

HOW TO STUDY YOUR BIBLE

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Introduction

Why do we call it the "New Testament" the word testament is best translated as covenant
It is a new arrangement. It does not mean the old is false, but it supersedes the old covenant and reveals a new relationship between God and man.

The Old Testament revealed the holiness of God in His righteous standard of the Law and promised a redeemer.

The New Testament centers on the redeemer and the people who received His salvation.

The New Testament is new because:

1. It broadens God's covenant relationship to Gentiles as well as Jews.
2. It is not based on keeping the Law, but on the life of the one who kept the Law.
3. It is a covenant of grace.

Background

Christ comes into the world in what the Bible calls "the fullness of time". The time was after the conquests of Alexander the Great and there was truly a common language. Greek was the common tongue and the language of commerce and letters. It was also at a time when the world was ruled by one government, the Romans. It was largely a time of rule, order, and ease of travel. The religious world was one of competing gods, usually inaccessible to men. Despite the ideals of philosophy, ethical standards were superficial. Only Judaism spoke of divine revelation from God to man.

An Overview

History Books = Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts.

These cover the life of Christ and the first 30 years of the church.

The gospels proclaim the coming of the Savior.

Acts proclaims the message of the Savior.

Epistles

1. Pauline

a. Early (Missionary journeys) = Galatians, I & II Thessalonians, I & II Corinthians, Romans

b. First Imprisonment = Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, Philippians

c. Release = I Timothy and Titus

d. Second Imprisonment = II Timothy

2. General = James, Hebrews, Jude, I & II Peter, I, II, & III John

The epistles develop the full significance of the Savior's work and how that should affect the walk of the believer.

Prophetic = Revelation

Revelation anticipates end events and the return of the Savior.

The process of collecting these books in the canon of scripture was prompted by heretical/false teachers and took about 350 years. (Carthage 397 AD)

BOOK	DATE	(AD)	BOOK	DATE	(AD)
James	45-49	(45)	Philippians/Philemon	62-63	
Galatians	48-49		I Peter	63-64	
I & II Thessalonians	49-51		I Timothy	63-66	
Mark	50-60	(53-55)	Titus	63-66	
Matthew	50-60		Hebrews	64-68	
I Corinthians	55		II Peter	66	
II Corinthians	56		II Timothy	67	
Romans	57-58		Jude	68	
Luke	60		John	85-90	
Acts	61		I, II, III John	85-90	
Colossians	61		Revelation	90-95	
Ephesians	61				

Guidelines for Interpretation

GOSPELS

Obviously, the focus of the Gospels is Jesus. They tell us two basic things about Him, His teachings and stories of His life.

The Gospels give us four views of Jesus and were written for four different audiences. They are complementary, like four witnesses of a single event.

They

see a different perspective, but the event is the same. Each Gospel is selective.

Matthew = written for a Jewish audience to show the Messiah-King. Shows ten items Jesus fulfilled (1:23, 2:15, 2:18, 2:23, 4:15, 8:15, 12:18-21, 13:35, 21:5, 27:9-10)

Mark = written for a Roman audience, shows Jesus as the Servant “who gave His life as a ransom for many”, called the gospel of Peter since Mark was Peter’s companion, a full chapter is devoted to the Roman court and crucifixion 37% is devoted to the final week of Jesus

Luke = written for a Greek audience to portray the Greek ideal of the perfect man in Jesus, emphasizes the humanity of Christ more than any other gospel these three are called the Synoptic Gospels, which means to see together. They tell very similar stories and share much of the same material.

John = written for the church and focuses on the deity of Jesus calling Him the word of God and the Son of God, contains seven sign miracles and seven I AM statements

The Gospels contain unique literary forms for the New Testament:

- a. Exaggeration = Matthew 5:29-30
- b. Irony = Luke 12:16-21
- c. Rhetorical questions = designed to make a point, not get an answer
Matthew 6:27
- d. Parallelism = lines which say the same thing in different ways, Mark 4:22
- e. Contrasts = lines which contrast one another, Matthew 12:35

when studying the gospels these types of literary forms are to emphasize what is being stated--so pay attention!

f. Parables

- 1. The main point of the parable is the crucial information, not the details.
- 2. The main point of the parables is to get a response from the audience.
- 3. The context of where Jesus was when He told the parable, who He was with, what things had just happened before the parable are essential to the meaning.
- 4. Understanding what the parable would have meant to the people at the time it was told is important to the meaning.
- 5. Avoid looking too deeply or for secret meanings.

