

Piney Grove Baptist Church

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

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An overview survey of the New Testament focusing on the theme, purpose, structure and basic content of each individual book and relating each book to the whole Bible. Strong emphasis is also given to the message of application for each book.

Knowing the content and structure of the New Testament will enable bible students and church leaders to know Christ more fully and minister to people more effectively.

How We Got the NEW TESTAMENT

Some facts about the New Testament will help us understand it better—

- Written over a period of about 50 years (45 AD – 95 AD).
- Written by at least eight different human authors.
- 27 books with a unifying theme.
- Written in common Greek.

- Over 5,000 manuscript copies of all or part of the NT have been preserved—it is the best attested of all ancient writings.
- The earliest fragment is from **John and dates about 135 AD.**
- Most complete manuscript copies date from the 4th century AD.
- By 397 AD the church Council of Carthage recognized all 27 books as being inspired scripture.

- Copies of the NT were meticulously made by scribes until the invention of the printing press by Gutenberg in the 15th century.
- In the 3rd century AD the Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible was made by Jerome and became the Bible of Christianity in the Western World for over 1000 years.
- The 1611 King James translation has been the most widely used Bible in Protestant churches since that date.

B. The 27 Books of the New Testament

GOSPELS

MATTHEW
MARK
LUKE
JOHN

4 Books

HISTORY OF CHURCH

ACTS

1 Book

LETTERS

P
A
U
L
S

ROMANS
1 AND 2 CORINTHIANS
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS
1 AND 2 THESSALONIANS
1 AND 2 TIMOTHY
TITUS
PHILEMON

E
P
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L
E
S

G
E
N
E
R
A
L

HEBREWS
JAMES
1 AND 2 PETER
1, 2, 3 JOHN
JUDE

21 Books

PROPHECY

REVELATION

1 Book

Time Periods of New Testament History

1. Gospels 4 BC – 33 AD (**Matthew-Luke**) c. **37 years**

- Birth and ministry of John the Baptist
- Incarnation of Jesus Christ
- Life of Christ
 - virgin birth
 - baptism
 - temptation
 - ministry of preaching, teaching, healing, forgiving, miracles
 - rejection
 - crucifixion
 - bodily resurrection
 - ascension

2. Early Church AD 33- AD 70 (**Acts-Jude**)

c. 37 years

- Pentecost – birth of church • Jerusalem Council, AD 49
- Stephen martyred • Spread of Gospel to Europe
- Persecution of church • Arrest and trials of Paul
- Salvation of Ethiopian Eunuch • Establishment of churches
- Salvation of Paul • Appointment of elders
- Peter – Apostle to the Jews • Development of churches
- Paul – Apostle to the Gentiles • Pastoral epistles
- Church at Antioch • Intense persecution of Christians
- James – head of Jerusalem church by Rome
- Missionary journeys of Paul • Destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD
- Silas
- Barnabas
- Luke

3. Later Church 90 AD - 100 AD (**John; 1, 2, 3 John; Revelation**) c.10 years

- Maturing of the church
- False doctrine and teachers
- Letters to the seven churches in Asia Minor
- The Revelation
- Close of NT c. 100 AD

Old Covenant

The term “Old” Testament (covenant) focuses primarily on the Mosaic Covenant which God made with Israel at Mt. Sinai after the Exodus and before they entered the promised land (**Ex. 20-24; Dt. 28-30; see also Jer. 31:32; Gal. 3:6-26; Heb. 9:15-22**). **The Mosaic Covenant included the law and all its** regulations, rituals and sacrifices. It was the breaking of the Old Covenant which led to Israel’s fall to Assyria in 722 BC and Judah’s fall to Babylon in 586 BC.

New Covenant

The term “New” Testament (Covenant) focuses on the references by Christ in the gospels

Lk. 22:14-20

Heb. 9:15

2 Co. 3:3-9

But even the New Covenant is not really “new” but relates to:

- The promise of spiritual blessings to all nations in the Abrahamic Covenant (**Ge. 12:3; Gal. 3:6-17**) on which the salvation of all believers rests (**Ro. 4:1-25**).
- The New Covenant promised to Israel in **Jer. 31:31-37** and **Eze. 36:22-28** the spiritual-salvation blessing, of which benefit all those who believe in God.

OLD COVENANT

law external

relationship to God only through priest

knowledge of God was through those who taught

temporary provision for sins

no enablement

designed to show God's holiness and man's sinfulness

obedience demonstrates faith

NEW COVENANT

law internal

close personal relationship to God

knowledge of God through indwelling Spirit and Word

permanent provision for sins

divine enablement (motivation and ability)

designed to save; shows God's holiness in Christ

faith demonstrated by obedience

General characteristics of God's covenants

- (1) Between parties of unequal bargaining power.
- (2) Unilateral (initiated and made by God alone).
- (3) Unconditional as to promises (may be conditional as to blessings).
- (4) Irrevocable – cannot be changed or altered but only accepted or rejected.
- (5) Acceptance creates a relationship.

