilla and Aquila were already in Corinth when Paul came.
 2. Paul stayed in Corinth for eighteen months - Acts 18:11.
 3. He then sailed from Cenchrea to Antioch of Syria, stopping at Ephesus and Caesarea on the way - Acts 18:18-22.
 4. He began his third missionary journey from Antioch around A.D. 55.
 - A. He passed through Galatia and Phrygia - Acts 18:23.
 - B. He then arrived in Ephesus where he stayed for three years in total - Acts 19:1-4, 8, 10, 21, 22; 20:31.
 5. Therefore, the date could not be before A.D. 56 nor later than A.D. 58.
 - B. The book was written from Corinth during his three months stay in Greece - Acts 20:2, 3.
 1. He stayed in the house of Gaius - Romans 16:23.
 2. Gaius was baptized in Corinth by Paul - 1 Corinthians 1:14.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Paul had wanted to visit the church in Rome, but had been unable to do so - Romans 1:10-13.
 - B. Paul desired to impart unto them some spiritual gifts and have some fruit among them - Romans 1:11-13.
 - C. He felt a debt to preach the gospel to all men including those in Rome - Romans 1:14, 15.
 - D. He hoped the church in Rome would support his planned work in Spain - Romans 15:23, 24.
 - E. He answered the question of "How can a man be righteous before God?"
5. OUTLINE OF ROMANS.
- A. Introduction - 1:1-15.
 - B. Theme of Romans - the Gospel of Christ - 1:16, 17.
 - C. The Gentile's need for the gospel - 1:18-32.
 - D. The Jew's need for the gospel - 2:1-3:8.
 - E. All are lost without the gospel - 3:9-20.
 - F. Jesus is the only way of salvation - 3:21-31.
 - G. Abraham's justification was by faith - 4:1-25.
 - H. Results of justification - 5:1-11.
 - I. Gospel is as far reaching in salvation as sin is in condemnation - 5:12-21.
 - J. Salvation by grace gives no encouragement to sin - 6:1-23.
 - K. The burden of and inability to be saved by the Law of Moses - 7:1-25.

- L. Freedom is in Jesus Christ - 8:1-39.
- M. The Jew's place in God's scheme of redemption - 9:1-11:36.
- N. Practical admonitions for the Christian life - 12:1-13:14.
- O. Matters of faith and matters of liberty - 14:1-15:7.
- P. Paul as the apostle to the Gentiles - 15:8-33.
- Q. Personal admonitions and greetings - 16:1-27.

CONCLUSION:

1. Interesting facts:
 - A. Sixth in order of N.T. books, but first in order of epistles because of its doctrinal importance.
 - B. Roman church composed of both Jews and Gentiles.
 - C. Books of Galatians and Hebrews, along with 2 Corinthians 3, should be studied in connection with Romans.
 - D. Word righteousness in Romans means the same as the legal word justification and refers to the act of clearing the guilty.
 - E. Romans sent by the hand of Phoebe who came from the church in Cenchrea - Romans 16:1.
2. Salvation the Roman way:
 - A. Saved by obedience to the faith - Romans 1:5.
 - B. One must obey the form of doctrine - Romans 6:17.
 - C. This obedience requires:
 1. Faith in Jesus Christ - Romans 1:16, 17.
 2. Repentance from past sins - Romans 2:4.
 3. Confession of faith in Jesus Christ - Acts 8:37.
 4. Baptism by immersion into Christ's death - Romans 6:3-5.
 - D. This obedience is what it means to "call upon the name of the Lord" - Romans 10:13; Acts 22:16.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

FIRST CORINTHIANS - PROBLEMS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

INTRODUCTION:

1. The church in Corinth was established by Paul on his 2nd missionary journey - Acts 18:1-18.
 - A. His custom was to enter the chief centers to preach.
 - B. He lived with Pricilla and Aquila, tentmakers, who had been expelled from Rome.
 1. Whether they were already Christians before Paul lived with them is not known.
2. He first preached in the Jewish synagogue.
 - A. After Silas and Timothy joined him they were forced out of the synagogue.
 - B. They started meeting in the house of Titus Justus.
 - C. The ruler of the synagogue, Crispus, became a Christian - 1 Corinthians 1:14.
 - D. Many obeyed the gospel - Acts 18:8.
 - E. Paul had been told by the Lord that he had many people in Corinth - Acts 18:10.
 - F. Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half - Acts 18:11.
3. Charges were brought before the Roman proconsul Gallio by the Jews.
 - A. Gallio refused to deal with question of Jewish law.
 - B. Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, was beaten by the Greeks, but Gallio paid no attention.
4. First Corinthians is one of the most often quoted epistles of Paul.
 - A. It deals with problems in the church.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. The name of Paul and Sosthenes are included as the writers - 1 Corinthians 1:1.
 - B. Early writers credit Paul as being the author.
 1. About A.D. 95, Clement of Rome wrote to Corinth and referred to the book as the "epistle of the blessed Apostle Paul."
 2. In the early 2nd century Polycarp quoted 1 Corinthians 6:2 as written by Paul.
 3. About A.D. 150 Justin Martyr quoted 1 Corinthians 11:19 as written by Paul.
 4. In the late second century Irenaeus quotes from 1 Corinthians about 60 times.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. To the church at Corinth - 1 Corinthians 1:2.
 - B. The City of Corinth was an ancient one.
 1. It existed 1,000 years before Christ.
 2. It was added to the dominion of Philip of Macedon in 338 B.C.
 3. It became an independent city-state in 196 B.C.
 4. It was conquered by Rome in 146 B.C.
 - A. The city was plundered, all the men killed, and the women and children sold into slavery.
 - B. The city was totally destroyed, being burned to the ground.
 - C. 100 years later the city was rebuilt by Julius Caesar as a Roman colony.

5. By the time of Paul 600,000 people of Jewish, Greek and Roman nationality lived there.
- C. The city was located on a narrow isthmus between the Ionian and Aegean Seas.
 1. The trade route from Northern to Southern Greece was controlled by Corinth.
 2. Ships were dragged over land between the two seas.
 3. A canal was begun by Nero, but it was not completed until 1893.
 4. The city was built on a rocky elevation over which the 2,000 feet high Acrocorinthus (the highest elevation in Corinth) rose.
- D. The temple of Venus (Aphrodite) was located on the north side of the Acrocorinthus.
 1. 1,000 temple prostitutes carried on their business there.
 2. The vices of Corinth were known throughout the world.
 - A. To “Corinthianize” referred to committing gross sexual immorality.
 - B. To refer to a man as a “Corinthian” was a great insult.
 - C. Paul wrote of this degradation in Romans 1:18-32.
- E. The city was also known for its culture.
 1. Its architecture was widely admired.
 2. The people of Corinth loved eloquent speech and philosophical disputations.
 3. The Isthmian Games, which were similar to the Olympics, were held at Corinth each year.
3. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Following Paul’s departure from Corinth he learned of problems disturbing the church.
 1. News of these problems was brought by members of the household of Chloe - 1 Corinthians 1:11.
 2. Timothy was sent by Paul to help them - 1 Corinthians 4:17; 16:10.
 3. A letter was written to the church which was not preserved - 1 Corinthians 5:9.
 4. Apollos had returned to Ephesus after preaching at Corinth - 1 Corinthians 16:12.
 5. Stephanus, Fortunatus and Achaicus came to Paul possibly bringing support from the church at Corinth - 1 Corinthians 16:17, 18.
 6. The church had written Paul asking about several matters - 1 Corinthians 7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1, 2.
 - B. Issues which faced the Corinthian church:
 1. Division over preachers - chapters 1-4.
 2. Failure to properly practice discipline - chapter 5.
 3. Lawsuits between Christians before the pagan courts - chapter 6.
 4. Marriage problems - chapter 7.
 5. Problems over eating meats and matters of liberty - chapters 8-10.
 6. Problems concerning the woman’s role and demeanor - chapter 11:1-16.
 7. Problems with the Lord’s Supper - chapter 11:17-34.
 8. Problems over the exercise of spiritual gifts - chapters 12-14.
 9. Denial of the bodily resurrection - chapter 15.
 10. Problems associated with the contribution - chapter 16.
4. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. According to an inscription found at Delphi, Gallio became pro-consul at Corinth in A.D.

- 51.
- B. If Paul was brought before Gallio close to the end of his 18-month stay; it would have been in A.D. 52.
1. Soon after that Paul left Corinth.
 2. Following a visit to Antioch, he returned to Ephesus where he stayed for two to three years - Acts 19:1-20; 20:31.
 3. It was during this time that Paul wrote 1 Corinthians.
 4. This would place the writing of the book no earlier than A.D. 55 and no later than A.D. 57 or 58.
5. OUTLINE OF 1ST CORINTHIANS.
- A. The book can be outlined according to the issues facing the church.
1. Division over preachers - chapters 1-4.
 2. Failure to properly practice discipline - chapter 5.
 3. Lawsuits between Christians before the pagan courts - chapter 6.
 4. Marriage problems - chapter 7.
 5. Problems over eating meats and matters of liberty - chapters 8-10.
 6. Problems concerning the woman's role and demeanor - chapter 11:1-16.
 7. Problems with the Lord's Supper - chapter 11:17-34.
 8. Problems over the exercise of spiritual gifts - chapters 12-14.
 9. Denial of the bodily resurrection - chapter 15.
 10. Problems associated with the contribution - chapter 16.

CONCLUSION:

1. The church today faces many of the same problems the Corinthian church faced.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

SECOND CORINTHIANS - PAUL'S DEFENSE OF HIS APOSTLESHIP

INTRODUCTION:

1. This book is probably the least studied and known of all of Paul's writings.
 - A. It is not as logically arranged as the other letters from him.
 - B. Perhaps this is due to the strong emotions being displayed by Paul as he seeks to defend his apostolic authority to a congregation he had established.
2. This book is the most autobiographical of Paul's letters.
 - A. Much is learned herein about his labors, persecutions and sacrifices, which are not recorded in his other writings.
 - B. We learn of the heart of this man who seeks to defend himself against those who would destroy his influence.
3. Book should be studied as a sequel to 1st Corinthians.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Paul identifies himself twice as the author - 2 Corinthians 1:1; 10:1.
 - B. The book has been unanimously accepted as having been written by Paul.
 1. Polycarp - A.D. 150.
 2. Irenaeus - A.D. 185.
 3. Clement of Alexandria - A.D. 210.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. To the church at Corinth - 2 Corinthians 1:1.
 - B. Church previously established by Paul on his 2nd missionary journey - Acts 18:1-18.
 1. Corinth was an ancient city.
 - A. Built at least 1,000 years before Christ.
 - B. Destroyed by the Romans in 146 B.C. and rebuilt by them 100 years later.
 - C. Strategically located for both military and commercial purposes.
 - D. Very immoral city.
 - C. Labors of Paul were very successful.
 1. Many obeyed the gospel - Acts 18:8-10.
 2. Paul remained there for 18 months - Acts 18:11.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Church established in Corinth by Paul in A.D. 50-51.
 1. Paul brought before Gallio on charges by the Jews - Acts 18:12.
 2. Inscription found at Delphi, dated A.D. 51, indicates Gallio was proconsul of Achaia at that time.
 - B. Paul, after leaving Corinth, visited Ephesus and then went to Caesarea and Antioch - Acts 18:19-22.
 1. Paul returned to Ephesus by way of Galatia and Phrygia - Acts 18:23; 19:1.
 2. Remained in Ephesus for two to three years - A.D. 52-55 - Acts 19:10; 20:31.

3. Wrote first letter to Corinth which was not preserved - A.D. 52-53 - 1 Corinthians 5:9.
4. Corinthians replied with a letter asking Paul questions - 1 Corinthians 7:1; 8:1.
5. Timothy sent by Paul to assist them with the problems - 1 Corinthians 16:10, 11.
 - A. It could be that Timothy carried 1st Corinthians with him and brought back a discouraging report to Paul.
6. Paul made a brief, but “painful” visit to Corinth - 2 Corinthians 2:1.
7. Paul then left Ephesus for Troas in order to meet Titus - 2 Corinthians 2:12, 13.
 - A. He failed in his attempt to find Titus.
 - B. Then went on to Macedonia where he met Titus and received an encouraging report - 2 Corinthians 7:5-7.
8. Wrote 2nd Corinthians from Macedonia and possibly sent it to Corinth by Titus and two other brethren - 2 Corinthians 8:16-23.
9. This took place somewhere between A.D. 55 and 57.
 - A. Perhaps six months to a year after writing 1st Corinthians.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN:
 - A. The report that Paul received from Titus comforted him - 2 Corinthians 7:6, 7.
 1. The majority of the brethren had responded to his letter and had repented - 2 Corinthians 7:8-10.
 2. The one living in fornication had repented - 1 Corinthians 5; 2 Corinthians 2:5-11.
 - B. They were encouraged by Paul to complete their preparation to participate in the collection that was being taken up for the Jewish Christians - 2 Corinthians 8:9.
 - C. There was still a minority in the church who opposed Paul - 2 Corinthians 10-12.
 1. They stirred up opposition to him.
 2. They criticized him in many ways:
 - A. He was fickle and undependable - 1:15-24.
 - B. He had no letters of commendation - 3:1-3.
 - C. His letters were strong but his bodily presence was weak - 10:8-11.
 - D. He was a poor speaker - 11:5, 6.
 - E. He lacked confidence in his work because he refused financial support - 11:7-10.
 - F. He was really not an apostle - 12:11, 12.
 - G. He was dishonest - 12:17, 18.
5. OUTLINE OF 2ND CORINTHIANS.
 - A. Rejoicing because the majority of the Corinthians had repented - chapters 1-7.
 1. Author, recipient and greeting - 1:1, 2.
 2. Paul’s prayer of praise - 1:3-7.
 3. His danger and despair at Ephesus - 1:8-11.
 4. His clear conscience concerning the church at Corinth - 1:12-14.
 5. His proposed visit postponed - 1:15-2:4.
 6. His plea for the penitent brother to be restored - 2:5-11.
 7. His concern about not meeting Titus in Troas - 2:12-17.
 8. His credentials were the Corinthian Christians - 3:1-3.
 9. He was a minister of the New Covenant, not the Old - 3:4-18.

10. He answers his critics - 4:1-6.
11. He and other apostles were earthen vessels containing God's Word - 4:7-15.
12. His perception of the unseen eternal contrasted with the perishing of the flesh - 4:16-5:5.
13. To be in the flesh is to be absent from the Lord - 5:6-10.
14. His openness because he belonged to Christ - 5:11-17.
15. Man reconciled to Christ by the cross; apostles are ambassadors of Christ - 5:18-6:2.
16. His sufferings for Christ were his credentials - 6:3-10.
17. He appeals to the Corinthians as a father to his children - 6:11-13.
18. Christians cannot compromise with the world - 6:14-7:1.
19. Another appeal for his acceptance - 7:2-4.
20. Titus' report at Macedonia comforts Paul - 7:5-7.
21. His rejoicing at the repentance of the Corinthians - 7:8-12.
22. The success of Titus' visit - 7:13-16.
- B. The contribution for the needy - chapters 8, 9.
 1. Example of the Macedonians and Christ in sacrificial giving - 8:1-9.
 2. Admonition to keep their commitment - 8:10-15.
 3. The assistants of Paul and the churches' representatives to collect the contribution - 8:16-24.
 4. His plea that they live up to his boast of them - 9:1-5.
 5. Incentives for giving - 9:6-15.
- C. His defense of his apostleship and denouncement of the false apostles - chapters 10-13.
 1. His power and weapons for spiritual warfare - 10:1-6.
 2. He is not a "paper tiger" - 10:7-11.
 3. Boasted of his own work - false teachers took credit for the work of others - 10:12-18.
 4. His fear that the Corinthians will be misled by false teachers - 11:1-6.
 5. His self-supporting statue was to help, not hinder, the Corinthians - 11:7-11.
 6. His opponents were false apostles - 11:12-15.
 7. The Corinthians were foolish for accepting the false teachers and rejecting Paul - 11:16-21.
 8. Paul could match the boasts of the false teachers due to his works being genuine - 11:22-33.
 9. Paul's visit to Paradise - 12:1-6.
 10. Paul's thorn in the flesh to keep him humble - 12:7-10.
 11. Paul far ahead of his accusers - 12:11-13.
 12. Paul sought their good, not their goods - 12:14-18.
 13. Paul's fears of what he might find in Corinth - 12:19-21.
 14. A warning from Paul - he would not spare on his next visit - 13:1-4.
 15. Admonition for the Corinthians to examine themselves - 13:5-10.
 16. His farewell and benediction - 13:11-14.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 2ND CORINTHIANS.
 - A. Withdrawal of fellowship is so that the sinner may be restored - 2 Corinthians 2:6-11;

- Galatians 6:1, 2; James 5:19, 20.
- B. The N.T. replaced the O.T. due to it being better - 2 Corinthians 3:5-18.
 - C. The Christian has hope even in death - 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9.
 - D. All will be judged at a coming day - 2 Corinthians 5:10.
 - E. True repentance comes from Godly sorrow - 2 Corinthians 7:8-12.
 - F. True incentive for giving comes from the heart - 2 Corinthians 8:1-5, 9, 12; 9:6-11.
 - G. The Christian must provide that which is honest before God and man - 2 Corinthians 8:20-23.
 - H. The church is to be benevolent to all - 2 Corinthians 9:13; Galatians 6:10.
 - I. False teachers are deceitful and dangerous - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.
 - J. We have an example of sacrificial labor and endurance for the sake of the gospel - 2 Corinthians 11:23-33.
 - K. In order for one to be an apostle he must have the credentials - 2 Corinthians 12:12; 1 Corinthians 9:1; Acts 1:21, 22; 22:15.

