

Help Me Understand Series

The Bible: New Testament

The Bible is the most important book a Christ follower could ever read. But it is often confusing. This talk will walk you through the new testament. We'll explain the four gospels, the start of the early church, the writings of Paul, and where to start reading your Bible.

UNDERSTANDING THE NEW TESTAMENT

How does it start?

- The book of Ezra, Nehemiah, Malachi, and Haggai all are occurring around _____ B.C..
- The prophets had been foretelling the coming of the _____.

The Messianic Prophecies

- Jeremiah 31:31 – The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.
- Psalms 22:1 – My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?
- Isaiah 61:1-2 – The spirit of the Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness the prisoners.
- Isaiah 7:14 – Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.
- Isaiah 53:5 – But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.
- Zechariah 9:9 – Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

The Four Gospels

- The books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- Matthew and Luke tell us about the _____ of Jesus.
- We celebrate the birth of Jesus on _____.
- We celebrate the resurrection of Christ on _____.
- John's gospel is unique. 1/3 of his gospel focuses on just the _____.

The book of Acts

- Acts tells us how the early _____ was born.
- The _____ falls on the church in Acts 2.
- Acts covers a _____ timespan.
- The most important character (other than Jesus) in the book of Acts is _____.

The Pauline Letters

Paul wrote _____ letters that eventually became books in our New Testament.

- *Romans* – the most theologically weighty book in the Bible.
- *Philippians* – the book of _____.
- *1st and 2nd Timothy, and Titus* – letters written to younger _____ who Paul had left behind.
- *1st and 2nd Corinthians* – Two of the _____ letters Paul wrote to the church in Corinth.
- All 13 letters: 1) *Romans*, 2) *I Corinthians*, 3) *II Corinthians*, 4) *Galatians*, 5) *Ephesians*, 6) *Philippians*, 7) *Colossians*, 8) *I Timothy*, 9) *II Timothy*, 10) *Titus*, 11) *I Thessalonians*, 12) *II Thessalonians*, and 13) *Philemon*.

Jews vs. Gentiles

- The Jewish Christians wanted to force Gentile Christians to obey _____.
- The biggest problem was the law of _____.
- The letters of _____ and _____ deal extensively with this problem.
- Things are finally settled in the _____ in Acts 15.

The books James, I Peter and II Peter

- James is the _____ of Jesus.
- He focuses on following Jesus with our _____, not just our _____.
- Peter was a _____ of Jesus who became a key leader in the Church.
- This is the same Peter who we read about in all four of the _____.

The book of Revelation

- Revelation is apocalyptic literature that tells us about the end times.
- It is very confusing and requires it's own talk!

Ryan's recommendation on where to start reading:

1. Matthew
2. Acts
3. Philippians
4. Genesis
5. Exodus