

The New Testament – An A4 View

Gospels and Acts	AD Dates	Philippians	Christians in Christ – joy	Paul's writing? 5 th or 9 th (50s or 60s)
Matthew	The Bridge between the Testaments – fulfilment	1:	Experience	
1:1 – 4:11	Person of the king genealogy his ancestry (1:1 – 17) nativity his advent (1:18 – 2:23) baptism, his ambassador (3) temptation his advance (4:1 – 11)	2 - 3:	Exposition I. Christ our life II. Christ our mind (2) III. Christ our goal (3)	
4:12-16:12	Purpose of a king manifesto Sermon the Mount (5 - 7) miracles Demonstration of authority (8 – 9) (three times three miracles) reaction belief and opposition (10 – 16:12)	4:	Exhortation Christ our strength	
16:13 – 28:20	Passion of a king disciples prepared (16:13 - 18) journey to the cross (19 - 27) victory accomplished (28)	Colossians	God in Christ, Christ in us - fullness	Paul's 9th (60s)
	Teaching in Mathew: Five major teaching blocks	1:- 2	Christ the fullness of God That you may be filled – doctrinal	
	- Manifesto of the kingdom (5 – 7) (10)	3 – 4	Person and work of Christ, in creation, in redemption, in the church Practice of indwelling of Christ That you may walk worthily – practical I. Spiritual principles for inner life (3:1 – 17) II. Special precepts for outer life (3:18 – 4:6)	
	- Proclamation of the kingdom (13) (18)	I Thessalonians	New convert encouraged – coming	Paul's 2nd (50s)
	- Parables of the kingdom (24 – 25)	1 - 3	Looking back – how we were saved - reminiscent I. Exemplary conversion (1) II. Exemplary evangelism (2) III. Exemplary aftercare (3)	
Mark	The earliest Gospel - Action	4 - 5	Looking on – how they should live – practical I Conduct and calling in the light of the Father's will (4: 1 – 12) II Comfort and challenge in the prospect of the Lord's return (4:13 – 5:11) III Concord and constancy in keeping with Christian fellowship (5:12 -24) IV Requests and benediction (5:25-28)	
1:1 – 1:13	Preparation for service	II Thessalonians	Live in the light of his return – work and wait	Paul's 3rd (50s)
1:14 – 8:26	Servant who serves	1	Comfort from the hope of Christ's return Inspiration for the oppressed	
8:27 – 30	Peter's confession	2	Caution on the time for Christ's return Instruction for the perplexed	
8:31 – 15:4	Servant who suffers	3	Command in the light of Christ's return Injunction for the disorderly	
1:1 – 1:13	Epilogue	I Timothy	The local church and its minister - faithfulness	Paul's 11th (60s)
Luke	The wideness of God's mercy – Universal	1 - 3	Church of God – Timothy's charge I. Church and people – doctrine - her gospel, the faith (1) II. Church and God – devotion - her intercession: the worship (2) III. Church and herself – duties Her leadership and her roles: the oversight: elders, deacons (3)	
1:1 – 1:4	Prologue – motive, method	II Timothy	Final words – passing the torch – guard the gospel	Paul's last 13th (60s)
1:5 – 2:38	Coming of the Son of man	1 - 2	Personal equipment for ministry I. Essential qualities in suffering – gifts (1) II. Necessary discipline for service – grace (2)	
2:39 – 4:13	Growth to maturity	3 – 4	Public fulfilment of ministry I. The coming change – trust God's word (3) II. The closing charge – do God's will (4)	
4:14 – 9:50	Ministry in the light of the cross – Galilean	Titus	Reforming Church life – behaviour	Paul's 12th (60s)
9:51 – 19:27	Ministry on the way to the cross – Perea, Judean	1	Rule of the church - minister characters and conduct - order	
19:28 – 24:53	Triumph of the Son of man – great conflict, great conquest	2	Walk of the church content and authority - behaviour	
John	That you may believe – and have eternal life	3	Rule of the church - minister to other and God - relationships	
1:1 – 1:18	Prologue – the incarnation, God manifest	Philemon	Slave and brother – practical Christianity	Paul's 10th (60s)
1:19 – 12:50	Public ministry of Jesus to the Jews – in the world	V1-7	Paul's praise of Philemon - commendation	
13: – 17	Private ministry of Jesus to 'his own' – for his followers, love speaking	V8-17	Paul's plea for Onesimus - supplication	
18 – 19	Tragedy – love suffering, on the cross	V18-22	Paul's pledge and assurance – expectation	
20 – 21	Triumph – love overcoming, in new life	Hebrews	Superiority of Christ – far better	Unknown author (60s)
Acts	The beginning of the Church - mission	1 - 7	Jesus the new and better deliver I. Jesus the good man – better than angels (1 – 2) II. Jesus the new apostle and leader – better than Moses and Joshua (3 – 4) III. Jesus the new priest like Melchizedek Calvary the new an better covenant I. New covenant has better promises (8) II. New covenant opens up a better sanctuary (9:1 - 14) III. New covenant is sealed by a better sacrifice (9:15 – 28) IV. New covenant achieves far better results (10:1 – 18)	
1 – 7	Church founded – centre: Jerusalem, key figure Peter birth at Pentecost (1 - 2) growth through difficulty (3 - 7)	8 - 10	Faith, the true and better principle I. Faith the true response to those better things (10:19 – 39) II. Faith has always been vindicated as such (11) III. Faith is now to endure patiently, looking to Jesus (12:1 – 13) IV. Faith is now to express itself in practical holiness (12:14 – 13:21)	
8 – 12	Church broadened – centre: Antioch in Samaria (8) in Judea (9) to a gentile proselyte (10 - 11)	10:19 - 13	The tests of faith – working faith I. Faith leads to victory in temptation- it endures trials and testing II. Faith leads to service to others - it is good towards all: to the poor: impartiality, to the needy: generosity III. Faith leads to wisdom in speech – it controls the tongue IV. Faith leads to purity in character – it seeks goodness in all things V. Faith leads to hope - it faces all situations bravely	
1 – 7	Church expanded – centre: Rome, key figure Paul to Asia (13 - 15) to Europe (16 – 28)	James	Christ our strength in suffering	Peter (Late 60s)
		1	The living hope – the Christian's vocation - salvation	
		2	The pilgrim life – the Christian's behaviour - submission	
		3	The fiery trial – the Christian's discipline - suffering	
		4	Troubles from within - knowledge	Peter (date unknown)
		5	The true knowledge in which to grow – plan for holy living	
		6	The false teachers who were to come – possibility of unholy living	
		7	The sure promise to give us hope – persevere, for he is coming	
		8	Walking in the light - assurance	John (90s)
		9	Fellowship with God in light – forgiveness and growth	
		10	Fellowship in love with God – action and attitude	
		11	Fellowship with God in life – saved to serve	
		12	Walk in his will - obedience	John (90s)
		13	Path of the believer – walk in love: practical aspect	
		14	Path of the believer – watch against error: doctrinal aspect	
		15	Walk in the truth - discernment	John (90s)
		16	Gaius – love practised: confirmation	
		17	Diotrephes – love violated: condemnation	
		18	Demetrius – love, light, life: commendation	
		19	Walk in the truth - discernment	John (90s)
		20	Why to contend – apostate teacher – the danger	
		21	How to contend – our true resources – our duty	
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