CONCLUSION:

1. Many valuable lessons found in the book.
2. We have insight into problems faced by the church in the first century and it equips us to deal with similar problems today.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

GALATIANS - THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Book of Galatians has been called the “Magna Charta of the Christian Faith.”
2. It is a militant book written in a combative spirit.
 - A. False teachers attempted to pervert the gospel by binding upon Gentile converts circumcision and the need to keep the Law of Moses.
 - B. They, basically, added circumcision and Law keeping to the plan of salvation.
 - C. Paul was unwilling to give such false teachers room to teach such - Galatians 2:5.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. There is no question that it was Paul.
 1. Seldom is the authenticity of authorship of four epistles questioned - Romans, Galatians, 1st and 2nd Corinthians.
 2. Language and style of other epistles are measured by these four letters to see if they are authentic.
 - B. External evidence points to Paul.
 1. Clement of Rome, Polycarp, Ignatius and Barnabas all refer to Galatians.
 2. Marcion, around A.D. 140, is the first to mention Galatians and refers to its writer as Paul.
 3. Irenaeus, Tertullian and Clement of Alexandria quote frequently from Galatians and ascribe it to Paul.
 - C. Internal evidence points to Paul.
 1. The writer calls himself Paul twice - 1:1; 5:2.
 2. Vocabulary, style and approach are clearly that of Paul.
 3. Much of chapters one and two are autobiographical.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The Galatians were descendants of nomadic warriors who left Gaul (Central Europe) in the 3rd century B.C.
 1. They first invaded Greece and then migrated into Asia Minor.
 2. They established permanent settlements in Central Asia Minor.
 3. Amyntas, the last king of Galatia, bequeathed his realm to Rome and it became a Roman Province in 25 B.C.
 - B. There is division among the scholars whether Paul wrote Galatians to the churches in Northern or Southern Galatia.
 1. On Paul's first missionary journey he established churches in Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe - Acts 13, 14.
 2. There is no record of him conducting any extensive work in Northern Galatia.
 3. It seems best to say that the letter was written to the churches he and Barnabas established on the first missionary journey.

- C. The churches in Galatia would have been composed of both Jews and Gentiles, with the Gentiles being the largest number - Acts 13:14, 42-48; 14:1, 2.
- 3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Paul and Silas revisited the churches of Galatia which he and Barnabas had established on the first missionary journey - Acts 16:1-6.
 - 1. They were joined by Timothy at Lystra.
 - 2. It was then they delivered the decree of the apostles and elders at Jerusalem - Acts 15:23-29; 16:4.
 - B. It was after this that Jewish teachers came from Palestine to Galatia.
 - 1. They questioned as to whether Paul was an apostle.
 - 2. They taught that Christians must, in effect, become Jews in order to be saved.
 - 3. Paul learned of this false teaching.
 - 4. Due to his inability to visit the church immediately he wrote to them - Galatians 4:20.
 - C. Little is known about the time frame here as to how long after Paul visited Galatia that the Judaizing teachers came, or how soon he learned of their activities.
 - 1. It was clearly after the Jerusalem Council, as the issue of circumcision had been settled - Acts 15; Galatians 4:13-16.
 - D. As to the date, scholars are divided.
 - 1. Some suggest as early as A.D. 48.
 - A. This would make it Paul's earliest epistle.
 - 2. Others have placed it as late as A.D. 58.
 - 3. Because of the doctrinal and stylistic similarities of Romans, Galatians and 1st and 2nd Corinthians, many have concluded they must have been written close to the same time.
 - 4. It was probably written either from Macedonia or Achaia in about A.D. 55 or 56.
- 4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The gospel was being perverted by the Judiazers - Galatians 1:6-9.
 - 1. Those who were binding the Law of Moses had fallen from grace - Galatians 5:4.
 - 2. Circumcision had no part in salvation under the new covenant - Galatians 5:6.
 - B. Paul's discipleship was being denied by the Judaizing teachers.
 - 1. If it was possible to undermine his apostleship, they could undermine his teachings.
 - 2. Paul defends himself with several statements:
 - A. If he were interested in pleasing men, he would not be a servant of Christ.
 - B. His gospel was delivered to him directly from Heaven.
 - C. He gave up his status in the Jewish religion to follow Christ.
 - D. He had been called by God from his mother's womb.
 - E. On his two visits to Jerusalem the apostles and elders made no changes to his gospel, but, rather, extended the right hand of fellowship to him.
 - F. He withstood another apostle, Peter, to the face when he erred.
 - G. His old life was crucified with Christ and now lives a life of service to Christ.
- 5. OUTLINE OF GALATIANS.
 - A. Paul's defense of the gospel he proclaimed and of his apostleship - chapters 1 and 2.
 - B. The purpose of the Law of Moses - chapter 3.

- C. The allegory of Sarah and Hagar illustrated deliverance from the Law - chapter 4.
- D. A contrast between the works of the flesh and the fruit of the spirit - chapter 5.
- E. Practical admonitions - chapter 6.
 - 1. Bearing the burden of others - 6:1-5.
 - 2. Sowing and reaping - 6:6-10.
 - 3. Paul gloried in Christ while the Judiazers gloried in the flesh - 6:11-17.
 - 4. Benediction - 6:18.
- 6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM GALATIANS.
 - A. Christians are not under the Law of Moses - Galatians 3:11, 23-25; 4:21-5:4.
 - 1. Error of denominations is their failure to properly divide the Word.
 - 2. Questions on salvation, worship and Christian living can only be answered by correct division of the Word.
 - B. The purpose of the Law of Moses was two-fold:
 - 1. Added because of man's transgressions - Galatians 3:19.
 - 2. Was a schoolmaster to bring man to Christ - Galatians 3:24.
 - C. Man is under law today, even though it is not the Law of Moses.
 - 1. Man is under the law of the Spirit - Romans 8:2.
 - 2. Man must fulfill the law of Christ - Galatians 6:2; 1 Corinthians 9:21.
 - 3. Man is to continue in the perfect law of liberty - James 1:25.
 - 4. There are commandments of the Lord to be obeyed - 1 Corinthians 14:37.
 - 5. Man's love for God is shown by his keeping the commandments - John 14:15.
 - D. It is possible for a child of God to fall from grace - Galatians 5:4.
 - E. A perverted gospel cannot save - Galatians 1:6-9.
 - F. Works of the flesh lead to eternal condemnation - Galatians 5:19-21.
 - G. The fruit of the Spirit should be seen in the Christian life - Galatians 5:22-25.
 - H. Man reaps what he sows - Galatians 6:6-10.
 - I. Spiritual blessings are in Christ where man gets by baptism - Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26, 27.
 - J. There is one body of doctrine that must be obeyed - Galatians 2:5, 14, 16; 3:1; 5:7; 1 Peter 1:22.
 - K. One who tells us the truth is a friend rather than an enemy - Galatians 4:16.
 - L. Man is saved by faith which works by love - Galatians 5:6.
 - M. Benevolence is to be directed at all who are in need and as there is the opportunity - Galatians 1:2; 6:10.
 - N. It is a sin to bind where God has loosed and loose where He has bound - Galatians 5:2-4.
 - O. The child of God must be willing to rebuke those in error - Galatians 2:11-14.
 - P. Peter erred on a matter of doctrine - he could not have been a Pope - Galatians 2:11-14.
 - Q. What one does affects others - Galatians 2:13.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. This book properly teaches the place and purpose of the O.T.
- 2. Galatians is an effort to save several congregations from apostasy.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

EPHESIANS - GLORY UNTO CHRIST

INTRODUCTION:

1. Ephesians is one of four books commonly referred to as Paul's Prison Epistles.
 - A. They are: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon.
 - B. All four were written while Paul was imprisoned his first time at Rome - Acts 28:30, 31.
 - C. Three were written to congregations or individuals within the same area.
 1. Ephesus and Colossae were in Asia.
 2. Philemon lived in Colossae.
 3. Tychicus probably took the letters to their recipients - Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 4:7,8.
 4. Their contents are similar.
 - A. Especially Ephesians and Colossians, which have been called "twin epistles."
 5. All four refer to Paul's imprisonment in Rome - Ephesians 3:1; 4:1; 6:18-20; Philippians 1:12, 13; 4:22; Colossians 4:2-4; Philemon 1, 10, 22, 23.
3. The book of Ephesians has been referred to as "Paul's greatest treatise on the church..."
 - A. Christ is set forth as the Head of the church in Colossians.
 - B. The church is set forth as the body of Christ in Ephesians.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. External evidence pointing to Paul is strong.
 1. "Even as the blessed Paul declares in his Epistle to the Ephesians..." Irenaeus, 120-202.
 - B. Internal evidence indicates Paul as the writer.
 1. The writer identifies himself as Paul twice - Ephesians 1:1; 3:1.
 2. Language, style and argumentation are Paul's.
 3. Of the 155 verses in Ephesians, 78 are found in similar wording in Colossians.
 - C. Critics have denied Paul's authorship.
 1. They argue that the writer had never been to Ephesus because he wrote he had heard of their faith (1:15), and he gives no personal greetings to individual members.
 2. However, Paul said he had heard of Philemon's faith and Philemon was one of Paul's converts - Philemon 5, 19.
 - A. Paul did not send personal individual greetings in several epistles - 2 Corinthians, Galatians, 1st and 2nd Thessalonians.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Addressed to "the saints which are at Ephesus" Ephesians 1:1.
 - B. Early church almost universally believed it was sent to Ephesus.
 1. Irenaeus, Tertullian, and Clement of Alexandria all refer to it as "The Epistle to the Ephesians."
 2. All but three ancient manuscripts contain the words "at Ephesus."

- C. Some scholars disagree, believing it was a general letter to all the churches of Asia.
 - 1. They argue, based on three manuscripts omitting the words “at Ephesus,” that a later copy had the words inserted.
 - A. There is no proof of such a theory.
 - B. Even if it is true, it does no damage to the meaning.
 - 1. Neither does it destroy its inspiration.
 - D. The church at Ephesus was established by Paul - Acts 18, 19, 20.
 - 1. On his 2nd missionary journey he visited with them briefly - Acts 18:19-21.
 - 2. Priscilla and Aquila remained in Ephesus - Acts 18:18-28.
 - 3. On Paul’s 3rd missionary journey he spent three years in Ephesus - Acts 19:1-20:1.
 - A. Twelve men who knew only the baptism of John were baptized - Acts 19:1-7.
 - B. Paul preached in the synagogue until opposition caused him to move to the school of Tyrannus where he preached for two years - Acts 19:8-10.
 - C. He performed many miracles while at Ephesus - Acts 19:11, 12.
 - D. The books of those who practiced magic were burned - Acts 19:13-20.
 - E. Due to a riot at Ephesus Paul was forced to leave - Acts 19:23-20:1.
 - 1. Ephesus was located on a plain three miles from the Mediterranean Sea.
 - 2. It was the chief commercial center of the Roman province of Asia.
 - 3. The temple of Diana or Artemis was their greatest claim to fame.
 - A. It was constructed on a platform 425 feet by 240 feet.
 - B. It measured 343 feet by 164 feet.
 - C. There were more than 100 columns about 60 feet high.
 - D. The image of Diana, which allegedly fell from heaven, was there.
 - E. It was considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.
 - 4. Paul was so successful in his work that the people stopped believing in Diana - Acts 19:23-41.
 - A. Those who made and sold images of the goddess had no business.
 - B. A riot against Paul was led by Demetrius, a silversmith.
 - C. Following the quieting of the mob by the town clerk, Paul left for Macedonia, where he had made plans to go earlier - Acts 19:21, 22; 20:2-1.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Paul was imprisoned in Rome.
 - B. The dates for this imprisonment are normally given as 60-62.
 4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Does not seem to have been written to deal with any specific problem.
 - B. Appears to have simply been a teaching letter being sent with Tychicus, who was returning to Asia carrying a letter to the church at Colossae - Ephesians 6:21; Colossians 4:7.
 5. OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS.
 - A. Salutation - 1:1, 2.
 - B. Plan of salvation wherein man is chosen by God, redeemed by Christ, and sealed with the Holy Spirit - 1:3-14.
 - C. The first prayer of Paul for the Ephesians - 1:15-23.

- D. The Ephesians, who were once dead in sin, are now saved by grace - 2:1-10.
 - E. Jews and Gentiles now one body in Christ - 2:11-12.
 - F. The privilege of Paul to preach Christ - 3:1-13.
 - G. The second prayer of Paul for the Ephesians - 3:14-21.
 - H. Unity of the Spirit - 4:1-6.
 - I. The new walk in Christ - 4:17-5:20.
 - J. Relationship of Christ and the church illustrated by the relationship of the husband and wife - 5:21-33.
 - K. Duties of children and slaves - 6:1-9.
 - L. Christian armor - 6:10-18.
 - M. Paul's request for the prayers of the Ephesians - 6:19, 20.
 - N. Closing remarks and benediction - 6:21-24.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM EPHESIANS.
- A. Salvation is by grace through faith - Ephesians 2:8-10.
 - B. Ephesians saved by grace when they obeyed the gospel - Ephesians 2:8, 9; Acts 19:1-8.
 - 1. They heard - 1:13.
 - 2. They believed - 1:13.
 - 3. They repented - Acts 20:21.
 - 4. They were immersed - Acts 19:1-8; Ephesians 4:5.
 - C. There is only one church - Ephesians 1:22, 23; 4:4-6.
 - D. In order to be saved one must be in the church - Ephesians 4:4; 5:23.
 - E. The church is a part of the eternal purpose of God, and not an after thought as premillennialism makes it - Ephesians 3:8-11.
 - F. To be saved one must live faithfully - Ephesians 4:17-5:21; 6:1-9.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Ephesians deals with the church of the Christ while Colossians deals with the Christ of the church.
- 2. Timothy was sent to Ephesus to charge them to "teach no other doctrine" - 1 Timothy 1:3.
- 3. Apostle John spent his later years in Ephesus having gone there after his exile to Patmos.
- 4. First of seven letters to the churches of Asia was written to the Ephesians reprimanding them for having "left their first love" - Revelation 2:1-7.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

PHILIPPIANS - THE MIND OF CHRIST

INTRODUCTION:

1. Ephesians sets forth the church as the body of Christ, Colossians sets forth Christ as the head of the church, and Philippians sets forth the mind of Christ.
2. Philippians was not written to correct problems in the church.
 - A. It is simply a letter written by a missionary to a church he had planted.
 - B. Written by a man of great faith to his children in the faith.
3. Unique things about Philippians.
 - A. Paul mentions himself more often than in any other of his letters.
 - B. Phrase “in Christ Jesus” is found eight times.
 - C. The key word in Philippians is “joy” even though Paul was in prison when he wrote.
 1. Joy, rejoice, and rejoicing occur fifteen times.
 2. From this we see that joy does not depend upon outward circumstances, but comes from the heart.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Internal and external evidence points to Paul.
 1. He identified himself, along with Timothy, as the author - 1:1.
 2. Style and vocabulary are that of Paul's.
 3. Paul, alone, had an intimate, loving relationship with the church at Philippi.
 4. Polycarp quoted from Philippians about A.D. 140, and attributed it to Paul.
 5. Irenaeus quoted Philippians 4:18 about A.D. 180, and attributed it to Paul.
 6. Tertullian quoted Philippians about A.D. 200, and indicated his belief that Paul was the writer.
 - B. The authorship of Paul was not questioned until the 1800's and the advent of modernism.
 1. Some have said that the book bears the marks of Paul so unmistakably that it must have been written by a forger.
 2. Others have argued that Paul mentions “bishops” and “deacons” in verse one, but they did not evolve during his lifetime.
 - A. Yet Paul appointed elders on his first missionary journey - Acts 14:23.
 - B. The church at Jerusalem had elders even before this - Acts 11:30.
 - C. The words “bishops” and “elders” used interchangeably - Acts 20:17, 28.
 - D. Two letters written by Clement of Rome at about A.D. 95 mentions elders and deacons.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The church mentioned twice by name - Philippians 1:1; 4:15.
 - B. In Paul's day Philippi was a prosperous Roman colony.
 1. Located in Macedonia on a plain between the Gangites and Strymon Rivers.
 2. In the 4th century B.C. gold was discovered in the area.