While we will use the terms OT and NT, it is best **to think of the Bible as a unified whole containing the full divine, progressive, redemptive revelation of God in two successive stages (Heb. 1:1-3).**

The Old Covenant has been fulfilled and replaced by the New Covenant.

F. Theology of the New Testament

The NT completes God's progressive revelation of Himself to man and provides us with a clear picture of what God is really like

(see Heb. 1:1-3; Jn. 1:14, 18; Jn. 14:8-11)

In Christ we also see a clear picture of man as God intended man to be.

G. Theme of the New Testament

Theme: The coming of Jesus Christ the Messiah as a man to die and to complete God's plan of redemption on the cross; His rejection by men; His death and resurrection; His provision for continued ministry through the church; and the anticipation of His second coming in great power and glory to judge sin and rule and reign as King of Kings.

Order of Writing of the NT

James, Titus and Galations 40 – 50 AD

Mark and Matthew 50-60 AD

Pauls Letters 50's mid 60's

Luke and Acts Early 60's

1 & 2 Peter Hebrews Mid 60's

Jude 1, 2, 3 John 70's

Revelation 80's

4 Gospels

“Gospel” means “good news” and thus the accounts of the four gospel writers contain the **good news about—**

- the earthly life and ministry and
- the divine redemptive mission of Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God who came into the world as a man to become the savior of all men.

Acts

The Conclusion of the work that Luke started with his Gospel and an account of the work and history of the early church. The first half of the book focuses on Peter and the work of the Apostles and the second half on the work of the Apostle Paul.

The Epistles of Paul

Three Missionary Journeys produced many new churches and many people that Paul wrote a total of 13 different letters to discussing many different aspects of life in Jesus Christ. We get much of our teaching and doctrine from these letters of Paul.