ACTS

This book is a sequel. It is meant to tell the story of the Savior’s continued life by relating how His apostles carried on His work.

There are 4 central themes: The Gospel, The Holy Spirit, The Church, and The World.

It serves as a model for how God intends His church to take the Gospel to the world.

Each story has a specific purpose, so ask yourself the point being made in each event.

EPISTLES

These are occasional documents written to a specific audience in a specific place for a specific purpose to address a specific situation.

1. Behaviors that needed to be corrected
2. Doctrines that needed to be taught

Usually, they take a specific form:

- Introduction of the author
- identification and greeting of the audience
- complimentary statements of the audience/thanksgiving or a prayer
- the body of the letter
- conclusion
- farewell and some mention of requests/commendation of workers/benediction

They are not intended to cover every aspect of theology, but were to demonstrate how the Christ life is to be lived.

REVELATION

there are many different views, each of which usually has a presupposition starting point

read Revelation with humility

avoid taking it too literally

avoid trying to use it to construct a strict chronological map of the future

Example: Revelation 12:1-9 Is this literal? When did/does it occur?

Books

A. Matthew

Theme = Jesus is the long awaited Jewish Messiah

Key Verses: 1:20-23, 16:15-19, 28:18-20

Key Chapters: 1, 12

Outline

I. Person and Presentation of the King 1:1-4:25

II. Proclamation/Preaching of the King 5:1-7:29

- III. Power of the King 8:1-11:1
- IV. Progressive Rejection of the King 11:2-16:12
- V. Preparation of the King's Disciples 16:13-20:28
- VI. Presentation of the King 20:29-23:39
- VII. Prophecies of the King 24:1-25:46
- VIII. Passion of the King 26:1-27:66
- IX. Proof of the King 28:1-20

B. Mark

Theme = Christ the Servant, service and sacrifice

Key Verses: 8:34-37, 10:43-45

Key Chapter: 8

Outline

- I. Preparation of the Servant 1:1-13
- II. Preaching of the Servant 1:14-9:50
- III. Preaching of the Servant in Perea 10:1-52
- IV. Passion of the Servant 11:1-15:47
- V. Prosperity of the Servant 16:1-20

C. Luke

Theme = The Perfect Man who came to seek and save the lost

Key Verses: 1:1-4, 19:10

Key Chapter: 15

Outline

- I. Prologue 1:1-4
- II. Identification of the Son of Man with Men 1:5-4:13
- III. Ministry of the Son of Man to Men 4:14-9:50
- IV. Rejection of the Son of Man by Men 9:51-19:44
- V. Suffering of the Son of Man for Men 19:45-23:56
- VI. Authentication of the Son of Man before Men 24:1-53

D. John

Theme = Believe that Jesus is the Son of God and you may have life

Key Verses: 1:11-13, 1:14, 3:16, 20:30-31

Key Chapters: 3, 6, 10, 13-17

Outline

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Incarnation of the Son of God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deity 1:1-2 b. Preincarnate 1:3-5 c. Forerunner 1:6-8 d. Rejection 1:9-11 e. Acceptance 1:12-13 f. Incarnation 1:14-18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> V. Intercession of the Son of God 17:1-26 VI. Crucifixion of the Son of God 18:1-19:42 VII. Resurrection of the Son of God 20:1-31 VIII. Epilogue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Appearance to 7 disciples 21:1-14 b. Words to Peter 21:15-23 c. Conclusion 21:24-25 |
|--|--|