3. The father of Alexander the Great, Phillip of Macedon, seized the area, built the city, and named it after himself.
 4. He used the gold of Philippi to finance his conquest of Greece.
 5. Philippi had sided with Carthage against Rome in the Punic Wars.
 6. After the death of Julius Caesar by assassination, Philippi sided with Brutus and Cassius against Octavian Caesar and Mark Anthony.
 7. A decisive battle was fought in 42 B.C. on the Plains of Philippi between these opposing armies of which Mark Anthony and Octavian were the victors.
 8. Philippi then became a Roman colony.
 - A. Veterans of the Roman Army settled there.
 - B. It was looked upon as a “little Rome.”
 - C. Latin was the language spoken, and its citizens had the protection of Roman law.
- C. On Paul’s 2nd missionary journey the church was established - Acts 16.
1. This was the first time for Paul to preach in Europe.
 - A. However, Christianity may have already entered other parts of Europe, such as Rome, due to the dispersing of those who were converted on Pentecost - Acts 2:10.
 2. Paul’s visit to Philippi was the result of a vision from the Lord - Acts 16:9, 10.
 3. There was no synagogue in Philippi.
 - A. Jewish law required the building of a synagogue where there were at least ten male Jews.
 - B. Paul did find a group of women worshipping God at the river.
 4. Lydia, a seller of purple from Thyatira, and household became the first to obey the gospel in Philippi in so far as Paul’s preaching was concerned - Acts 16:14, 15.
 5. After Paul and Silas cast an evil spirit out of a slave girl they were taken before the court.
 - A. They were beaten without a hearing and placed in prison.
 - B. An earthquake freed them and the jailer and his family were converted - Acts 16:25-34.
 - C. When Paul appealed to his Roman citizenship, the magistrates brought them out and desired them to depart - Acts 16:37-39.
 6. Later Paul spoke of how they had been treated shamefully - 1 Thessalonians 2:2.
- D. Paul continued to maintain close ties to the church at Philippi.
1. It seems that Luke remained in Philippi when Paul and Silas left - Acts 16:40; 20:6.
 2. Paul returned to Philippi at least twice - Acts 20:3-6; 2 Corinthians 2:13; 7:5.
 3. The church financially supported Paul even though they were poor - 2 Corinthians 11:8, 9; Philippians 1:4; 4:10-19.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Written from Rome while Paul was imprisoned there the first time.
1. Generally accepted that Paul was in prison in Rome twice.
 - A. First time is mentioned in Acts 28:30, 31.
 1. He had considerable freedom to preach and write.
 2. He wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon.

3. He expected to be released from this imprisonment - Philippians 1:24, 25; 2:19-24.
4. History indicates he was released, but arrested again during Nero's persecution and martyred.
 - B. During his final imprisonment he wrote 2 Timothy - 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16, 17.
2. He makes numerous references to his being a prisoner in Philippians as he does in the other "Prison Epistles."
 - A. Refers to his bonds at least four times - 1:7, 13, 14, 16.
 - B. Speaks of the possibility of his death, but hopes to be released - 1:20-26; 2:23, 24.
 - C. Sends greetings from saints in Caesar's household - 4:22.
- B. It is most likely that Philippians was written near the end of his imprisonment, which was during the years A.D. 60-62.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. There was no crisis as at Corinth nor doctrinal departure as in Galatia.
 - B. Letters were written to distant friend when someone was going that way and could carry them.
 1. Epaphroditus had brought Paul a gift from the church at Philippi - 4:10-14, 17, 18.
 2. He was soon to return and could take a letter from Paul - 2:25-28.
 - C. Several purposes are seen:
 1. Sending thanks for the gift.
 2. Providing them information of his situation in prison in Rome.
 3. To remind them of his love for them.
 4. To encourage them in their faith.
 5. To warn them of false teachers.
 6. To exhort two sisters, Euodias and Syntyche, that they would be united in the Lord's work.
5. OUTLINE OF PHILIPPIANS.
 - A. Christ our life - chapter 1, esp. verse 21.
 - B. Christ our example - chapter 2, esp. verse 5.
 - C. Christ our hope - chapter 3, esp. verse 8.
 - D. Christ our strength - chapter 4, esp. verse 13.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM PHILIPPIANS.
 - A. The plan of God for church government is for each congregation to have qualified elders and deacons - Philippians 1:1; Acts 14:23; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4.
 - B. There is reason for the Christian to rejoice even in adversity - Acts 16:25; Philippians 4:4-7.
 - C. Men with unrighteous lives or wrong motives can preach the truth - Philippians 1:15-18.
 - D. The child of God must be "set for the defense of the gospel" - Philippians 1:17; Jude 3.
 - E. It is advantageous for the Christian to die as he will be with Christ - Philippians 1:20-24.
 1. However, he should desire to live as long as possible in order to serve.
 - F. The Christian life should be as becomes the gospel of Christ - Philippians 1:27; Matthew 5:13-16.
 - G. Christians should strive to have the mind of Christ - Philippians 2:1-11.

- H. The nature of Christ is taught in Philippians 2:5-11.
 - 1. His Deity.
 - 2. His preexistence.
 - 3. His equality with the Father before coming to earth.
 - 4. His incarnation.
 - 5. His humanity.
 - 6. His atoning death.
 - 7. His exaltation.
- I. Christians should not worry, but trust in God to provide things necessary - Philippians 4:6, 7.
- J. The mind of the Christian should be filled with clean, wholesome thoughts - Philippians 4:8; Matthew 12:35-37; 15:11, 17-20.
- K. The church has a responsibility to support missionaries - Philippians 4:10-19.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. The book of Philippians is one of the best loved, most often read, and most encouraging of Paul's epistles.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

COLOSSIANS - THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST

INTRODUCTION:

1. Ephesians exalts Christ as the Head of the church while Philippians sets forth the mind of Christ, and Colossians sets forth Christ as the head of the church.
2. Christ is exalted above all creation.
 - A. Christ is the sum of every chapter and verse.
 - B. This book has been referred to as the “most Christ centered epistle in the N.T.”
3. There are three great phrases in Colossians which sum up His supremacy:
 - A. “...that in all things he might have the preeminence” - Colossians 1:18.
 - B. “...in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” - Colossians 2:9.
 - C. “...Christ is all, and in all” - Colossians 3:11.
4. Colossians clearly sets forth the nature of Christ:
 - A. God is His Father - 1:3.
 - B. He is God’s dear Son - 1:13.
 - C. He is the image of the invisible God - 1:15.
 - D. He has preeminence of every creature - 1:15.
 - E. He is before all things - 1:17.
 - F. All things are held together by Him - 1:17.
 - G. He is the beginning - 1:18.
 - H. He is preeminent from the dead - 1:18.
 - I. He is preeminent in all things - 1:18.
 - J. In Christ all the fullness dwells - 1:19.
 - K. In Christ are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge - 2:3.
 - L. In Christ dwells all the fullness of the Godhead - 2:9.
5. The book of Colossians is one of the “prison letters.”

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Internal evidence:
 1. The writer identifies himself as Paul three times - Colossians 1:1, 23; 4:18.
 2. Book is very similar to other epistles recognized to have been written by Paul.
 3. Paul’s “son in the faith” is the companion of the writer - Colossians 1:1.
 - B. External evidence:
 1. About A.D. 180, Irenaeus wrote that Paul, in the Epistles to the Colossians, said “Luke the beloved physician sends greetings.” - Colossians 4:14.
 2. About A.D. 210 Clement of Alexandria quoted Colossians 1:28 and attributed it to Paul.
 3. About A.D. 220 Origin quoted Colossians 2:18, 19 and credited it to Paul.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The “saints” at Colossae - Colossians 1:2.

- B. The city of Colossae was one of the three chief cities of Phrygia.
 - 1. It was located 12 miles from Hierapolis and 10 miles from Laodicea.
 - 2. Located at the meeting point of the Lycus and Maeander Rivers.
 - 3. It had declined in importance and was overshadowed by its sister cities.
 - 4. Between the years 223-187 B.C., Antiochus the Great had moved about 2,000 Jewish families from Mesopotamia and Babylon into the area.
 - 5. Population was mainly Phrygian with strong Greek influence.
- C. Paul did not establish the church at Colossae.
 - 1. He had “heard” of their faith - Colossians 1:4, 9.
 - 2. It seems that Epaphras, from Colossae, established the church at Colossae, along with Hierapolis and Laodicea - Colossians 4:12, 13.
 - A. He may have been a convert of Paul while Paul lived at Ephesus - Acts 19:10.
- 3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Paul was in his first imprisonment at Rome - Acts 28:30, 31.
 - B. This imprisonment has been placed at A.D. 60-62.
 - C. Colossians was written near the end of that time - i.e. around A.D. 62.
- 4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The church at Colossae was invaded with a new heresy.
 - 1. It appears to have been a mixture of Greek philosophy, Eastern religions and elements of Judaism - Colossians 2:8-23.
 - A. A later development of this heresy was referred to as “Gnosticism.”
 - 2. Greek and Eastern thought considered the body as a prison of the soul.
 - 3. There was believed to be an antagonism between the body and spirit, the physical and the spiritual.
 - 4. God is spirit, but the creation is matter.
 - A. It was argued that due to this fact God did not create directly, but angelic beings.
 - B. Therefore, these angelic beings were to be worshipped - Colossians 2:18.
 - B. The writer refuted this heresy by exalting Christ.
 - 1. As Creator of all things - 1:16, 17.
 - 2. As the One who redeemed man by His blood - 1:14, 20.
 - 3. As the One in whom dwelt the fullness of the deity bodily - 2:9.
 - C. He further pointed out that philosophies and traditions of men have no part in man’s salvation - 2:8.
 - D. The Law of Moses had been nailed to the cross - 2:14.
 - E. Angels are created beings and are not to be worshipped - 2:18.
- 5. OUTLINE OF COLOSSIANS.
 - A. Introductory matters - 1:1-12.
 - B. Doctrinal matters - 1:13-2:3.
 - C. Disputed matters - 2:4-23.
 - D. Practical matters - 3:1-4:6.
 - E. Concluding matters - 4:7-18.
- 6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM COLOSSIANS.
 - A. The kingdom has already been established - Colossians 1:13.

- B. It is only by the blood of Christ is one redeemed - Colossians 1:14.
- C. The head of the church is Christ - Colossians 1:18.
- D. The gospel was preached to the whole world - Colossians 1:6, 23.
- E. Christ is the Creator of all things - Colossians 1:16.
- F. Baptism requires a burial and a resurrection - Colossians 2:12.
- G. The Law of Moses was nailed to the cross - Colossians 2:14.
- H. Man must have authority for all they do - Colossians 3:17.
- I. The N.T. writings were circulated widely very early in the history of the church - Colossians 4:16.

CONCLUSION:

1. A religion that is wrong on the person, nature, work or identity of Christ is wrong.
 - A. It does not need to be further examined.
2. Christ must be exalted in every aspect of the life of the child of God and all that he does must have the authority of God behind it - Colossians 3:17.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

FIRST THESSALONIANS - THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

INTRODUCTION:

1. The first epistle to the church at Thessalonica was one of the first of the N.T. books to have been written.
 - A. Due to it having been written so early, it gives insight into the church and its problems twenty or so years after Pentecost.
2. It deals largely with the second coming of Christ.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. There has been no serious doubts about whether Paul was the author.
 - B. Internal evidence points to Paul:
 1. The author refers to himself twice as Paul - 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2:18.
 2. The constant companions of Paul are associated with the author - 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 3:1, 2.
 3. The style and concern for the church that is displayed by Paul is seen herein.
 - C. External evidence:
 1. About A.D. 140, Marcion accepted it as Paul's.
 2. About A.D. 170, the Muratorian Canon placed it in sixth place among Paul's epistles.
 3. About A.D. 180, Irenaeus referred to the book.
 4. Clement of Alexandria referred to the book and credited it to Paul.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. The city of Thessalonica was originally called "Therma" due to the hot springs in the area.
 1. Located at the junction of the main road from Rome to the East and the road, which ran from the Danube River to the Aegean Sea.
 2. The brother-in-law of Alexander the Great, Cassander, rebuilt Therma in 315 B.C and renamed it after his wife.
 3. In 168 B.C. Thessalonica was conquered by Rome and made the capital of one of the four provinces into which Macedonia was divided.
 4. Later it was made the capital of the entire territory.
 5. Was composed primarily of Greeks, Romans and Jews.
 - B. The church was established by Paul and Silas on Paul's 2nd missionary trip - Acts 17:1-10.
 1. Paul and Silas left Philippi after being beaten and imprisoned.
 2. They passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia since there was no synagogue there - Acts 17:1.
 3. Paul then arrived in Thessalonica and reasoned for three Sabbaths in the synagogue.
 - A. He preached the death and resurrection of Christ - Acts 17:3.
 - B. Many of the devout Greeks and chief women believed - Acts 17:4.

4. A mob was stirred up against the church by the Jews and charges were brought against them.
5. Paul and Silas were sent away during the night in order to save their lives - Acts 17:10.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Opposition was stirred up against Paul by Jews from Thessalonica who came to Berea - Acts 17:13-15.
 1. Paul was escorted by the brethren to the sea where he sailed for Athens.
 2. Silas and Timothy stayed behind for a short period of time.
 3. Paul preached in Athens and then went on to Corinth - Acts 17:16-18:4.
 4. Paul's concern for the church at Thessalonica was calmed when Silas and Timothy joined him and brought a good report of their steadfastness - Acts 18:5.
 5. This is when Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians.
 - B. Paul was in Corinth in A.D. 51 and 52.
 1. Late in his stay he was brought before Gallio, the Roman proconsul - Acts 18:12.
 2. Inscription found at Delphi in 1909 mentions Gallio and dates his proconsulship at Corinth.
 3. Therefore, we can date the book at around A.D. 51 or 52 since it was written from Corinth.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Paul desired to comfort the Thessalonian Christians in their affliction - 1:1-10; 3:1-13.
 - B. He defended himself against those who questioned his ministry and motives - 2:1-20.
 - C. Instruction was given on godly living and exhortation was given to flee fornication - 4:1-12.
 - D. Correction was made relative to their misunderstanding of the 2nd coming of Christ - 4:13-5:11.
5. OUTLINE OF 1 THESSALONIANS.
 - A. Commendation by Paul of the Christians - chapter 1.
 - B. Paul's answer to the false accusers by pointing them to his work among them - chapter 2.
 - C. His expression of anxiety over the church and its afflictions - chapter 3.
 - D. His exhortation to flee fornication and live godly lives - 4:1-12.
 - E. His teaching on the 2nd coming of Christ - 4:13-5:11.
 - F. Final appeals and admonitions - 5:12-28.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 1ST THESSALONIANS.
 - A. Christians need to imitate the Thessalonian Christians in work, love, and patience - 1 Thessalonians 1:3; Galatians 5:6; James 2:14-26.
 - B. The Thessalonian church was mission minded - 1:8.
 - C. The Thessalonian Christians had truly repented - 1:9.
 - D. Christians need to follow the example set by Paul in dealing with prospects, new converts and brethren in general - 2:3-12.
 - E. The teaching on sexual purity is needed today - 4:1-8.
 - F. Christians need to love one another - 4:9, 10.
 - G. Teaching on the 2nd coming:

1. It will be personal, visible and audible - 4:16.
2. Doctrine of the “Rapture” is false as the Christian will be ever with the Lord - 4:17.
3. It will be unexpected - 5:1-3.
4. Should be prepared at all times - 5:6-11.
5. The need to “pray without ceasing” - 5:17.
6. Man not only mortal, but is made up of a body, soul and spirit - 5:23.