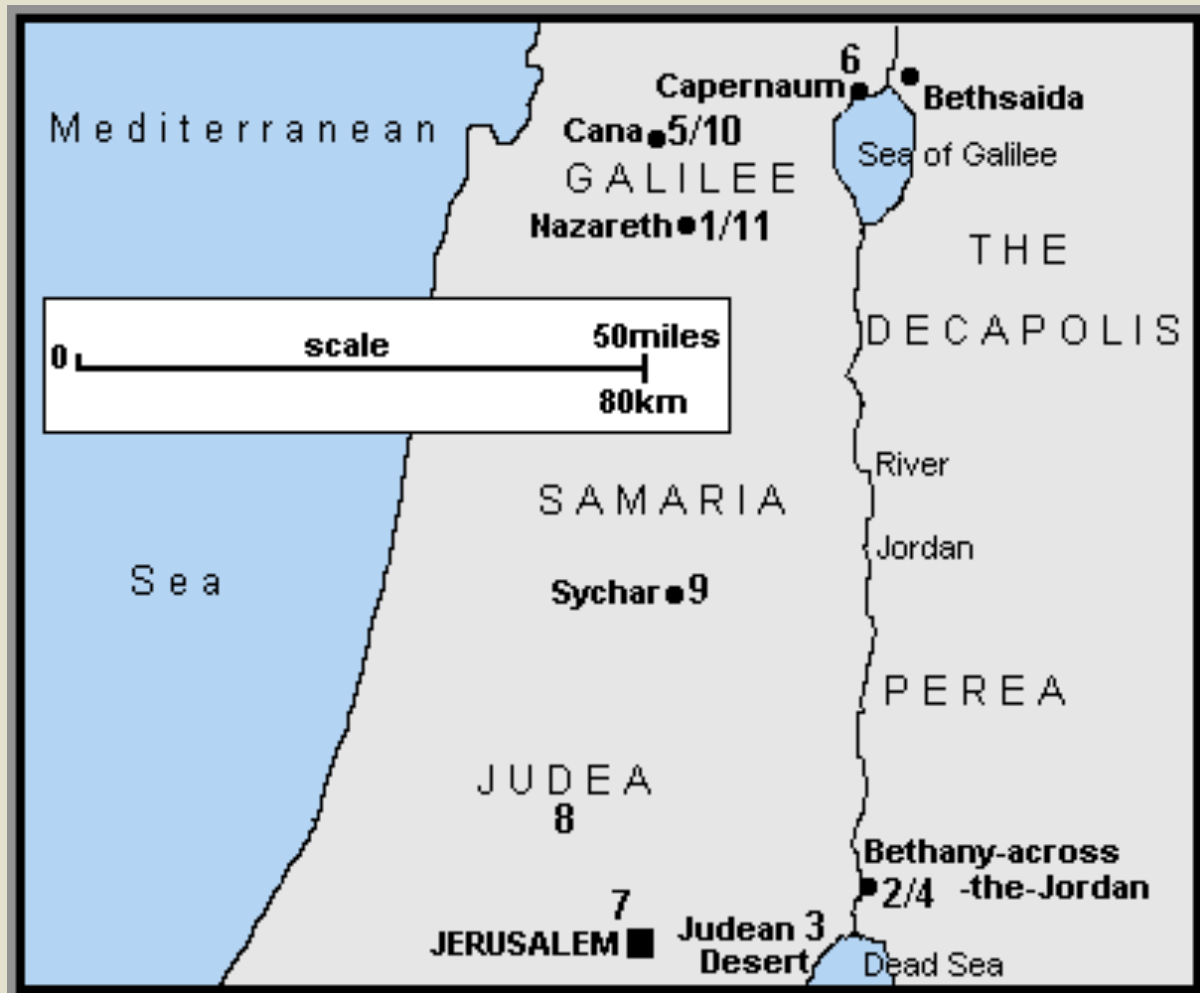
The General Epistles

Letters written by John, Peter, and James as well as one of the most profound theological treatises ever written we call the book of Hebrews written by an unknown author.

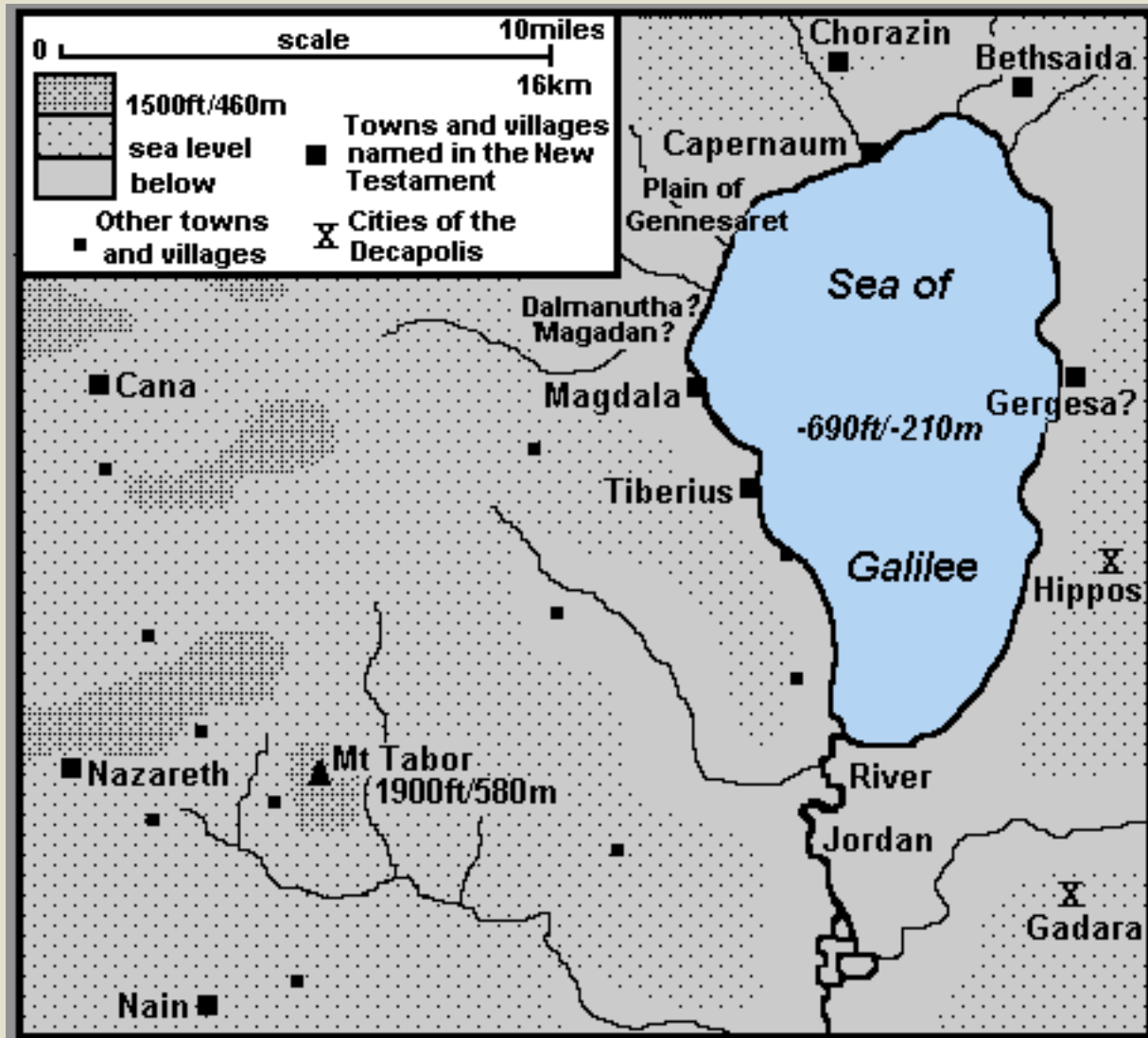
Revelation

The Apocalypse was written as a book of comfort to the early church as they were in the middle of a time of great persecution. There are several different interpretations of this remarkable and often misunderstood book of Scripture.