- II. Presentation of the Son of God
 - a. John the Baptist 1:19-34
 - b. John's Disciples 1:35-51
 - c. Wedding in Cana 2:1-11
 - d. Temple in Jerusalem 2:12-35
 - e. Nicodemus 3:1-21
 - f. John the Baptist 3:22-36
 - g. Samaritan woman 4:1-42
 - h. Official of Capernaum 4:43-54
- III. Opposition of the Son of God
 - a. Feast in Jerusalem 5:1-47
 - b. Passover in Galilee 6:1-71
 - c. Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem 7:1-10:21
 - d. Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem 10:22-42
 - e. Bethany 11:1-12:11
 - f. Jerusalem 12:12-50
- IV. Instruction by the Son of God
 - a. Forgiveness 13:1-20
 - b. His betrayal 13:21-30
 - c. His departure 13:31-38
 - d. Heaven 14:1-14
 - e. Holy Spirit 14:15-26
 - f. Peace 14:27-31
 - g. Fruitfulness 15:1-17
 - h. the World 15:18-16:6
 - i. Holy Spirit 16:7-15
 - j. His return 16:16-33

e. Acts

Theme = the works of the Apostles, first 30 years of the church

Key Verses: 1:8, 2:42-47

Key Chapters: 2

Outline

I. Witness in Jerusalem

- a. Expectation of the chosen 1:1-2:47
- b. Expansion of the church 3:1-6:7

II. Witness in Judea and Samaria

- a. Stephen Martyred 6:8-8:1
- b. Ministry of Philip 8:1-40
- c. Message of Saul 9:1-19
- d. Conflicts of Saul 9:19-31

III. Witness to the World

- a. Antioch 9:32-12:24
- b. Asia Minor 12:25-16:5
- c. Aegean Area 16:6-19:20
- d. Rome 19:21-28:31

f. Romans

Theme = detailed statement of the gospel, what about the Jew and the Law?

Key Verses: 1:16-17, 3:21-26, 6:1-4

Key Chapters: hard to choose, 3-5 (Justification by Grace), 6-8 (sanctification)

Outline

I. Introduction 1:1-17

II. Sin

- a. Gentiles guilty 1:18-32
- b. Jews guilty 2:1-3:8
- c. World guilty 3:9-20

III. Salvation

- a. Justification stated 3:21-31
- b. Justification illustrated 4
- c. Justification explained 5

IV. Sanctification

- a. Victory: the flesh 6
- b. Liberty: the Law 7
- c. Security: the Spirit 8

V. Sovereignty

- a. Israel's Past 9
- b. Israel's Present 10
- c. Israel's Future 11

VI. Service

- a. in the church 12
- b. in society 13
- c. toward weaker brother
(14:1-15:7)

VII. Conclusion 15:8-16:27

g. I Corinthians

Theme = pastoral corrective to problems in the church

Key Verses: 1:18-25, 1:30-31, 2:14, 6:19-20, 10:12-13

Key Chapters: 13

Outline

I. Introduction 1:1-9

- a. Salutation 1:1-3
- b. Thanks 1:4-9

II. Divisions in the Church

- a. Report 1:10-17
- b. Reasons 1:18-2:16
- c. Results 3:1-4:5
- d. Example of Paul 4:6-21

III. Moral Disorders in the Church

- a. Incest 5:1-13
- b. Litigation 6:1-8
- c. Moral Laxity 6:9-20

IV. Marriage

- a. Celibacy 7:1-9
- b. Divorce 7:10-24
- c. Service 7:25-38
- d. Remarriage 7:39-40

V. Food offered to Idols

- a. May a Christian eat? 8:1-13
- b. Example of Paul 9:1-27
- c. Exhortations 10:1-11:1

VI. Public Worship

- a. Women 11:2-16
- b. Lord's Supper 11:17-34
- c. Spiritual Gifts 12:1-14:40

VII. The Resurrection

- a. Importance 15:1-11
- b. Hope 15:20-34
- c. Body 15:35-50
- d. Victory 15:51-58