CONCLUSION:

1. 1st Thessalonians is one of the first books of the N.T. to be written.
2. 2nd coming of Christ is mentioned in every chapter.
 - A. Mentioned 618 times in the N.T.
3. Book has a larger concentration of teaching on the 2nd coming than any other N.T. book.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

SECOND THESSALONIANS - EVENTS PRECEDING THE DAY OF THE LORD

INTRODUCTION:

1. Book was written shortly after 1 Thessalonians.
2. It seems the Thessalonian Christians still failed to understand the second coming.
 - A. Perhaps some felt that it was imminent - 2 Thessalonians 2:1, 2.
 1. This had led some to quit working - 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12.
3. The church was still facing great persecution.
4. He sought to correct their false understanding of the 2nd coming and encourage them to steadfastness.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?

- A. Internal evidence indicates it was Paul.
 1. Two times the writer refers to himself as Paul - 2 Thessalonians 1:1; 3:17.
 2. Vocabulary and style are that of Paul.
 3. Some argue it is a forgery.
 - A. Claim that since it is so much like 1 Thessalonians it must be a forgery.
 - B. Others claim that since it is more severe in tone than 1 Thessalonians, it must be a forgery.
 1. However, there is no proof for either.
- B. External evidence for Paul is strong.
 1. Mentioned in the Didache about A.D. 100.
 2. About A.D. 110 Ignatius seems to refer to it.
 3. Justin Martyr and Polycarp, mid 2nd century, seem to refer to it.
 4. About A.D. 180 Irenaeus mentions the book by name and ascribes it to Paul.
 5. Clement of Alexandria and Tertullian both quoted 2 Thessalonians, with Tertullian giving Paul credit for the authorship.

2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Written by Paul, his co-workers Silas and Timothy, and to the church at Thessalonica - 2 Thessalonians 1:1.
- B. Church established by Paul and Silas on 2nd missionary journey - Acts 17:1-10.
 1. The city of Thessalonica was originally called "Therma" due to the hot springs in the area.
 - A. Located at the junction of the main road from Rome to the East and the road, which ran from the Danube River to the Aegean Sea.
 - B. The brother-in-law of Alexander the Great, Cassander, rebuilt Therma in 315 B.C and renamed it after his wife.
 - C. In 168 B.C. Thessalonica was conquered by Rome and made the capital of one of the four provinces into which Macedonia was divided.
 - D. Later it was made the capital of the entire territory.

- E. Was composed primarily of Greeks, Romans and Jews.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Paul was still in Corinth where he wrote 1 Thessalonians - Acts 18:1, 5.
 - B. 1 Thessalonians written about A.D. 51 or 52.
 - 1. 2 Thessalonians written shortly afterward.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Persecution against the church had become worse so Paul wrote to encourage it - 2 Thessalonians 1:4-12.
 - B. His teaching on the 2nd coming had either been misunderstood or perverted.
 - 1. It may be that they had received a forged letter claiming to be from Paul, which caused them to misunderstand his teaching - 2 Thessalonians 2:1, 2.
 - 2. Many were expecting the 2nd coming to happen at any minute - 2 Thessalonians 2:3.
 - 3. He assured them that the falling away and the revealing of the man of sin must come first - 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.
 - C. Some had quit work thinking the Lord was coming soon - 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12.
5. OUTLINE OF 2 THESSALONIANS.
- A. Salutation, greetings and gratitude for their faith - 1:1-3.
 - B. Exhortation to courage and steadfastness in persecution - 1:4-12.
 - C. Falling away and the coming of the man of sin predicted - 2:1-12.
 - D. More thanksgiving and encouragement to steadfastness - 2:13-17.
 - E. Paul's request for their prayers on his behalf - 3:1-5.
 - F. Discipline of the disorderly commanded - 3:6-15.
 - G. Closing - 3:16-18.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 2 THESSALONIANS.
- A. Those who do not know God, and who do not obey the gospel are lost - 1 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Mark 16:16; Titus 1:2.
 - B. Work is commanded by God - Genesis 2:15; Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:8-12.
 - C. Church discipline must be practiced - 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 12-15.
 - D. The falling away and the revealing of the man of sin must come about before the 2nd coming of Christ.
 - 1. Things written about the man of sin:
 - A. Exalts himself above all that is called God and sits in His temple - 2:4.
 - B. Will continue until the 2nd coming - 2:8.
 - C. Gains credibility by Satan's power, sign and lying wonders - 2:9.
 - D. Deceives people who really do not love the truth - 2:10-12.
 - 2. Suggestions as to who this "person" is:
 - A. Satan.
 - B. Infidel Jew.
 - C. Jewish Nation.
 - D. Roman Emperor.
 - E. Roman Empire.
 - F. Papacy of Rome, or a single Pope.
 - G. Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, or other political leader.

- H. Some “Antichrist” yet to come.
- I. Masonic Lodge.
- J. Ecumenical Movement.
- K. A principle of lawlessness or ungodliness.
- 3. Most common view is that it refers to the papacy.
 - A. “That which restrains” is the Roman Empire, which prevented a powerful Pope to arise while it held power.
 - B. The “falling away” is the great apostasy of the church which led to the Roman Church.
 - C. Man of sin would sit in the “temple of God.”
 - 1. I.e. the church - 2 Thessalonians 2:4.
 - D. Man of sin would oppose God and exalt himself.
 - 1. Has been true of the Popes who claim Divine titles.
 - E. Man of sin would deceive by signs and lying wonders.
 - F. Man of sin would continue until the 2nd coming.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Book contains some of the fullest teaching on the 2nd coming.
- 2. Refutes the idea held by some that the N.T. teaches that Jesus was to come in the lifetime of the Apostles.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

FIRST TIMOTHY - PRACTICAL PRECEPTS FOR PREACHERS

INTRODUCTION:

1. Epistles of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus are often referred to as the “Pastoral Epistles.”
 - A. Title comes from a misunderstanding of the word “pastor.”
 - B. “Pastor” is the word for shepherd.
 - C. Elders, not preachers, are the shepherds of the flock - Acts 20:28; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Peter 5:1-4.
 - D. Denominations incorrectly refer to their preachers as “pastors.”
 - E. This has led the denominations referring to the epistles as “Pastoral Epistles.”
2. More correct to refer to them as “Evangelistic Epistles,” since they deal with the work of the evangelist.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Internal Evidence strong for Paul.
 1. Epistle claims Paul as its author - 1 Timothy 1:1.
 2. Numerous references to Paul and Timothy indicate Paul as the author.
 - B. External Evidence points to Paul.
 1. About A.D. 200 Clement of Alexandria declared it was written by Paul.
 2. Tertullian, who lived about the same time, quoted from it and credited it to Paul.
 3. 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus were included in the list of Paul’s epistles in the Muratorian Canon (A.D. 170) and the Old Latin and Old Syriac Versions.
 - C. Modern liberals deny Paul’s authorship.
 1. Argue that 1, 2 Timothy and Titus cannot be fitted into the account of Paul’s labors recorded in Acts.
 - A. Strong historical evidence that Paul was released from Roman imprisonment after two years.
 - B. He was arrested and martyred at a later date, which would give him time to do so.
 2. Argue that many of the words that appear in these epistles are not in others written by Paul.
 - A. Fails to take into account that circumstance, place, and time regulate one’s style and vocabulary.
 - B. These were practical letters to another preacher, who was a son in the faith.
 1. Not a theological treatise.
 - C. He was an educated man capable of using the large and varied vocabulary that he had.
 3. Argue that 1, 2 Timothy and Titus must have been written by another because they represent an advanced state of church government, which had not yet evolved.
 - A. Seems these do not believe the church is a divine institution built according to a God-given plan.

- B. The church at Jerusalem had its own elders - Acts 11:30.
- C. Paul ordained elders in churches he had established on his 1st missionary journey - Acts 14:23.

2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. To Timothy, Paul's son in the faith - 1 Timothy 1:2.
- B. Much is revealed about Timothy:
 - 1. A native of Lystra - Acts 16:1.
 - 2. Father was a Greek - Acts 16:1-3.
 - 3. Mother was a Jew - Acts 16:1.
 - 4. Was taught the Scriptures by his mother and grandmother in his early years - 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14, 15.
 - 5. Chosen by Paul on the 2nd missionary journey to be a fellow missionary - Acts 16:1-3.
 - 6. Was given a miraculous gift by Paul - 2 Timothy 1:6.
 - 7. Prophecies had been spoken about him - 1 Timothy 1:18.
 - 8. Was considered a "youth," but the Romans considered anyone between the ages of 18 and 40 as such - 1 Timothy 4:12.
 - 9. Had some sort of a stomach problem along with other health problems - 1 Timothy 5:23.
 - 10. Was imprisoned for being a Christian - Hebrews 13:23.

3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Book of Acts closed with Paul's imprisonment at Rome - Acts 28.
 - 1. Imprisonment lasted two years - Acts 28:30, 31.
 - 2. Paul wrote the "Prison Epistles" during this imprisonment - Ephesians 4:1; 6:20; Philippians 1:13; Colossians 4:3, 10; Philemon 1, 9, 10, 22.
 - 3. Paul expressed his expectation that he would be released - Philippians 1:25; Philemon 22.
 - 4. In 2 Timothy there is no hope of release but an expectation of death - 2 Timothy 4:6-8.
 - 5. Paul planned to visit Rome on his way to Spain - Romans 15:24.
 - 6. Conclusion:
 - A. There were two Roman imprisonments.
 - B. Paul released after two years from the first imprisonment.
 - C. Went to Spain as planned.
 - D. Later imprisoned again.
 - E. Wrote 2 Timothy shortly before his death.
- B. 1 Timothy probably written while Paul visited churches he had established before his first imprisonment.
 - 1. Location of writing unsure.
 - 2. Possibly Macedonia.
- C. Date of writing most likely A.D. 64 or 65.
 - 1. Was released from first imprisonment in A.D. 61 or 62.
 - 2. Probably spent two years in Spain and another year visiting churches before being imprisoned again.

4. WHY WAS BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Doctrinal problems were causing problems in the church.
 - 1. Timothy had been left in Ephesus that he might “charge some that they teach no other doctrine.” - 1 Timothy 1:3.
- B. Problems were a mixture of Judaism and Greek philosophy.
 - 1. Arguments over genealogies and fables - 1:4.
 - 2. Some had a desire to be teachers of the Law - 1:5-10.
 - 3. Some sought to make laws where God had not made them - 4:1-5.
- C. Timothy was charged concerning the proper way of behaving in the church - 1 Timothy 3:14, 15.
 - 1. The roles for men and women were defined - chapter 2.
 - 2. Elder and deacon qualifications given - chapter 3.
 - 3. Timothy instructed on how to conduct himself - 4:6-16.
 - 4. Regulations concerning widows were given - 5:1-16.
- 5. OUTLINE OF 1 TIMOTHY.
 - A. Doctrinal deviations must be dealt with - chapter 1.
 - B. Role of men and women - chapter 2.
 - C. Elder and deacon qualifications - chapter 3.
 - D. Duties and demeanor of a good minister given - chapter 4.
 - E. Practical principles for the work of the church - chapter 5.
 - 1. Qualifications of widows who would be “enrolled” - vv. 1-16.
 - 2. Attitude toward elders and others discussed - vv. 17-25.
 - F. Practical principles for God’s people given - chapter 6.
 - 1. Admonitions to servants - vv. 1-5.
 - 2. Admonitions to the rich - vv. 6-19.
 - 3. Closing admonitions to Timothy - vv. 20, 21.
- 6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 1 TIMOTHY.
 - A. The church will continue to be plagued by false teachers - Acts 20:26-32; 1 Timothy 1:3-11; 4:1-5.
 - B. Men are given the leadership role in public work and worship of the church - 1 Timothy 2:1-15.
 - C. Women to dress modestly and learn in silence - 1 Timothy 2:9-15.
 - D. Qualified elders and deacons are needed - 1 Timothy 3.
 - E. It is wrong to bind where God has loosed and loose where He has bound - 1 Timothy 4:1-5.
 - F. Aged parents are to be taken care of by their children - 1 Timothy 5:16.
 - G. Elders who serve full time should be supported by the church - 1 Timothy 5:17, 18.
 - H. The wealth of the world is worthless - 1 Timothy 6:5-19.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. The various areas of work of the church should be properly carried out by those who God has determined should do so.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

SECOND TIMOTHY - PAUL'S LAST LETTER

INTRODUCTION:

1. Epistles of 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy and Titus commonly referred to as the "Pastoral Epistles."
 - A. Not correct as books were written to preachers instead of elders, who are the true pastors.
 - B. More correct to refer to them as "Evangelistic Epistles."

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Generally accepted to have been written by Paul.
 1. Written by the same person as 1 Timothy and Titus.
 - B. Internal evidence points to Paul.
 1. Author claims to be the Apostle Paul - 1 Timothy 1:1.
 2. Numerous references to people and places connected to Paul indicate him as the author.
 - C. External evidence is strong for Paul.
 1. Ascribed to Paul by Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria.
 2. Listed among Paul's epistles in the Muratorian Canon and Old Latin and Syriac versions.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. To "Timothy, my dearly beloved son" - 2 Timothy 1:2.
 - B. Appears that Timothy was Paul's closest companion and dearest friend.
 1. Timothy was a native of Lystra - Acts 16:1-3.
 2. Father was a Greek and mother was a Jew - Acts 16:1-3.
 3. Mother and grandmother were believers who taught him the Scriptures from early in his life - 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14, 15.
 4. Closely associated with Paul for the remainder of Paul's life.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. 2 Timothy was written while Paul was in Rome.
 1. He was in prison - 1:7, 8, 16, 17.
 2. He had already appeared before Caesar - 4:16.
 3. He was waiting for his sentence to be carried out.
 4. He expected to die soon for his faith - 4:6-8.
 - B. There were two Roman imprisonments of Paul.
 1. First was for two years - Acts 28.
 - A. While there he wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon.
 - B. He expected to be released - Philippians 1:25; Philemon 22.
 - C. Was released for a period of time and preached in Spain - Romans 15:24.
 - D. It is said that he later visited churches in Asia and Greece and then was arrested during Nero's reign and persecution.
 - C. During his second imprisonment in Rome he wrote 2 Timothy.

1. Nero committed suicide June 8, A.D. 68.
2. Therefore, 2 Timothy was probably written late A.D. 67 or early 68, shortly before Paul was executed.
4. **WHY WAS BOOK WRITTEN?**
 - A. Paul had become an old man and had made many sacrifices for the Cause of Christ.
 1. He was soon to die for his faith.
 2. Many of those who had been his closest friends had forsaken him - 4:10-12.
 3. Timothy was his “dearly beloved son” - 1:2.
 4. He desired to see Timothy once more before his death.
 - B. The church was facing difficult times and Paul was aware of this.
 1. Many false teachers were coming into the church and it was going to get worse - 1:15; 2:16-18; 3:1-9, 13.
 2. Timothy needed to be prepared for the persecution that was to come.
 - A. Paul encouraged Timothy to not be ashamed of the Lord or him - 1:8, 12.
 - B. He encouraged Timothy to “endure hardness as a good soldier” - 2:3.
 - C. Paul warned that all that would live godly lives would face persecution - 3:12.
 - C. It was necessary for Timothy to take care of some personal matters for Paul.
 1. Timothy was to bring the cloak, books and parchments that Paul had left at Troas and now needed - 4:13.
 2. He desired that Timothy come before winter - 4:21.
5. **OUTLINE OF 2 TIMOTHY.**
 - A. Salutation and greeting - 1:1-3.
 - B. Appeal for steadfastness and endurance - 1:4-2:13.
 - C. Instructions relative to personal conduct - 2:14-26.
 - D. Warnings concerning the coming apostasy - 3:1-9.
 - E. The early training of Timothy - 3:10-17.
 - F. Encouragement of Timothy to preach the Word because perilous times were coming - 4:1-8.
 - G. Personal remarks and greetings - 4:9-22.
6. **LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 2 TIMOTHY.**
 - A. Importance of early training in the home - 1:5; 3:14, 15.
 - B. Onesiphorus served as a good example concerning not being afraid or ashamed - 1:16-18.
 - C. Importance of naming false teachers in order that others may be warned - 1:15; 2:17, 18.
 - D. Necessity of rightly dividing the Word - 2:15.
 - E. Christians can expect to be persecuted for their faith - 3:12; Acts 14:22; Luke 6:26.
 - F. Scriptures are inspired of God and are all sufficient as a revelation of the will of God - 3:15-17.
 - G. Necessity and importance of continual and consistent preaching of the Word - 4:1-5.
 - H. The hope laid up for the faithful Christians who love the Lord’s appearing - 4:6-8.