Jesus Early Ministry



Area Around Sea of Galilee



Jesus Third Year of Ministry



Comparison of the 4 Gospels

Gospel	Emphasis	Portrait of Christ	Audience	Key Word
Matthew (Teacher)	Teachings	Kingship (Lion) Promised Messiah King	Jewish	“fulfilled”
Mark (Preacher)	Miracles	Redeemer (Ox) Suffering Servant of the Lord	Roman	“immediately”
Luke (Historian)	Parables	Humanity (Man) Sinless Son of Man	Greek/ Gentiles	“Son of Man”
John (Theologian)	Doctrine	Deity (Eagle) Perfect Son of God	Christians/ Universal	“believe”

Matthew

- Written by the Apostle Levi or Matthew
- 28 Chapters Four major divisions
- Major Tie to the OT
- Emphasis on the Kingdom of God

Gospel of Matthew

1-4

Chapters
1:1-4:11

Person
of Christ

Genealogy
Virgin birth
Flight to Egypt
John the Baptist
Baptism of Jesus
Temptation of
Jesus

4-11

Chapters
4:12-11:30

Program
of Christ

Preaching of Gospel
Sermon on the Mount
Miracles/power
Sending out the 12
Coming Judgment

12-20

Chapters
12:1-20:28

Persecution
of Christ

Rejection by Jews
Sabbath conflict
Unpardonable sin
Kingdom parables
False teaching of
Pharisees
Preparation of
disciples
Peter's confession
Transfiguration

20-28

Chapters
20:29-28:20

Prevailing
of Christ

Palm Sunday
Temple cleansing
Olivet Prophecy
Passion
Plot to kill Jesus
Arrest
Trials
Crucifixion
Resurrection
Great Commission

Gospel of Matthew

Theme/purpose

Matthew wrote to prove that Jesus Christ is the Messiah-King promised in the OT who was rejected by the Jews even though He authenticated Himself by His words and works.

Applicational message

The Messianic claims of Jesus Christ cannot be ignored—they must either be personally accepted or rejected with eternal consequences flowing from the decision.

The Gospel of Mark

Written by John Mark

Tradition has as dictated by Peter

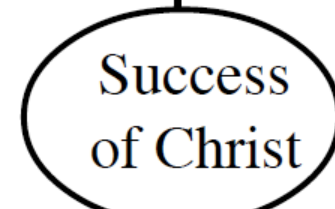
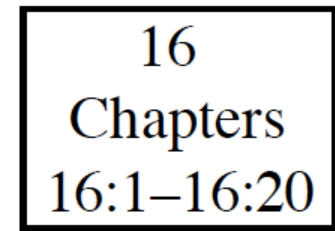
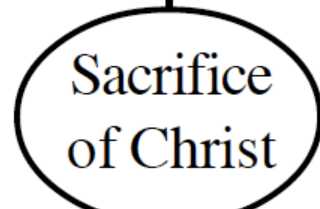
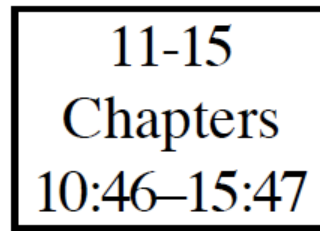
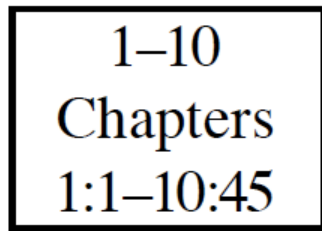
First of the Writings of the life of Jesus

Short and brief in all of the accounts

The Gospel of Mark

Structure and Major Divisions

- 16 chapters
- 3 major divisions



The Gospel of Mark

Theme/purpose

Mark recorded the servant-hood ministry of Christ during His life and death to demonstrate that Christ came as the suffering servant of the Lord.

Applicational message

Just as Christ served others by preaching the gospel and meeting their needs, so should we.

Distinctive features Of Mark

- Shortest gospel account
- Action – “immediately”
- Omits background and birth narratives
- No details of Jesus’ temptation
- Teaching multitudes in parables
- Explaining teachings privately to disciples

- Servant-hood of Christ
- Disputed ending (**16:9-20**)
- Go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature
- Emphasis on boat scenes