VIII. Collection of Money 16:1-4

IX. Conclusion 16:5-24

h. II Corinthians

Theme = defense of Paul's ministry, remind them of their commitment

Key Verses: 4:5-6, 4:16-18, 5:17-19

Key Chapters: 8-9

Outline

- I. Explanation of Paul's Conduct and Ministry
 - a. Salutation 1:1-2
 - b. Comfort in Affliction 1:3-11
 - c. Paul's motives 1:12-2:4
 - d. Forgiving an offender 2:5-11
 - e. God's direction 2:12-17
 - f. Letter from Christ 3:1-11
 - g. God's glory 3:12-4:6
 - h. Treasure in Clay Jars 4:7-16a
 - i. Death and the Christian 4:16b-5:10
 - j. Reconciliation 5:11-6:10
 - k. Father's appeal 6:11-7:4
 - l. Titus 7:5-16
- II. Collection for the Christians in Jerusalem
 - a. Generosity 8:1-15
 - b. Titus sent to Corinth 8:16-9:5
 - c. Results 9:6-15
- III. Vindication of Paul's Authority
 - a. Defense 10
 - b. Foolish Boasting 11-12
 - c. Final Warnings 13:1-10
 - d. Conclusion 13:11-14

II Corinthians is Paul's most personal letter!

i. Galatians

Theme = Justification by Faith, Christian Liberty

Key Verses: 2:20-21, 5:1, 5:13-16

Key Chapter: 5

Outline

- I. Justification by Faith Defended
 - a. Introduction 1:1-9
 - b. Gospel by Revelation 1:10-24
 - c. Gospel Approved by Church in Jerusalem 2:1-10
 - d. Gospel Vindicated by Rebuke of Peter 2:11-21
- II. Justification by Faith Explained
 - a. Faith, not works 3:1-5
 - b. Abraham an example 3:6-9
 - c. Faith, not the Law 3:10-4:11
 - d. Blessings by Faith, not Law 4:12-20
 - e. Law and Grace Mutually Exclusive 4:21-31

III. Justification by Faith Applied

- a. Stand Fast 5:1-12
- b. Serve one another 5:13-15
- c. Walk by the Spirit 5:16-26
- d. Do good to all men 6:1-10
- e. Conclusion 6:11-18

j. Ephesians

Theme = the church, Christ's body, the church universal

Key Verses: 1:3, 2:8-10, 4:11-13, 5:17-18

Key Chapter: 6

Outline

I. Salutation 1:1-2

II. Wealth and Calling of the Church

- a. Praise for Redemption 1:4-14
- b. Prayer for Wisdom 1:15-23
- c. Position in Christ 2:1-22
- d. an Explanation 3:1-13
- e. Prayer for Realization 3:14-21

III. Walk and Conduct of the Church

- a. Unity 4:1-16
- b. Righteousness 4:17-5:18
- c. in the World 5:19-6:9
- d. in Warfare 6:10-20
- e. Conclusion 6:21-24

Ephesians contains two prayers for believers, which along with the High Priest prayer of Jesus in John 17, give us a portrait of the knowledge God desires for His children!

k. Philippians

Theme = Joy and Unity in Christ

Key Verses: 1:21, 3:8-11, 4:11-13

Key Chapter: 2

Outline

I. Salutation 1:1-11

II. The Preaching of Christ 1:12-30

III. The Mind of Christ

- a. exhortation to humility 2:1-4
- b. epitome of humility 2:5-11
- c. exercise of humility 2:12-18
- d. examples of humility 2:19-30

IV. The Prize: Knowledge of Christ

- a. warning against legalism 3:1-4a
- b. example of Paul 3:4b-14
- c. exhortation to others 3:15-21

V. The Presence of Christ

- a. Peace with others 4:1-3
- b. Peace with self 4:4-9
- c. Peace in circumstances 4:10-23

l. Colossians

Theme = Supremacy of Christ

Key Verses: 1:15-20, 2:8-10, 3:1-3

Key Chapters: 2-3

Outline

I. The Person and Work of Christ

- a. introduction 1:1-14

III. The Believer in Christ

- a. the inward life 3:5-17

- b. Person of Christ 1:15-18
- c. Work of Christ 1:19-2:3
- II. Problems in Light of Union with Christ
 - a. False teaching 2:4-8
 - b. True teaching 2:9-15
 - c. Obligations 2:16-3:4
- b. home life 3:18-4:1
- c. outward life 4:2-6
- IV. The Apostle's Plans
 - a. His representatives 4:7-9
 - b. His salutations 4:10-18