CONCLUSION:

1. Book is the last of Paul’s inspired epistles.
2. Written to his dearest friend and fellow worker.

3. Encourages Christians to be faithful in doing the Lord's work under all conditions.
4. Faithful Christians can face death triumphantly as Paul did - 4:6-8.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

TITUS - SETTING THE CHURCH IN ORDER

INTRODUCTION:

1. As previously noted, 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus are often referred to as “Pastoral Epistles.”
2. Would be more correct to refer to them as Evangelistic Epistles as they were written to evangelists.
3. Time wise they were the last letters to be written by Paul.
4. Practical epistles with a three-fold purpose:
 - A. To give instruction on the organization, work, and worship of the local church.
 - B. To give instruction and encouragement to preachers.
 - C. To warn of false teachers and apostasy that was to come.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus are considered a unit.
 1. Paul is the author of all three.
 2. Points, which indicate Paul as the writer of 1 and 2 Timothy, also indicate the same for Titus.
 - B. Paul claims to be the author - 1:1.
 1. Is written in the same style as other epistles by Paul.
 2. Mentions people, places and events, which fit with what we know of him from other N.T. references.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. “Titus, mine own son after the common faith” - 1:4.
 - B. Much can be learned about Titus from the references within the N.T.
 1. Not mentioned by name in Acts.
 - A. However, from Galatians we see that he went with Paul and Barnabas to the Jerusalem meeting to discuss circumcision - Galatians 2:1; Acts 15.
 2. Was a Greek who became somewhat of a test case in the circumcision issue - Galatians 2:3-5.
 3. Was Paul’s son in the faith - Titus 1:4.
 4. May have been from Antioch of Syria since Paul took him to Jerusalem from there - Acts 15:2; Galatians 2:1.
 5. Was a close friend and fellow missionary with Paul.
 6. Mentioned by name at least nine times in 1 and 2 Corinthians.
 7. Paul sent him to Corinth to organize the collection for the poor - 2 Corinthians 8:16, 17; 12:18.
 8. May have been the bearer of Paul’s first letter to Corinth - 2 Corinthians 7:12-16.
 9. Was the bearer of 2 Corinthians - 2 Corinthians 12:17-21.
 10. Accompanied Paul on a missionary journey to Crete and remained for a time to complete their work - 1:5; 3:12.

11. When he rejoined Paul at Nicopolis, Artemis or Tychicus would be sent to replace him - 3:12.
12. Was with Paul during his last imprisonment and was sent to Dalmatia - 2 Timothy 4:10.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. As previously noted there were two Roman imprisonments of Paul.
 1. Paul released after two years from the first - Acts 28:30, 31; Philippians 1:25; Philemon 22.
 2. Following this he preached in Spain, visited churches in Asia and Greece, worked in Crete, and arrested again during the time of persecution under Nero.
 - B. Epistle probably written during the time in between the two imprisonments.
 1. Therefore, the same time frame as that of 1 and 2 Timothy.
 2. Probably around A.D. 66 or 67.
 - C. Probably written at Nicopolis, a seaport city on the Adriatic Sea about 150 miles northwest of Corinth in Greece - 3:12.
4. WHY WAS BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Paul and Titus had worked among the churches of Crete.
 1. Crete was an island in the eastern area of the Mediterranean Sea.
 - A. There is no mention of the establishing of churches there.
 - B. Possibly planted by Jews converted at Pentecost in Jerusalem - Acts 2:7-11.
 - B. Churches in Crete appear to have been unstable.
 1. Lacked leadership - 1:5.
 2. False teachers were disrupting the church - 1:9-16.
 3. Seems that the citizens of Crete tended to be unstable, untrustworthy people, which was carried over into the church and resulted in church problems.
5. OUTLINE OF TITUS.
 - A. Salutation - 1:1-4.
 - B. Information concerning appointment and qualifications of elders - 1:5-9.
 - C. Description of false teachers and their doctrine - 1:10-16.
 - D. Matters pertaining to sound doctrine - 2:1-15.
 1. Instruction to the old men - 2:1, 2.
 2. Instruction to the old women - 2:3-5.
 3. Instruction to the young men - 2:6-8.
 4. Instruction to slaves - 2:9, 10.
 5. The reason for righteous living is the grace of God - 2:11-15.
 - E. Seven rules of righteous living - 3:1, 2.
 - F. Seven characteristics of the unconverted - 3:3.
 - G. Salvation by grace - 3:4-8.
 - H. Dealing with heretics - 3:9-11.
 - I. Final instructions - 3:12-15.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM THE BOOK.
 - A. God's will is that churches be led by qualified elders - 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Acts 14:23.
 - B. It is necessary that elders be willing and able to answer false teachers - 1:9-11.

- C. Men are to be examples by the lives they live - 2:1, 2.
- D. The responsibility of older women is two-fold:
 - 1. Be good examples - 2:3
 - 2. Teach younger women concerning their families - 2:4, 5.
- E. The Christian, who has been saved by the grace of God, should deny worldly lusts - 2:11, 12.
- F. False teachers are to be admonished and rejected - 3:10, 11; Romans 16:17.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. We learn much about the last days of Paul's life from the teachings of Titus and his epistles to Timothy.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

PHILEMON - A PERSONAL LETTER FROM AN APOSTLE

INTRODUCTION:

1. This letter is the shortest of his epistles.
2. It is the only personal, private letter of Paul's that has been preserved.
3. Written to Philemon who was a Christian and slave owner.
 - A. Deals with his runaway slave, Onesimus, who had been converted by Paul and was being sent back to Philemon.
 1. History suggests there were 60,000,000 slaves in the Roman Empire during the 1st century.
 2. A person could become a slave in one of three ways:
 - A. Be born of parents who were slaves.
 - B. Be captured in war.
 - C. Be sold into slavery for debts owed.
 - B. Roman slave owners had the power of life and death over their slaves.
4. Philemon is one of Paul's "Prison Epistles."
 - A. These were written during his first imprisonment in Rome - Acts 28:30, 31.
 - B. These epistles are: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon.
5. This epistle has been called "a masterpiece of Christian courtesy and intercession."

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Writer refers to himself three times as Paul - 1, 9, 19.
 1. Is incarcerated in Rome - 1, 20, 22.
 2. Writer's associates are Timothy, Epaphras, Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke who are all known associates of Paul - 1, 23, 24.
 - B. External evidence points to Paul.
 1. Writers such as Tertullian and Origen indicate that Paul wrote Philemon.
 2. Appeared among the epistles of Paul in Marcion's Canon, the Muratorian Canon and in the Old Latin and Old Syriac Versions.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Addressed to Philemon.
 1. Described as a fellow laborer who was beloved of Paul - verse 1.
 2. Converted to Christ by Paul - verse 19.
 3. Resident of Colossae - Colossians 4:7-18.
 4. Apparently a wealthy man.
 - A. Owned slaves.
 - B. Church met at his house - Philemon 2.
 - B. Also addressed to Apphia, Archippus, and the church - Philemon 2.
 1. Apphia is believed to be the wife of Philemon.
 2. Archippus is believed to have been the son of Philemon - Colossians 4:17.

3. WHEN AND WHERE BOOK WAS WRITTEN.
 - A. Written from Rome while Paul was incarcerated - Acts 28:30, 31; Colossians 4:7-18; Philemon 1, 9, 10, 22-24.
 - B. Tychicus probably was the bearer of this epistle as he was the one who bore the epistle to the church at Colossae - Colossians 4:7-9.
 - C. This would date the time of writing to be around A.D. 62 at the same time as Colossians.
4. WHY WAS BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Onesimus had run away from his owner Philemon.
 1. Onesimus - meant profitable.
 2. He had wronged his master by perhaps stealing from him - verse 18.
 3. He traveled to Rome.
 4. Came in contact with Paul and was converted - verse 10.
 - B. Onesimus was being sent back to his master Philemon by Paul.
 1. Paul desired Onesimus to remain with him but would not keep him without the permission of Philemon - verses 11-14.
 2. Paul knew that Philemon had the legal right to punish Onesimus.
 - A. He, therefore, pleads on his behalf.
 1. Rather than command, which he could have, he chose to plead with Philemon instead - verses 8-10.
 - B. Paul suggests that perhaps it was providential that Onesimus had run away and became a Christian - verses 15, 16.
 1. His having done so resulted in him becoming a Christian brother who should be treated that way instead of as a slave.
 - C. Philemon is asked by Paul to treat Onesimus as he would treat Paul - verse 17.
 - D. Paul indicated that if Onesimus had done wrong Paul would pay for it - verses 18, 19.
5. OUTLINE OF PHILEMON.
 - A. Salutation - verses 1-3.
 - B. Thanksgiving and appreciation for Philemon - verses 4-7.
 - C. Paul's request on behalf of Onesimus - verses 8-21.
 - D. Paul's expression of his belief he would be released soon - verse 22.
 - E. The companions of Paul send their greetings - verses 22-25.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM PHILEMON.
 - A. Paul continued to preach the gospel even while in Prison - Acts 28:30, 31; Philemon 10, 11.
 - B. Christianity makes a difference in one's life.
 1. Onesimus was now profitable, although he had once been unprofitable - verse 11.
 - C. Restitution is required when real repentance is there.
 1. Philemon had been wronged by Onesimus when he ran away.
 2. It was now necessary he return and make good his wrong - Matthew 3:8.
 - D. God's providence works to bring the sinner and preacher together - verse 10.
 - E. Gospel was responsible for the gradual abolition of slavery.
 1. Not done by war or decree, but by teaching.

2. Application of “Golden Rule” would do away with slavery - Matthew 7:12.
 3. Under the influence of Christianity many founders of the U.S., such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson freed their slaves.
- F. Just because one is in Christ does not mean that the barriers of society are removed.
1. A slave was still bound to his master - 1 Corinthians 7:20-23.
- G. Slavery was regulated by Christianity until its principles eradicated it - Ephesians 6:5-9; Colossians 3:22-4:1.

CONCLUSION:

1. Paul is shown as a man of courtesy, tact, and diplomacy.
 - A. What he could have commanded as an apostle, he sought to persuade willingly.
2. Nothing is known as to whether Philemon followed the advice of Paul or not.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

HEBREWS - GOD'S LAST WORD TO MAN

INTRODUCTION:

1. Hebrews is considered to be one of the more difficult books in the N.T.
2. In order to have an understanding of the scheme of redemption one needs to have knowledge of this book.
3. The Old and New Testaments are tied to together by this book:
 - A. Shows that the New Covenant has replaced the Old Covenant.
 - B. Shows that ultimate forgiveness of sins and redemption was not possible under the O.T.
 - C. Shows that Jesus is God's final word to mankind.
 1. If He is rejected there is none other, nor can there be salvation without Him.
4. Book is a book of faith.
 - A. Written to strengthen the faith of weak Christians.
 - B. Contains the "Hall of Fame of the Heroes of Faith" - chapter 11.
5. Depends on an understanding of the O.T. more than any other N.T. book in order to be understood.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Does not contain the name of the author.
 - B. The identification of the author has long been a subject of debate.
 1. Many possible authors have been suggested:
 - A. Clement of Rome.
 - B. Barnabas.
 - C. Silas.
 - D. Pricilla or Aquila.
 - E. John Mark.
 - F. Luke.
 - G. Apollos.
 - H. Paul.
 2. Majority has accepted Paul as the author.
 - A. Ancient writers who accepted Paul as the author:
 1. Pantaenus, president of the Bible School in Alexandria, Egypt about A.D. 180.
 2. Clement of Alexandria, who followed Pantaenus as president of the Bible School of Alexandria, stated that Paul wrote the book in the Hebrew language and Luke translated it into Greek.
 3. Origen, who followed Clement as head of the Bible School wrote to Africanus and stated, "...we intend to write a separate discourse to show that epistle to be Paul's."
 4. In A.D. 269 the Council of Antioch sent out a letter in which they stated that the same apostle who wrote the epistles to the Corinthians wrote Hebrews.

5. Eusebius, who is considered to be the “father of church history,” wrote during the 4th century that Paul wrote this epistle and either Luke or Clement of Alexandria translated it into Greek.
6. From Jerome in the 4th century to the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century, no one questioned that it was from Paul.
3. Main argument against Paul being the author is that the Greek used is different than that found in his other epistles.
 - A. This can be answered by considering that if Hebrews was written by Paul in the Hebrew language, and then translated by another into Greek, there would be a clear language distinction.
 - B. It must be kept in mind that the audience, subject, time and circumstances all influence the language used by an author.
 - C. The epistle to the Hebrews is a doctrinal treatise, not a personal letter to a friend.
 1. Of Hebrews it has been said that it begins like an essay, proceeds like a sermon, and ends like an epistle.
 - C. Internal evidence appears, at least to me, to be strong in support of Paul.
 1. Same logical approach as seen in his other writings is seen here.
 2. Paul’s closest companion, Timothy, is mentioned - 13:23.
 3. Was written from Italy about the time Paul was released from his first imprisonment - Acts 28:30, 31; Hebrews 13:24.
 - D. It should be kept in mind that a determination of the author is not a matter of fellowship.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Numerous opinions have been expressed concerning the original destination.
 1. Jewish Christians everywhere.
 2. Jewish Christians in Greece, Spain, or Italy.
 3. Jewish Christians in Palestine.
 - A. This view may be correct for the following reasons:
 1. Title “To The Hebrews” was affixed to the epistle early.
 - A. The designation “Hebrews” was the common one for Jews living in Palestine.
 - B. All others were simply referred to as Jews.
 - B. Most early “Christian” writers accept it was written to Palestinian Jews.
 - C. Internal evidence is strong indicative of it being written to Jewish Christians in Palestine.
 1. The recipients were very familiar with the Jewish temple worship and sacrificial system.
 2. The problems dealt with fit the situation of the Jewish Christians in Palestine during the decade preceding the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.
 3. References to the pending destruction of Jerusalem indicate those to whom it was written were residents of Jerusalem.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WRITTEN?
 - A. Indications are that those who received this epistle had been Christians for some time.
 1. This would indicate it was written several years after the establishment of the church.

- B. Since it deals with the coming destruction of Jerusalem, it had to have been written before A.D. 70.
 - 1. When written the temple was still standing and sacrifices were still being offered - 8:4; 10:11.
 - 2. References made to the pending destruction of the city - 10:24, 25.
 - C. Paul had been a prisoner in Rome in A.D. 62, but was expecting to be released soon - Philippians 1:21-26; 2:24.
 - 1. Hebrews 13:23 indicates Timothy had just been released from prison.
 - 2. Therefore, most likely written at the conclusion of his first incarceration - i.e. about A.D. 63.
 - D. As mentioned earlier, was written in Italy - Acts 28:30, 31; Hebrews 13:24.
4. WHY WAS BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. There was the danger that the Jewish Christians were going to give up Christianity and return to Judaism.
 - B. They were being encouraged to remain faithful by the author showing the superiority of the Christian System to the Mosaic System.
 - C. Key words in Hebrews:
 - 1. Better.
 - A. Occurs 13 times.
 - 1. Shows that Christianity:
 - A. Has a better priest and priesthood.
 - B. Has a better offering.
 - C. Has a better covenant based upon better promises.
 - D. Offers a better rest in a better country.
 - 2. Faith.
 - A. Occurs 32 times.
 - 3. Once or once for all.
 - A. Occurs 12 times.
 - 4. Eternal.
 - A. Occurs 5 times.
5. OUTLINE OF HEBREWS.
- A. God's last word to man was through Christ - 1:1-3.
 - B. Christ is better than angels - 1:4-2:18.
 - C. Christ is better than Moses - 3:1-6.
 - D. Christ provides a better rest than Joshua provided in Canaan - 3:7-4:13.
 - E. Christ is a better high priest than Aaron and his successors - 4:14-8:5.
 - F. Christ established a better covenant based upon better promises than that made with Israel - 8:6-10:39.
 - G. Exhortation to faithfulness - 11:1-40.
 - H. Exhortation to steadfastness - 12:1-29.
 - I. Closing exhortations - 13:1-25.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM HEBREWS.
- A. It is only through Christ is salvation made available - 9:28.

