

New Testament Survey Class High School Edition

The Background and Overview of the New Testament and the Four Gospel Records

Part 2

II. The New Testament

A. Name

The "New Testament" is the second major part of our Bible, with the "Old Testament" being the first.

The term "testament" comes from the Latin *testamentum* and means "will, testament, or _____."

When used in connection with the Old or New Testament, "covenant" is the best translation. A covenant, or testament, is an _____ made by one party where others may become part of it if they accept its _____.

This new covenant [testament] established by God is something that can be _____ or rejected but cannot be _____ by mankind. When a person accepts the terms of this new covenant by accepting Christ's shed blood as the payment for one's sin, he obtains an eternal inheritance.

Therefore the writer of Hebrews refers to Christ as "*the mediator of the new testament.*" (Hebrews 9:15)

The New Testament is the record of God's new arrangement with mankind by salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

B. Content

God used at least _____ different penmen to record the _____ books of the New Testament (nine if Paul did not write Hebrews).

These books were written from around _____ to around _____ (a span of more than 50 years).

_____ is the Author but chosen men of God were the penmen. God gave us the Scriptures as He moved upon certain men to compose and _____ without error His revelation to mankind.

The content of the New Testament can be organized by its _____.

1. Literary Character

* The literary character of the first five books of the New Testament is _____. Someone once said history is "His story"-the story of Jesus Christ.

_____ are historical and give us His story, a fourfold narrative of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

_____ continues Luke's historical narrative, giving us the beginning and early years of the church founded by Jesus Christ.

* The literary character of the following 15 books of the New Testament is _____.

_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____.

are addressed to churches or groups of people. Their basic message is to instruct the church in correct doctrinal belief and practice.

*The literary character of the following six books of the New Testament is _____.

_____. They are

_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____.

They were not written to churches or groups, but to **individuals and were personal messages** to encourage, to instruct, and to counsel.

*The last book of the New Testament is **Revelation** and is **apocalyptic** in character. It is the revelation of things to come. So, you know we will be watching an overview of each of these New Testament Books through out this series.

2. Writers

The New Testament books and their recorders.

You can find the overview of each of these books on [Bible Project.com](http://BibleProject.com).

Book	Recorders
Matthew	Matthew
Mark	Mark
Luke	Luke
John	John
Acts	Luke
Romans	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
1 Corinthians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
2 Corinthians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Galatians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Ephesians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Philippians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Colossians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
1 Thessalonians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
2 Thessalonians	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
1 Timothy	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
2 Timothy	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Titus	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Philemon	Paul (Saul of Tarsus)
Hebrews	Paul (Saul of Tarsus) – Maybe?
James	James
Jude	Jude
1 John	John
2 John	John

3 John	John
Revelations	John

3. Periods

The New Testament books were not written in the order they appear in the Bible. Since the New Testament history of the first century is all about the church, we can divide it into three unequal time periods relating to the church.

The first period of approximately _____ is the _____ of the church. It covers the birth, life, and ministry of Jesus Christ as recorded in the _____: **Matthew, Mark, Luke & John**. The church is founded upon the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The second period is the _____ of the church. It includes the Ascension, the impartation of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost that began the visible manifestation of the church, and the building of churches by Paul. It covers some _____ and includes most of the New Testament books:

Acts, all the Pauline Epistles, Hebrews, James, I and II Peter, and Jude. This period covers from the beginning of the visible church to the destruction of the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

The third period is the _____ of the church and covers some _____.

It includes the **four Johannine Epistles-123 John, and Revelation**, all written toward the end of the first century, with Revelation being the last and crowning piece on the roof of the New Testament church.