j. I Thessalonians

Theme = defend himself, encourage them to stand

Key Verses: 1:9-10, 2:13, 4:1-3, 4:13-18

Key Chapters: 4-5

Outline

- I. The Work of Faith in the Past
 - a. Commendation 1:1-10
 - b. Conduct of the Apostle 2:1-12
 - c. Conduct of the Thessalonians 2:13-16
 - d. Concern of the Apostle 2:17-20
 - e. Confirmation of the Thessalonians 3:1-10
 - f. Concluding Prayer 3:11-13
- II. The Labor of Love in the Present
 - a. Sanctified Living 4:1-8
 - b. Love for the Brethren 4:9-10
 - c. Love for the Lost 4:11-12
- III. The Endurance of Hope in the Future
 - a. His Coming 4:13-18
 - b. Day of the Lord 5:1-11
 - c. Conduct in the Church 5:12-28

k. II Thessalonians

Theme = persecution, the return of Christ

Key Verses: 2:1-4, 3:1-5, 3:16

Key Chapter: 2

Outline

- I. Salutation 1:1-2
- II. Comfort for Persecution 1:4-12
- III. Challenges for the Day of the Lord
 - a. the Present 2:1-2a
 - b. Apostasy 2:3a
 - c. Man of Lawlessness 2:3b-4
 - d. the Restrainer 2:5-9
 - e. Unbelievers 2:10-12
 - f. Believers 2:13-17
- IV. Commands Regarding Idleness
 - a. Confidence 3:1-5
 - b. Commands 3:6-15
- V. Conclusion 3:16-18

l. I Timothy

Theme = encourage Timothy, give insight in dealing with false teachers, give direction in proper worship, give qualifications for leaders

Key Verses: 1:5, 3:14-16, 6:11-12

Key Chapter: 3

Outline

- I. Salutation 1:1-2
- V. Dangers

- II. Doctrine
 - a. False doctrine 1:3-11
 - b. Paul's testimony 1:12-17
 - c. Charge to Timothy 1:18-20
- III. Worship
 - a. Prayer 2:1-7
 - b. Men and Women 2:8-15
- IV. Leaders
 - a. Elders and Deacons 3:1-13
 - b. Explanation 3:14-16
- a. Description 4:1-5
- b. Defenses 4:6-16
- VI. Responsibilities
 - a. Age Groups 5:1-2
 - b. Widows 5:3-16
 - c. Elders 5:17-25
 - d. Slaves/Masters 6:1-2
- VII. Final Instructions
 - a. Godliness 6:11-16
 - b. the Rich 6:17-19
 - c. Remain Faithful 6:20-21

m. II Timothy

Theme = Ask Timothy to come, admonish Timothy to endure

Key Verses: 1:7, 2:1-4, 3:14-17

Key Chapter: 2

Outline

- I. Salutation 1:1-2
- II. Thanksgiving 1:3-7
- III. Timothy's Responsibilities
- IV. Character of a Faithful Servant
 - a. Grace 2:1
 - b. Multiplier 2:2
 - c. Soldier 2:3-4
 - d. Athlete/Farmer 2:5-13
 - e. Diligence 2:14-19
 - f. Sanctified Vessel 2:20-23
 - g. Gentle 2:24-26

V. Cautions

- a. Apostasy 3:1-9
- b. Protection 3:10-17

VI. Preach the Word 4:1-5

VII. Comfort of a Faithful Servant

- a. A good finish 4:6-7
- b. A good future 4:8
- c. Good friends 4:9-18

VIII. Conclusion 4:19-22

n. Titus

Theme = instruct Titus in establishing churches and facing opposition

Key Verses: 1:5, 2:11-13, 3:3-7

Key Chapter: 2

Outline

- I. Salutation 1:1-4
- II. Ordination of Elders 1:5-9
- III. Offenders in the Church 1:10-16
- IV. Operation of the Church 2:1-3:11
 - a. Duties 2:1-10
 - b. Directions 2:11-15
 - c. Demonstration 3:1-11
- V. Final Instructions 3:12-15

o. Philemon

Theme = ask Philemon to forgive Onesimus

Key Verses: 15-18

Outline:

- I. Thanksgiving 1-7
- II. Petition 8-18
- III. Promise 19-21
- IV. Personal 22-25

A beautiful analogy of the forgiveness the believer receives in Christ!

p. Hebrews

- Theme = surpassing greatness of Christ
- Key Verses: 2:1-4, 4:12-13, 4:14-16, 12:1-2
- Key Chapters: 1, 11
- Outline
 - I. Superior to Old Testament Leaders
 - a. the Prophets 1:1-3
 - b. the Angels 1:4-2:18
 - c. Moses 3:1-6
 - d. Joshua 3:7-4:13
 - e. the Priests 4:14-7:28
 - II. Superior Sacrifice
 - a. Better Covenant 8
 - b. Better Sanctuary 9:1-12
 - c. Better Sacrifice 9:13-10:18
 - III. Plea for Persevering Faith
 - a. Examples 11
 - b. Encouragement 12:1-11
 - c. Exhortations 12:12-17
 - d. Motivations 12:18-29
 - IV. Conclusion 13

q. James

- Theme = A faith that works
- Key Verses: 1:2-5, 1:19-27, 1:22, 2:14-17
- Key Chapters: 1, 4
- Outline
 - I. Stand with Confidence
 - a. Rejoice in trial 1:2-12
 - b. Resist in temptation 1:13-18
 - c. Rest in truth 1:19-27
 - II. Serve with Compassion
 - a. Accept others 2:1-13
 - b. Assist others 2:14-26
 - III. Speak with Care
 - a. Control talk 3:1-12

- b. Cultivate thoughts 3:13-18
- IV. Submit with Contrition
 - a. Hatred to humility 4:1-6
 - b. Judgment to justice 4:7-12
 - c. Boasting to belief 4:13-17
- V. Share with Concern
 - a. Possessions 5:1-6
 - b. Patience 5:7-12
 - c. Prayer 5:13-20

Caution: Some great theologians have had difficulty with James!

r. I Peter

Theme = The problem of Suffering

Key Verses: 1:3-7, 1:14-21, 3:15-17, 4:12-13

Key Chapter: 1

Outline

- I. Salvation of Believers
 - a. Salutation 1:1-2
 - b. Future Hope 1:3-9
 - c. Present Salvation 1:10-12
- II. Sanctification of Believers
 - a. Holiness 1:13-21
 - b. Love one another 1:22-25
 - c. Desire the Word 2:1-3
 - d. Spiritual Sacrifices 2:4-10
 - e. Abstain from the Flesh 2:11-12
- III. Submission of Believers
 - a. Government 2:13-17
 - b. Business 2:18-25
 - c. Marriage 3:1-8
 - d. Life 3:9-12
- IV. Suffering of Believers
 - a. Conduct 3:13-17
 - b. Christ's example 3:18-4:6
 - c. Commands 4:7-19
 - d. Custodians (shepherds) 5:1-9
 - e. Conclusion 5:10-14

s. II Peter

Theme = the rise of false teachers

Key Verses: 1:3, 1:20-21, 3:8-11

Key Chapter: 1

Outline

- I. Greetings 1:1-2

II. Christian Character 1:3-21

- a. Growth 1:3-11
- b. Grounds 1:12-21

t. I John

Theme = Fellowship with the Lord through Jesus

Key Verses: 1:5-2:2, 5:11-13

Key Chapter: 1

Outline

I. Introduction 1:1-4

II. Conditions for Fellowship 1:5-2:2

- a. Walk in the Light 1:5-7
- b. Confess Sin 1:8-2:2

III. Conduct of Fellowship

- a. Be like Christ 2:3-11
- b. Love not the World 2:12-17
- c. Guard against antichrist 2:18-27