- B. Man is not bound by the O.T. today, but lives under the New - 7:12, 22; 8:6-13; 10:9; 12:24.
- C. There is a merciful and faithful priest who understands man's temptations and provides grace in time of need - 4:14-16.
- D. Saving faith is obedient faith - 5:8, 9; 11:4,7-10, 17.
- E. Regular attendance at worship assemblies is necessary to continue in faithfulness - 10:25.
- F. Once man dies there remains no more opportunities of salvation - 9:27, 28.
- G. It is only through Christ that God speaks to man today - 1:1, 2.
- H. Christ is both Son and God - 1:8.
- I. A Christian can fall from grace and be eternally lost - 4:1, 11; 6:1-9; 10:26-31.
- J. Christians must grow and become able to teach others - 5:12-6:9.
- K. Miraculous gifts were given for the purpose of confirming the Word of God - 2:3, 4.
- L. Christians are citizens of an everlasting kingdom which cannot be moved - 12:22-28.
- M. Marriage is from God and is to be regulated by the laws of God - 13:4.
- N. Jesus never changes and therefore we can rely upon His promises - 13:8.

CONCLUSION:

1. In this book it can easily be seen that it is only by the blood of Christ that man can have remission of sins - 10:4; 9:22-28.
2. Affirms that only those who obey will be saved - 5:8, 9.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

JAMES - THE EPISTLE OF COMMON SENSE

INTRODUCTION

1. Practical principles of Christianity are emphasized in this book.
 - A. James has been referred to as the “epistle of common sense.”
 - B. Also has been referred to as the “book of Proverbs of the New Testament.”
2. It is the first of seven books, which are known of as the general epistles.
 - A. These are not addressed to specific churches or individuals.
 - B. They are James, 1, 2 Peter, 1, 2, 3, John and Jude.
3. James has been referred to as being the most Jewish book in the N.T.
4. In many ways it is similar to the Sermon on the Mount.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Three important men in the N.T. who bear the name James.
 1. The son of Zebedee and brother of John who was one of the original apostles - Matthew 4:21; Luke 5:10.
 2. The son of Alphaeus, who was also one of the original apostles - Matthew 10:3; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13.
 3. The son of Mary and Joseph, the younger half-brother of Jesus - Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3; Galatians 1:18, 19.
 - B. James, the son of Zebedee and brother of John, was ordered to be killed by Herod Agrippa I a few years after the church was begun - Acts 12:1, 2.
 1. It is not normally believed that this James is the author as it appears he died before the book was written.
 - C. So far as James the son of Alphaeus is concerned little is known about him.
 1. The writer of the book bearing his name seems to have been well known.
 2. Due to the obscurity of this James very few have suggested it could have been him.
 - D. It is James, the son of Mary and Joseph, who is believed to have authored this book.
 1. He was one of the four fleshly brothers of Jesus - Matthew 13:55.
 2. He, along with the other brothers, did not believe in Him until after His resurrection - John 7:1-5.
 3. The Lord appeared to him following His resurrection - 1 Corinthians 15:7.
 4. He, along with the other brothers and Jesus' mother Mary, assembled in Jerusalem after Jesus' ascension - Acts 1:13, 14.
 5. He became a leader in the church at Jerusalem after it was established - Acts 15:13; Galatians 2:9.
 6. Two views are given concerning his death in early writings.
 - A. Josephus claims he was stoned at the order of the high priest.
 - B. Eusebius claims he was thrown down from the pinnacle of the temple and beaten to death with clubs.

2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. "The twelve tribes which are scattered abroad" - 1:1.
 1. Term "twelve tribes" was a designation for Israel.
 2. Jews were scattered throughout the world due to captivities and commercial reasons.
 - B. Reference is made to Christians who are the "Israel of God" - Galatians 6:16.
 1. Many of them were scattered due to persecution - Acts 8:4.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. James is one of the earliest books of the N.T. to be written.
 1. Josephus indicates that James was killed around A.D. 62 or 63.
 2. Since James makes no reference to Gentile Christians it seems the book was written before the Jerusalem meeting to discuss circumcision - Acts 15.
 - A. This would place the time of the writing of the book before A.D. 48.
 3. Reference to "the worthy name by which ye are called" indicates it was written after A.D. 40 when the name Christian was given - Acts 11:26; James 2:7.
 4. Conclusion then is that the book was written between A.D. 40 and 48.
 - B. The numerous references to Palestine indicate James was writing from there.
 1. Reference is made to the "early and latter rain" which occurs in Palestine - 5:7.
 2. Reference is made to the scorching winds, which were known as the "simoon" and were common in Palestine - 1:11.
 3. Reference is made to fresh water and salt water springs of which both are found in Palestine - 3:11.
 4. It is likely that the epistle was written from Jerusalem since James lived there.
3. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Due to the persecutions and unfair treatment the Christians were facing they were in need of patience - 1:12-15; 2:6, 7; 5:1-11.
 - B. There was need for teaching concerning respect of persons of which the Christians were guilty - 2:1-10.
 - C. There was need of correcting their understanding of faith - 1:22-27; 2:14-26.
 - D. There was need of correcting their attitudes concerning worldly thoughts, envy, and covetousness - 3:13-4:12.
4. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM JAMES.
 - A. Prayers which lack faith will not be answered - 1:6.
 - B. Source of sin is man's lust - 1:13-16.
 - C. The Christian is begotten by the Holy Spirit through the Word - 1:18.
 - D. The Christian must learn to control his tongue - 1:26; 3:1-12.
 - E. Showing respect of persons is sin - 2:1-10.
 - F. Saving faith is a working faith - 2:14-26.
 - G. Earthly life is short and should include God in all things - 4:13-16.
 - H. Prayer that comes from a life of faithfulness is powerful - 5:13-18.

CONCLUSION:

1. James describes himself as a servant of Jesus - 1:1.
 - A. This goes beyond the fleshly kinship that many desire to have.

- B. James realized that the spiritual relationship between God and man is most important - Mark 3:31-35; Luke 11:27, 28.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

1 PETER - A CALL TO DUTY IN THE MIDST OF PERSECUTION

INTRODUCTION:

1. Two epistles were written by the Apostle Peter.
2. They are included among the seven General Epistles due to their not having been written to specific congregations or individuals.
3. The writings of Peter are highly respected and widely accepted.
4. His first epistle is an epistle of encouragement and exhortation written to Christians who were being persecuted for their faith in Christ.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?

- A. "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ" - 1:1.
- B. Until modern times his authorship was not questioned.
 1. Early writers such as Clement of Rome, Polycarp, Papias, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen and Eusebius all indicate their belief that Peter wrote the book.
 2. 2 Peter attests to the genuineness of 1 Peter - 2 Peter 3:1.
 3. Contents are characteristic of what we know of the personality of Peter.
- C. Peter was one of the more prominent men in the early church.
 1. Describes himself as an apostle.
 - A. Not as the Pope as claimed by the Catholic Church.
 2. Father's name was Jonah and brother's name was Andrew, who was also an apostle - Matthew 16:17; John 1:40-42.
 3. Was married - Mark 1:29-31; 1 Corinthians 9:5.
 4. Had children since he served as an elder in the church - 1 Peter 5:1; 1 Timothy 3:4, 5; Titus 1:6.
 5. He and Andrew were from Bethsaida but probably lived in Capernaum - John 1:44; Matthew 8:5, 14, 15.
 6. He and Andrew were fishermen who were partners with James, John and Zebedee - Matthew 4:18; Luke 5:1-11.
 7. He and Andrew were first disciples of John the Baptist - John 1:35-40.
 8. It was Andrew who brought Peter to Jesus - John 1:40-42.
 9. His given name was Simon - Matthew 4:18.
 10. The name Peter, from the Greek "petros," meant a small stone.
 11. Aramaic form of petros is Cephas - John 1:42.
 12. He was a bold, impetuous man, who was a leader of men, but was weak and compromising at times.
 - A. Always appears at the head of the lists of the apostles - Matthew 10:2-4; Luke 6:12-16; Acts 1:13.
 - B. Denied Jesus three times, later repented in bitter tears - Luke 22:31-34; 54-62.
 - C. Was given three opportunities to affirm his love for the Lord by Jesus - John

21:15-17.

13. Was privileged to be among the “inner circle” of the apostles - Mark 5:35-43; Matthew 17:1-8; 26:36-46.
14. Jesus appeared to him soon after His resurrection - 1 Corinthians 15:5.
15. Was given the “keys of the kingdom” to be used on Pentecost and at the house of Cornelius to allow both Jew and Gentile to enter the kingdom - Matthew 16:19; Acts chapters 2 and 10.

D. Was Peter the first Pope?

1. Catholics claim that he is the rock upon which the church is built - Matthew 16:18.
 - A. Jesus’ statement was a play on words.
 1. He says, “You are Peter (Petros, a small stone) and upon this rock (Petra, bedrock), I will build my church” - 1 Corinthians 3:11.
 - B. Power to bind and loose was given to all the apostles, not Peter alone.
2. Popes are forbidden to marry, but Peter was a married man - 1 Corinthians 9:5.
3. Paul had to rebuke Peter, but Popes are said to be infallible when making decisions on matter of doctrine and the church.
4. Peter claimed to be an apostle and servant of Jesus - 2 Peter 1:1.
 - A. If he was the first Pope, why did he not claim such a position?
5. Unlike present day Popes, Peter refused to receive special homage and respect - Acts 10:25, 26.

2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Addressed to “the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia” - 1:1.
 1. All were Roman provinces within Asia Minor.
 2. He may have labored in these areas along with having planted some of the churches.
 3. Some of the churches may have been planted by Jews converted on Pentecost - Acts 2:9.
- B. The first to receive his epistles were Gentile converts.
 1. The phrase “former lusts in your ignorance” would indicate such - 1:14, 18.
 2. These had not been the people of God, nor had they obtained mercy in times past - 2:10.
 3. He uses his Greek name rather than his Aramaic name - 1:1.
 4. They had “wrought the will of the Gentiles” in the past - 4:2-4.

3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Written at Babylon - 5:13.
 1. Some have suggested that Babylon is figurative for either Rome or Jerusalem.
 - A. However, there is no evidence for such a conclusion.
 2. Others have suggested it refers to a small city in Egypt by that name.
 - A. Here, again there is no evidence for such a conclusion.
 3. Seems best to apply it to Babylon on the Euphrates.
- B. Appears to have been written during a time of great persecution.
 1. Seems to fit the time of the persecution of Nero - A.D. 64 to 67.
 2. A.D. 65 is the date most suggest.

4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Written to strengthen and encourage the Christians who were being persecuted for their faith - 1:6,7; 4:14-19.
 - B. Two words, or forms of those words, assist in explaining why it was written.
 1. Some form of suffer or suffering occurs 15 times.
 2. Word “hope” is found four times.
5. OUTLINE OF 1 PETER.
 - A. Inheritance and hope of believers - chapter 1.
 - B. Grace of patient endurance - chapter 2.
 - C. Expression of true Christian character - chapters 3 and 4.
 - D. Closing exhortations - chapter 5.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 1 PETER.
 - A. There is laid up an inheritance in Heaven for Christians - 1:3-5.
 - B. The Christian’s faith is tested and made stronger by persecution - 1:6, 7; 4:14-19.
 - C. Christians must be holy as God is holy - 1:14-16.
 - D. Christians are the chosen people of God - 2:4-10.
 - E. Christians must respect their rulers and obey the laws of the land - 2:13-17.
 - F. The Christian’s example in suffering, along with all else, is Christ - 2:19-25.
 - G. The unbelieving husband can be won to Christ by the wife setting a good example - 3:1-6.
 - H. Baptism is necessary to salvation - 3:18-22.
 - I. Elders are shepherds, not dictators - 5:1-4.
 - K. The Christian’s great adversary is the devil - 5:6-9.

CONCLUSION:

1. Sinners can purify their souls by obeying the truth - 1:22, 23.
2. Life is brief - 1:24, 25.
3. This epistle is an epistle of hope.
 - A. Regardless of what happens in this life, the Christian has hope of a better one to come.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

2 PETER - A CALL TO KNOWLEDGE IN THE MIDST OF FALSE TEACHING

INTRODUCTION:

1. Peter was an aggressive, forceful leader of men.
 - A. When Jesus asked His apostles if they would go away it was Peter who replied, "To whom shall we go?" - John 6:67, 68.
 - B. It was Peter who responded to the question of Jesus concerning who people said that he was - Matthew 16:13-16.
 - C. Peter asserted that he would not offend Jesus - Mark 14:29, 30.
 - D. Peter was the one who preached the first gospel sermon to the Jews on Pentecost and the Gentiles of the house of Cornelius - Acts chapters 2 and 10.
2. Jesus prophesied concerning the death of Peter - John 21:18.
3. Tradition claims that Peter was crucified because of his faith.
4. Before his death he wrote two epistles dealing with suffering during a time of persecution (1 Peter), and false teachers (2 Peter).

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Epistle strongly indicates it was the Apostle Peter.
 1. Claims him as its author - 1:1.
 2. Makes reference to 1 Peter - 3:1.
 3. Author was an eyewitness of the majesty of Jesus - 1:16.
 4. Author was present at the mount of transfiguration - 1:17, 18; Matthew 17:1-9.
 5. Author includes himself among the apostles - 3:2.
 - B. Even in the face of this internal evidence, more doubt has been cast against the genuineness of 2 Peter than any other N.T. book
 1. Critics claim Peter could not have written it, as the author refers to himself as Simon Peter rather than Peter - 1:1.
 - A. What is overlooked is that Simon was his Hebrew name while the Lord named him Peter - John 1:40-42.
 2. Critics claim he could not have written 2 Peter because the writer refers to the prediction of his death in John 21:18, and John was not written until long after Peter had died - 1:13, 14.
 - A. Jesus had made the prediction of Peter's death to Peter.
 1. It was not necessary for him to wait until John wrote of it to know of it.
 - B. Given the fact the author knew of the prediction indicates Peter was the author.
 3. Critics claim the reference to the transfiguration was added in order to make it appear as if Peter wrote the epistle - 1:17, 18.
 - A. Actually, the transfiguration account identifies Peter as the author, who along with James and John witnessed the event - Matthew 17:1-9.
 - B. This is strong evidence to the contrary of the critics.

4. Critics claim the reference to the writings of Paul as being Scripture (3:15, 16) had to have been written in the 2nd century as the letters of Paul were not circulated until then, and were not regarded as Scripture before then.
 - A. This overlooks the fact that Paul claimed inspiration for his letters at the time of writing them - 1 Corinthians 2:10-13; 14:37; 1 Thessalonians 2:13.
 - B. There is evidence that the writings of Paul were circulated among the churches in his lifetime - 1 Corinthians 1:2; Colossians 4:16.
 - C. Clement of Rome, in his two epistles to the church at Corinth about A.D. 95 or 96, quoted extensively from the writings of Paul.
 1. If the writings of Paul had not been circulated how could he have done so?
5. Critics claim the reference in 2 Peter 3:1 is an attempt to make a forgery look good.
 - A. This claim is without support.
6. Critics claim that the “fathers” of 2 Peter 3:4 refer to the first generation of Christians who were dead.
 - A. Therefore, the epistle must have been written at a much later date.
 - B. It must be understood that many of the early Christians were dead by the time the epistle was written.
 - C. It may also be that the phrase “the fathers” has reference to O.T. patriarchs and prophets.
7. Critics argue that the writer borrowed from Jude and, they assume, Peter would not have done so - 2:1-19; Jude 4-20.
 - A. It is agreed that 2 Peter and Jude contain similar language due to the fact they are dealing with a similar problem.
 1. It should also be understood that if any “borrowing” was done, could it not have been the other way around?
 - A. Maybe Jude borrowed from Peter?
 - B. What needs to be seen is that both Peter and Jude were writing by inspiration.
 1. If the same material was used as another did, it was done by guidance of the Holy Spirit - Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-4.
8. Critics argue that the style of writing in the Greek differs, therefore indicating different authors.
 - A. It is overlooked that there are more similarities than differences.
 - B. Also, due to the fact that the epistles deal with different issues, one would expect differences in style and vocabulary.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Written to the same Christians who received the first epistle - 3:1.
 - B. Seems that shortly after he had sent his first epistle he learned of other matters that needed his attention.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Not possible to determine exactly where or when this epistle was written.
 - B. Most likely soon after the first epistle was written.
 1. Probably near the end of the persecution under Nero - A.D. 64-67.
 - C. Peter may have still been in Babylon - 1 Peter 5:13.

4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Written to warn against false teachers who were pervading the church.
 - 1. Peter stressed that the only safeguard against false teaching is knowledge of the Word.
 - A. Key word in 2 Peter is “knowledge.”
 - 1. Used seven times.
- B. Peter sets forth the characteristics of the false teacher and their teachings.
 - 1. A denial of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God - 2:1; Matthew 16:16.
 - 2. Using godliness as a way of getting gain - 2:3, 14-16.
 - 3. A lack of respect for authority, either of God or man - 2:10-12.
 - 4. Lascivious living - 2:13, 14.
 - 5. Denial of the 2nd coming, the end of the world, and the destruction of the earth - 3:1-17.

5. OUTLINE OF 2 PETER.

- A. Exhortation to spiritual growth - chapter 1.
- B. Dangers of, doctrines of, and destiny of the false teacher - chapter 2.
- C. The 2nd coming and the end of the world - chapter 3.

6. LESSON WE LEARN FROM 2 PETER.

- A. God has given in His Word all that is needed in order to be saved - 1:3; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17.
- B. If one wants to be saved he must add the Christian graces to his life - 1:5-11.
- C. The testimony of inspired prophets and eyewitnesses confirm Jesus - 1:16-21.
- D. False teachers have always been around, and will always be around - 2:1-19.
- E. It is possible for a child of God to fall from grace - 2:20-22; 3:17.
- F. The 2nd coming of Jesus will be sudden and unexpected - 3:9, 10.
- G. There will be no place for the earthly kingdom of premillennialism, as the earth will be destroyed at the 2nd coming - 3:10-12.
- H. The Christian’s future hope is in heaven - 3:13; John 14:1-3.
- I. God loves all men and desires they repent in order to be saved - 3:9.
- J. The 2nd coming and the end of the world provide a strong reason why Christians should be busy in serving God - 3:11, 14.
- K. One who misuses or misapplies the Word of God will be lost - 3:16.
- L. It is necessary for Christians to continue to grow in grace and knowledge - 3:18.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. The message of 2 Peter is needed today as it was in the 1st century due to the number of false teachers in the world.
- 2. The only safe guard against being led astray by the false teacher is a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

1 JOHN - AN EPISTLE OF LOVE FROM THE APOSTLE OF LOVE

INTRODUCTION:

1. First, Second and Third John were among the last books of the N.T. to be written.
 - A. From them we gain insight into the church and its conditions near the close of the 1st century.
2. These books are often referred to as the “epistles of love.”
 - A. However, they deal primarily with false teachers who are called liars and antichrists.
3. All three were written by John, who had been called the “apostle of love.”

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?

- A. From the earliest times this epistle has been considered to come from John even though it does not contain his name.
 1. Papias and Polycarp, students of John, credited John with having written it.
 2. Around A.D. 170 the Muratorian Canon indicated John as the author.
 3. The Old Syriac and Old Latin translations, which are two of the oldest translations, regarded John as the author.
 4. During the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th centuries prominent writers considered John to be the author.
 - A. Tertullian.
 - B. Irenaeus.
 - C. Clement of Alexandria.
 - D. Origen.
- B. Of the Apostles, John was one of the best known.
 1. The son of Zebedee and Salome and the brother of James - Matthew 4:21; 27:55, 56.
 2. A fisherman whose family was in partnership with Andrew and Peter - Luke 5:7-10.
 3. One of the first to become a disciple of Jesus - Matthew 4:21, 22; Luke 6:13-16.
 4. Was among the inner circle of the apostles - Mark 5:35-42; Matthew 17:1-9; 26:36, 37.
 5. Was given the name “sons of thunder,” along with his brother James - Mark 3:17; Luke 9:51-56.
 6. Referred to himself as “the disciple whom Jesus loved” - John 20:2; 21:20, 24.
 7. Worked closely with Peter - John 20:1-10; Acts 3, 4, 8.
 8. Wrote five books of the N.T.
 9. Thought to be the only apostle who died a natural death.

2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?

- A. Considered a General Epistle, which indicates it was written to no one in particular.
- B. Various early writers, such as Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria, indicate that he spent the last years of his life in Ephesus.
 1. Many churches had been established in that area by Paul.
 2. The book of Revelation, written by John, was addressed to the “seven churches of Asia.”

3. The term he often used for his readers “little children,” may indicate they were his converts.
 4. Those to whom he wrote most likely were Gentiles since he frequently gave warning against idolatry.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. “...the church in Ephesus...having John remaining permanently among them until the time of Trajan...” Irenaeus.
 1. It is believed that he moved to Ephesus after the death of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the destruction of Jerusalem - John 19:25-27.
 2. Having lived until the time of Trajan (A.D. 98-117) would have made him around 100 years old at his death.
 - B. 1 John appears to have been written by an old man -1 John 2:1, 12-14.
 1. No mention of persecution, which indicates that such under Domitian, which began about A.D. 94, had not yet begun.
 2. Normally considered to have been written between A.D. 85-90, with the later date being the most likely.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
- A. Many were being led away by the false teachers who had invaded the church.
 1. Epistle was written to refute the false teachers.
 2. Also written to strengthen the faith of the Christians.
 - B. Primary false teaching that had come in was a denial of Jesus having come in the flesh - 1:1, 2; 2:22, 23; 4:1-3.
 1. Gnosticism.
 - A. Word “Gnostic” came from the Greek gnosko, meaning I know, and gnosis, meaning knowledge.
 2. Their claim was that they had a special superior knowledge, which ordinary Christians did not have.
 3. The word “know” is used 27 times in refuting this false teaching.
 - C. Basic belief of the Gnostics was that fleshly, physical, and material things were evil
 1. Since the material universe is physical, they claimed that it could not have been created by God, but by a lesser god, due to it being evil.
 2. They taught that if flesh was evil, Jesus could not have been born of a woman.
 3. Certain Gnostics were referred to as Docetics (from the Greek dokeo meaning seem) because they taught that Christ was only a spiritual being who seemed to have a body of flesh.
 4. Still yet others taught that Jesus was just an ordinary man.
 - A. They taught that a spiritual entity, i.e. the Christ, came upon Jesus at his baptism.
 - B. Following the crucifixion, they assert that Christ quickly left Jesus.
 - D. Book of 1 John is a book of contrasts.
 1. Truth verses error.
 2. Light verses darkness.
 3. Love verses hatred.
 4. Life verses death.

- E. John also emphasizes the correct concept of fellowship.
 - 1. Fellowship based on correct knowledge - 1:3.
 - 2. By walking in the light fellowship with God is determined.
- 5. OUTLINE OF 1 JOHN.
 - 1. John witnessed the fact of Christ having come in the flesh - 1:1-4.
 - 2. In order to have fellowship with God one must walk in the light - 1:5-2:17.
 - 3. Warnings given concerning antichrists - 2:18-29.
 - 4. Christians do not continue to live in sin - 3:1-10.
 - 5. Meaning of true love - 3:11-24.
 - 6. False teachers are to be tested - 4:1-6.
 - 7. Additional teaching on true love - 4:7-5:3.
 - 8. Eternal life is in Jesus - 5:4-13.
 - 9. The need for prayer and forgiveness - 5:14-21.
- 6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 1 JOHN.
 - 1. In order to be saved one must accept the truth about the nature of Christ - 1:1-4; 2:18-24; 4:1-3; 5:5-13.
 - 2. If one continues in sin he cannot have fellowship with God - 1:6, 7; 2:4, 5; 3:8-10.
 - 3. Those who are in fellowship with God are in fellowship with others who have such a relationship with God - 1:3, 5-7.
 - A. Those who are not in fellowship with God do not have fellowship with the faithful.
 - 4. Forgiveness of sins by the blood of Christ is conditional, even for the Christian - 1:7-10; Acts 8:22.
 - 5. Christians should not place their trust in worldly things - 2:15-17.
 - 6. Anyone who denies that Jesus came in the flesh is an antichrist - 2:18-23; 4:1-3.
 - 7. The one way to Heaven is Jesus - 2:1,2; 5:5, 11, 12, 20.
 - 8. Eternal life is not a present possession, but is in prospect and promise - 2:25; Titus 1:2; Romans 8:24, 25.
 - 9. To be a child of God is to experience the greatest of all privileges - 3:1-3; 4:9, 10; 5:11, 12, 14.
 - 10. Sin is not inherited, but is an actual act of disobedience to God - 3:4; 5:17; Ezekiel 18:20.
 - 11. Love expresses itself in action – 3:16-18; 4:20, 21; 5:2.
 - 12. The person who truly loves God will keep His commandments - 2:3, 6; 3:7, 22; 5:2, 3.
 - 13. All sins are forgivable by God except those which are unconfessed - 1:9; 5:14-17.
 - 14. Idolatry is wrong regardless of what form it takes - 5:21.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. Loving God and one's brethren is possible while strongly opposing sin and false teaching.
- 2. Education does not guarantee one is in a right relationship with God.
 - A. Even educated people can be ignorant when it comes to His Word.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

2 JOHN - A LETTER TO A CHRISTIAN WOMAN

INTRODUCTION:

1. 2nd and 3rd John are the shortest books in the N.T.
 - A. In English, 3 John has one more verse than 2 John.
 - B. In the Greek, 3 John is shorter than 2 John by one line.
2. Both are personal letters, which give us insight into personal relationships and problems among the early Christians.
3. Both are considered General Epistles since they were not written to specific churches.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Author is simply referred to as “the elder” - verse 1.
 1. The word “elder” probably has reference to the author’s age rather than him being an elder in the church.
 - B. Epistle bears evidence it was written by the same person as 1 John.
 1. Vocabulary is nearly the same.
 2. Subject matter is the same.
 - C. Early writers such as Clement of Alexandria, Dionysius and Cyprian regarded John as the author.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Addressed to “the elect lady and her children” - verse 1.
 - B. Two major views as to who this “elect lady” was.
 1. Reference is being made to the church.
 2. Reference is being made to a specific woman.
 - A. Regardless, to whom ever it was written, the message is the same.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Three reasons for the writing of the book:
 1. To tell the one/ones to whom the book was written that John found “her” children walking in the truth - verse 4.
 2. To encourage “her” to continue walking in love - verses 5, 6.
 3. To give warning of false teachers - verses 7-11.
 - B. There is considerable controversy surrounding the phrase “the doctrine of Christ” in verse 9.
 1. Liberals would have us to understand this refers only to the doctrine of the deity of Christ.
 2. Others say it refers to the doctrine, which Christ taught personally and through inspired men.
 - A. Included in this would be the deity of Christ.
 - B. Also teachings concerning the plan of salvation, the church, its worship, and Christian living.

- C. Liberals want to try to get around the N.T. teachings on salvation, the church, and other matters.
- C. The phrase “doctrine of Christ” would refer to the doctrine, which Christ taught.
 - 1. In 2 John there are other parallel phrases to this one.
 - A. “Walking in truth,” meaning to follow the revealed truth - verse 4; John 17:17.
 - B. “Walk after his commandments” with reference to more than a belief in the deity of Christ - verse 6; Hebrews 5:8, 9; 11:6.
 - C. “Walk in love,” indicating the need to keep the commandments of God - verse 6; John 14:15.
 - D. “Confess that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh” affirms more than His deity - verse 7; Luke 6:46.
 - 2. Use of similar phrases indicates that the phrase “doctrine of Christ” refers to all of the teaching of Christ, not only those pertaining to His deity.
 - A. The phrase “the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees” has reference to things they taught, not just to their existence - Matthew 16:12.
 - B. The phrase “the apostles doctrine” refers to their teachings, not just to the fact they were appointed to be apostles - Acts 2:42.
 - C. When the apostles were accused of “filling Jerusalem with their doctrine” this accusation had reference to what they taught - Acts 5:28, 42.
 - D. The phrase “doctrine of Balaam” refers to the things he taught rather than the belief in his existence - Revelation 2:14.
 - E. The word “doctrine” refers to the entire teaching system of a person or group.
 - 1. Not just to the teaching of their having existed.
 - 3. Even if the phrase referred only to the deity of Jesus, this fact would demand that man do all He commands - Luke 6:46; Hebrews 5:8, 9; Matthew 7:21-23.
- 5. OUTLINE OF 2 JOHN.
 - A. Author’s appreciation for the “elect lady” and “her children” - verses 1-4.
 - B. Encouragement to show their love for God by keeping His commandments - verses 5, 6.
 - C. Warning concerning those who bring not the doctrine of Christ - verses 7-11.
 - D. Author’s plan on visiting the “lady” - verses 12, 13.
- 6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 2 JOHN.
 - A. Commandments, doctrine, and truth are all important.
 - 1. Word “commandment” used three times.
 - 2. Word “doctrine” used twice.
 - 3. Word “truth” used three times.
 - B. Love is important.
 - 1. The “elect lady” and her “children” were loved “in the truth” - verse 1.
 - 2. Exhortation to “love one another” - verse 5.
 - 3. When one walks after the commandments of God he shows his love for God - verse 6.
 - 4. Love and truth go hand in hand.
 - A. They are not opposites.
 - C. Danger of deceivers - verses 7-11.
 - 1. One who fails to obey the doctrine of God does not have God.

2. False teachers must not be encouraged by Christians.
3. One who encourages false teachers is as guilty as the false teacher.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

3 JOHN - THREE LEADERS IN THE EARLY CHURCH

INTRODUCTION:

1. This epistle gives information on three leaders of the early church.
 - A. Gaius walked in the truth and supported missionaries.
 - B. Diotrephes desired to have the preeminence over the church.
 1. He was either going to rule or ruin the church.
 - C. Demetrius was a humble, genuine servant of the church who had a good report of all men.
2. 3 John is the shortest book in the N.T. in the Greek, but the 2nd shortest in English.
3. Three key words found in the book:
 - A. "Truth" is found 5 times.
 - B. "Love" is found once.
 - C. "Beloved" is found 3 times.
4. There are two lessons for Christians today found in this book:
 - A. Those who go forth for the sake of the gospel should receive support.
 - B. Hospitality is a Christian virtue.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Author identifies himself as "the elder" - verse 1.
 1. Most likely in reference to age rather than his being an elder in the church.
 - B. Similarity of language, style and subject matter to 1 and 2 John indicate the same author - John, wrote this book.
2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Gaius - verse 1.
 - B. Several named Gaius found in the N.T.
 1. Gaius of Macedonia - Acts 19:29.
 2. Gaius of Derbe - Acts 20:4.
 3. Gaius of Corinth - 1 Corinthians 1:14; Romans 16:23.
 4. Impossible to tell which one the book was written to.
3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Written about the same time and, possibly, the same location, as First and Second John.
 - B. Therefore, written at Ephesus about A.D. 90.
4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. John had received a report of the faithfulness of Gaius - verses 3-7.
 1. He walked in the truth.
 2. He showed hospitality to both brethren and strangers.
 - A. The word "stranger" is often understood as brethren who were traveling.
 - B. He had been told of the deeds of Diotrephes - verses 9-11.
 1. He loved to have the preeminence.