IV. Characteristics of Fellowship

- a. Purity 2:28-3:3
- b. Practice righteousness 3:4-24
- c. Prove the spirits 4:1-6
- d. Pattern 4:7-5:3

V. Consequences of Fellowship

- a. Victory over the world 5:4-5
- b. Verification of Christ's credentials 5:6-12
- c. Verification of answered prayer 5:14-17
- d. Victory over S

in 5:18-21

u. II John

Theme = Walk in the Truth

Key Verses: 6-11

Outline

I. Prologue 1-3

II. Commendation 4

III. Commandment 5-6

IV. Cautions 7-11

V. Conclusion 12-13

v. III John

Theme = writes Gaius about supporting Christian workers

Key Verses: 6-8, 11

Outline

I. Introduction 1

II. Commendation of Gaius 2-8

III. Commendation of Diotrephes 9-11

IV. Commendation of Demetrius 12

V. Conclusion 13-14

w. Jude

Theme = contend for the faith against false teachers

Key Verses: 3, 24

Outline

I. Greetings 1-4

II. Description of False Teachers 5-16

a. Past Judgment 5-7

b. Present characteristics 8-13

c. Future Judgment 14-16

III. Exhortation to Believers 17-23

IV. Benediction 24-25

x. Revelation

Theme = conflict with evil and victory of God

Key Verses: 1:7, 1:19, 19:11-16

Key Chapters: 2-3, 4-5, 19-22

Outline

I. Prologue 1:1-8

II. Things Past 1:9-20

III. Things Present 2-3

a. Ephesus 2:1-7

b. Smyrna 2:8-11

c. Pergamum 2:12-17

d. Thyatira 2:18-29

e. Sardis 3:1-6

f.

Philadelphia 3:7-13

g. Laodicea 3:14-22

IV. Things Predicted

a. Tribulation 4:1-22:5

1. Throne in Heaven 4:1-11

2. Sealed Book 5:1-14

3. Seal Judgments 6:1-17

4. Interlude 7:1-17

5. Four Trumpets 8:1-13

6. Fifth and Sixth Trumpets, First Woe 9:1-20

7. the little book 10:1-11

8. Temple, Two witnesses 11:1-19

9. Angelic Conflict 12:1-17

10. Beast and False Prophet 13:1-18

11. Announcements 14:1-20

12. Prelude to plagues 15:1-8

13. Bowl Judgments 16:1-21

- 14. Religious Babylon 17:1-18
- 15. Commercial Babylon 18:1-24
- 16. Second Coming of Christ 19:1-21
- b. Reign of Christ 20:1-15
- c. Eternal State 21:1-22:5
- d. Epilogue 22:6-21

How you interpret Revelation is highly dependent on which view you take, there are four:

- 1. preterist = these prophecies already fulfilled in early church history
- 2. historical = portrays a history of the church from time of John to the end
- 3. idealist = symbolic unfolding constant conflict without actual events
- 4. futurist = sees most of the book as prophecy yet to be fulfilled

You may learn more by seeing:

www.bible.org, Studies in Revelation (20 articles)
www.biblebb.com, search “end times” and you won’t be able to read them all
www.prc.org/articles/amillennialism.html
www.cmfnow.com/articles/pt568.htm

http://www.theopedia.com/Millennial_Kingdom

CAUTION!

End time prophecy is not where you should begin your attempts to learn how to study the Bible

MORE WAYS OF ORGANIZING THE BOOKS BY RELATIONSHIP

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Romans
presents salvation | Galatians
presents that salvation is apart from the Law | | |
| 2. Matthew
gospel of the kingdom
Christ is King-Savior | Mark
gospel of God
Slave-Savior | Luke
gospel of forgiveness
Man-Savior | John
gospel of life
God-Savior |
| 3. Galatians
Christ is better than Law | Hebrews
Christ is better than
prophets, priests, angels | Colossians
Christ is better than all things | |

4. Letters in which Paul defends his ministry and apostleship

Galatians

II Corinthians

I Thessalonians

5. Letters written from prison

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

Philemon

6. Pastoral letters

I Timothy

II Timothy

Titus