2. He slandered John.
3. He refused to support brethren who were in need.
4. He “cast out of the church” the brethren who did help the needy.
- C. John sought to commend Demetrius for his devotion to the Cause of Christ.
5. OUTLINE OF 3 JOHN.
 - A. Commendation of Gaius - verses 1-8.
 - B. Condemnation of Diotrephes - verses 9-11.
 - C. Commendation of Demetrius - verses 12-14.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM 3 JOHN.
 - A. Material blessings are less important than spiritual prosperity as physical health is less important than spiritual health - verse 2; Matthew 16:26.
 - B. The faithfulness of one’s children, whether physical or spiritual children, is the greatest source of joy - verse 4.
 - C. Christians have a responsibility to help the needy - verses 5,6; Galatians 6:10; James 1:27.
 - D. Faithful missionaries deserve sacrificial support from brethren - verses 6-8; Philippians 1:3-5; 4:10-17.
 - E. What one supports, whether good or bad, becomes that which they participate in - 2 John 9-11; 3 John 8.
 - F. Having a one-man rule over the church is contrary to the pattern of the N.T. - Acts 14:23; Philippians 1:1; Matthew 20:20-28.
 - G. Persons who do good are worthy of commendation, while those who do bad should be exposed.

CONCLUSION:

1. In this book we see the need for hospitality - Hebrews 13:2.
2. We see that church problems are not new to our generation.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

JUDE - CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

INTRODUCTION:

1. Book is full of warning against those who would threaten the peace and security of the church.
2. False teachers are called “ungodly, lascivious, infidels, murmurers, fault finders, hypocrites, liars, deceivers and sensualists.”
3. False teachers compared to Cain, Balaam, Korah, Sodom and Gomorrah and fallen angels.
4. Everything is set forth in groups of threes:
 - A. Readers were described as “sanctified, preserved and called” - verse 1.
 - B. His desire for them was “mercy, peace and love” - verse 2.
 - C. Reminded his readers of three instances of the judgment of God “the Israelites in the wilderness, the angels who fell, and Sodom and Gomorrah” - verses 5-7.
 - D. Of the false teachers he said they “defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities” - verse 8.
 - E. He pointed out that false teachers followed the examples of Cain, Balaam and Korah - verse 11.
 - F. He referred to false teachers as “murmurers, complainers, and walkers after their own lusts” - verse 16.
 - G. He also said that false teachers “separate themselves, are sensual, and do not have the Spirit” - verse 19.
5. Book teaches that to be religious is not enough.
 - A. One must be religiously right to please God.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Jude, the brother of James - verse 1.
 1. Several named Jude or Judas in the N.T. including two apostles - Luke 6:13-16.
 2. He is one of the brothers of the Lord - Matthew 13:55, 56; Mark 6:3; Galatians 1:19.
 3. He and his brothers did not believe in Jesus until after the resurrection - John 7:1-5; Acts 1:14.
 4. Perhaps not as prominent as James, yet Jude was an active evangelist in the 1st century - 1 Corinthians 9:5.
 - B. Historical evidence indicates that the brother of James wrote this book.
 1. Found in the Muratorian Canon which was written in A.D. 170.
 2. Tertullian, around A.D. 200, credited this epistle to Jude.
 3. Clement of Alexandria, about A.D. 210, mentioned Jude.
 - C. The inspiration of the epistle has been questioned in two areas.
 1. Claim is made that Jude quotes from the Book of Enoch and the Assumption of Moses, both of which were uninspired books - verses 9, 14.
 - A. Paul quoted from heathen poets, but this does not indicate he endorsed all they

said - Acts 17:28; Titus 1:12, 13.

- B. Book of Enoch was found in 1774 in a copy of the Ethiopian Bible.
 - 1. Was first translated into English in 1821.
 - 2. Cannot be traced back any further than the 3rd century.
 - 3. What is to say that Jude did not know of the prophecy of Enoch by inspiration?
 - 4. What is to say that it was not the Book of Enoch quoting from Jude since its history can not be traced back nearly as far as the epistle of Jude?
- C. In so far as Jude's quote concerning Michael, and his dispute with the devil, Jude may well have known of this by inspiration, and a later writer quoted Jude.
- 2. Critics claim the epistle of Jude borrowed from Peter due to the numerous similarities.
 - A. So what?
 - 1. Both were inspired authors, being inspired by the same Holy Spirit.
 - B. "Borrowing" from another inspired writer does not negate his having done so by inspiration.
 - C. It is indeed possible that the Holy Spirit revealed the same message to both writers due to their facing the same situation - Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-4.
- 2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. "...them that are sanctified by God the Father..." - verse 1.
 - B. Nothing indicates whether these were Jews or Gentiles.
 - 1. No geographical location is given.
 - 2. Addresses a common problem throughout the church - false teachers.
- 3. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. No indication as to where Jude was when he wrote the book.
 - 1. It may have been Palestine, but this cannot be known for sure.
 - B. Written during the latter half of the first century as it deals with the problems most prevalent then.
- 4. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Intention was to write concerning a common salvation - verse 3.
 - 1. However, a problem arose in the church, which resulted in him changing his plans.
 - B. Writes to encourage the church to "contend for the faith" - verse 3.
 - 1. Word "contend" means to engage in strife as a combatant.
 - A. Comes from the Greek word from which we get the word "agonize."
 - 2. Phrase "the faith" refers to the gospel - Acts 6:7; Philippians 1:27; Galatians 1:23; Ephesians 4:5, 13.
 - 3. Word "once" indicates the idea of once and for all - 1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 9:12, 27; 10:10.
 - A. Idea is, the Word of God has been revealed, confirmed, and written once and for all time.
 - 1. This takes care of the idea of later day revelations.
- 5. OUTLINE OF JUDE.
 - A. Greeting and reason of writing - verses 1-3.
 - B. Examples of false teachers and evil men - verses 4-7.
 - C. Description of the false teacher and their wickedness - verses 8-16.

- D. Apostle's prediction of the false teachers - verses 17-19.
 - E. How to deal with those who have been led astray by the false teachers - verses 20-23.
 - F. Benediction - verses 24, 25.
6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM JUDE.
- A. There is only one faith, not many - verse 3, Ephesians 4:5.
 - B. One must be religiously right, not just religious, to please God - verse 3; Ephesians 4:4-6; Matthew 7:21-23.
 - C. There is a body of truth called "the faith" or "the gospel" which is to be used to test the beliefs, opinions and practices of man - Acts 17:11; Galatians 1:6-12.
 - D. There is always the danger of false teachers leading the faithful astray - verse 4; Matthew 7:13-23; Acts 20:29-31; 1 Timothy 4:1-5.
 - E. False teachers appear as humble, pious, sincere, meek, loving, gentle and kind in order to more easily deceive the gullible - verse 4; Matthew 7:15; Romans 16:17, 18; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. False teachers will always be present.
- 2. It is important that the faithful be always ready to contend for the faith - 1 Peter 3:15; Jude 3.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

REVELATION - TRAGEDY AND TRIUMPH

INTRODUCTION:

1. Revelation is the most neglected, misunderstood, and yet discussed book of the entire Bible.
2. There are two extremes common to the book of Revelation.
 - A. Twisting and perverting it in order to come up with frightening and bizarre prophecies of the approaching end of all things.
 - B. Total neglect of it for fear of what may be found, believing that man was never meant to understand the book to start with.
3. Revelation is the revelation of Jesus Christ - 1:1.
 - A. Word “revelation” is from the Greek “apokalupsis” meaning “an unveiling, a revealing.”
 - B. Those who read, hear, and keep the things of the book will be blessed - 1:3.
4. It reveals the ultimate triumph of good over evil, truth over error, persecuted over the persecutors, and Christ over Satan.
5. Key word of Revelation is “overcome.”
 - A. Its message is Christians will eventually triumph over the world.

BODY:

1. WHO WROTE THE BOOK?
 - A. Claims to have been written by John - 1:1, 4, 9; 22:8.
 1. It has been suggested that the author was an unknown elder at Ephesus by the name of John.
 2. Others have suggested John Mark as the author.
 - B. Early historians attest to its authorship by John the Apostle.
 1. Justin Martyr - A.D. 110-165.
 2. Irenaeus - A.D. 120-202.
 3. Clement of Alexandria - A.D. 153-217.
 4. Tertullian - A.D. 145-220.
 5. Origen - A.D. 185-254.
 6. Hippolytus - A.D. 170-236.
 - C. His authorship is denied by some due to the language used.
 1. The Greek of Revelation is said to be very different from that of John, 1, 2, 3 John.
 2. It should be understood that the other books written by him were written in leisure, while Revelation was written under great excitement as the visions unfolded before him.
 3. It should also be noted that there are many similarities found in these books.
 - A. Christ is referred to as the “Word” - John 1:1; 1 John 1:1; Revelation 19:13.
 - B. The words “conquer” and “overcome” are found in John 16:33; several times in 1st John, and in Revelation.
 - D. Early writers affirm that John left Jerusalem shortly before its destruction and came to Ephesus where he spent the remainder of his life.

2. TO WHOM WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Addressed to the “seven churches of Asia” - 1:4; chapters 2 and 3.
 1. These are churches, which were established by Paul - Acts chapters 19, 20.
 2. Most likely written for all the churches everywhere.
 - B. Asia Minor had become the stronghold of Christianity by the last quarter of the 1st century.
3. WHY WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Churches were undergoing the most severe persecution they had faced since the beginning of the church.
 1. Jesus had predicted that the world would hate his disciples - John 15:18-20.
 2. Paul had also warned of persecution because of the Word of God - Acts 14:22; 2 Timothy 3:10-12.
 - B. John had been exiled to Patmos - 1:9.
 1. Patmos is a rocky island 24 miles off the shore of Asia Minor and 70 miles southwest of Ephesus.
 2. It was about 50 square miles in size.
 3. Political prisoners were sent there to work in the salt mines.
 - C. Revelation was written to encourage the suffering Christians, showing them that God was on His throne, and they would overcome persecution.
 - D. The book was written in symbols - 1:1.
 1. These symbols would be understood by the Christians.
 - A. But they would not be understood by the Roman persecutors.
 - E. The book belongs to the type of literature called “Apocalyptic.”
 1. Apocalyptic language is:
 - A. Highly figurative.
 - B. Used during times of persecution.
 2. It was used in part of the O.T. books Ezekiel, Daniel, and Zechariah.
 3. It flourished between 200 B.C. and A.D. 200.
4. WHEN AND WHERE WAS THE BOOK WRITTEN?
 - A. Claims it was written by John while he was in exile on Patmos - 1:9-11; 10:4; 14:13; 19:9; 21:5.
 - B. Different dates have been suggested:
 1. A.D. 64-68 during the reign of Nero.
 2. A.D. 69-79 during the reign of Vespasian.
 3. A.D. 81-96 during the reign of Domitian.
 - C. The time of Nero was widely accepted during the 19th century.
 1. The first Roman persecution came during the rule of Nero who blamed the burning of Rome on the Christians.
 2. There is no evidence that the persecution of this period was universal.
 - A. Neither is there any evidence that it was because of religion.
 3. Internal evidence cited for this period:
 - A. The mentioning of the twelve tribes of Israel since all tribal records were destroyed in A.D. 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem.

- B. In 11:1 John is told to measure the Temple, which appears to indicate this had to be written pre-A.D. 70.
 - 1. Due to the figurative nature of the book we should not take either the tribes or the temple literally.
- C. It has been asserted that the beast of 13:18 is Nero for Neron Kaisar in Hebrew has as its numerical equivalent 666.
 - 1. What is overlooked here is why would John use Hebrew when writing to Greek speaking people?
 - 2. Also, to arrive at this conclusion one has to leave one letter out of the Hebrew.
 - 3. Others have used other languages and have come up with Euranthas, Lateinos, and Titan in the Latin or Greek.
 - 4. Here, too, it is important to remember that this book is written in figurative language.
 - 5. The number 6 is one short of perfect 7.
 - A. Therefore, it is the symbol for doom or failure.
 - B. Multiply that by three and you have the certainty of failure.
- D. The period of Vespasian has been advocated by only a few serious students.
 - 1. There is no eternal support for this date.
 - 2. Only one passage can be said to give any support at all to this time - 17:9-11.
 - A. We see seven kings being mentioned.
 - 1. Five are fallen, one is, and one is to come.
 - B. It has been suggested that these kings are the emperors of Rome beginning with Augustus, followed by Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, and Nero.
 - 1. These are the fallen five.
 - C. The one who "is" would be Vespasian who was ruler then.
 - D. The one who is "not yet come" would be Titus who ruled for only two years - A.D. 79-81.
 - E. The beast who is the eighth would be Domitian.
 - 3. The problems with this view are:
 - A. It omits three emperors - Galba, Otho, and Vitellius - who ruled briefly between Nero and Vespasian.
 - B. No historical evidence that Vespasian persecuted Christians.
- E. The most commonly accepted date is during the reign of Domitian.
 - 1. Irenaeus said that John near the end of Domitian's reign wrote it.
 - 2. Domitian was the first Roman emperor to begin universal and official persecution of Christians.
 - A. As a test of loyalty to him and the Roman Empire, people were compelled to sacrifice to his image.
 - B. Although Nero accepted worship as a god, he had reserved deification for the period after death.
 - 1. Domitian demanded to be worshipped as a god during his lifetime.
- F. Therefore, we conclude that John on the Island of Patmos wrote Revelation about A.D. 95 or 96.

5. OUTLINE OF REVELATION.

- A. The seven churches of Asia - chapters 1-3.
- B. Seven seals - chapters 4-7.
- C. Seven trumpets of judgment - chapters 8-11.
- D. Woman and her son persecuted by the dragon and his helpers - chapters 12-14.
- E. Seven bowls of wrath - chapters 15,16.
- F. Fall of the great harlot and of the beast - chapters 17-19.
- G. Judgment, the new heavens and new earth - chapters 20-22.

6. LESSONS WE LEARN FROM REVELATION.

A. Four major approaches to Revelation:

- 1. Futurist View - holds that all of chapters 4-22 describe events which are in the future, but which will soon come to pass.
 - A. View is premillennialism.
 - B. Its mistake is taking figurative language and making it literal.
 - C. With this view the book of Revelation would not have offered any comfort to the persecuted Christians of the 1st century.
- 2. Continuous Historical View - holds that chapters 4-22 are a pre-written history of the church from its beginning to its end.
 - A. View once very popular with Protestants.
 - B. Requires a manipulation of the facts of history.
 - C. Deals mainly with the history of the church in Western Europe.
 - D. Also, offers very little comfort to the Christians of the 1st century.
- 3. Preterist View - holds that all of Revelation was fulfilled in the first two or three centuries of Christianity.
 - A. This view has little relevance today.
 - B. Strongest point is that it teaches that Revelation had a message for the Christians of the 1st century.
 - C. It also correctly emphasizes the historical context.
 - D. Weakness of this view is that it has no message for today.
- 4. Philosophy Of History View - deals with the principles in Revelation.
 - A. Makes the book relevant to all ages.
 - B. Does not involve speculation or misapplication of figures or manipulating facts of history.
 - C. It is too general and does not give enough emphasis to the historical background.

B. A fifth view of Revelation is called the Historical Background View.

- 1. Emphasizes the importance of the historical background.
- 2. Emphasizes the principles of the book.
- 3. Deals with the facts and principles and avoids speculation found in other views.
- C. Book teaches that God is aware of what is happening in the churches - 1:12, 13, 20.
- D. Those churches which are unfaithful and unfruitful may have their candlestick removed - 2:5.
- E. God will not allow false teaching in His church - 2:2, 9, 14, 15; 3:9.
- F. "Keeping house" for the Lord does not please him - 3:1, 2, 14-16.

- G. The kingdom was in existence in the 1st century because John was in it - 1:9; 1 Corinthians 15:24-26.
- H. God is on His throne and in control regardless of what happens on earth - 4:1-11.
- I. To receive the crown of life one must be faithful, even to death - 2:10.
- J. The works performed by Christians are not in vain, but follow them beyond the grave - 14:13; 1 Corinthians 15:58.
- K. A great day is coming when all will be judged - 20:11-15.
- L. Lying will keep one out of heaven - 21:8, 27.
- M. Hell is a real place and reserved for the unrighteous - 20:15; 21:8.
- N. One dare not add to nor take away from this book - 22:18, 19.

CONCLUSION:

1. We must be careful to not be too dogmatic about this book.
2. The central message is, God is in control and His children are more than conquerors.

Note

Much of the material for this outline was taken from Rod Rutherford's Survey of The New Testament.