

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR BIBLE

The \_\_\_\_\_ -

The Epistles are letters to churches and individuals to \_\_\_\_\_ them and \_\_\_\_\_ them in Christian faith.

The New Testament contains 13 \_\_\_\_\_ Epistles and 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Epistles. Paul's letters include 9 letters to local \_\_\_\_\_ and 4 letters to \_\_\_\_\_ (Paul's Pastoral Epistles).

## Paul's Epistles to Churches

- \_\_\_\_\_: Heavily doctrinal, it contains the most complete teaching of salvation by grace through faith.
- **1 and 2** \_\_\_\_\_: Heavily practical, it deals with a series of problems in the Corinthian church.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Written to some of Paul's first converts, refuting salvation by works.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Deals with the believer's identity in Christ and its practical implications.
- \_\_\_\_\_: A warm letter encouraging joy despite trials.
- \_\_\_\_\_: The divine nature of Jesus and his preeminence are the major themes in this letter.
- **1 and 2** \_\_\_\_\_: Very personal letters dealing with prophecy and practical living.

## Paul's Epistles to Individuals

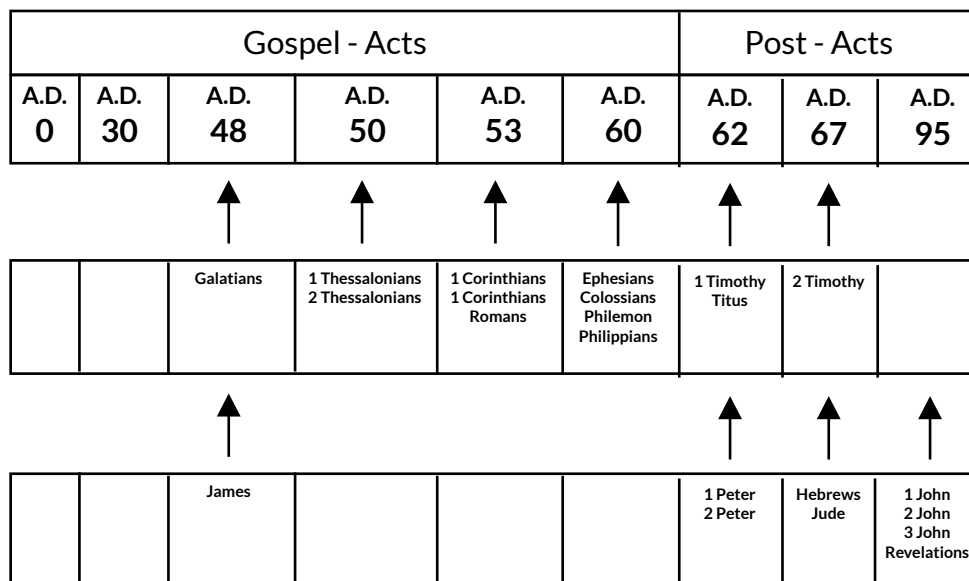
- **1 and 2** \_\_\_\_\_: Letters giving counsel to a young pastor in Ephesus.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Written to the pastor on the island of Crete, outlining qualifications for church leaders.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Paul urges a church leader to treat a returning runaway slave with leniency.



# General Letters to the Christian Public

- \_\_\_\_\_: Heavily doctrinal, drawing on Old Testament Scriptures to teach the superiority of Christ.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Highly practical, the outworking of our Christian faith in everyday life.
- 1 and 2 \_\_\_\_\_: Letters written to the persecuted and suffering.
- 1 and 2 and 3 \_\_\_\_\_: Written about the love of God and its practical implications.
- \_\_\_\_\_: A powerful warning against ungodly living.
- \_\_\_\_\_: Letters to 7 churches and prophecy of the end times.

## Timeline of the New Testament



Max Anders, *30 Days to Understanding The Bible*, p.173.

## A Classic Passage

James 3: Our Tongues Are \_\_\_\_\_

- Be wary of aspiring to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Your tongue is a small object that can exercise \_\_\_\_\_.
- Your tongue is a fire that can affect \_\_\_\_\_.
- I must not use my tongue for \_\_\_\_\_, lifting up God while putting down others.

## A Step to Grow

- This week we are intentionally, daily submitting control of our speech to the Lord.  
Slow to \_\_\_\_\_ ... Thoughtful of \_\_\_\_\_ ... Considering the \_\_\_\_\_ ... Keeping my \_\_\_\_\_ ... and Quick to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Looking Ahead

- Next week we will move into the third section of our series *Understanding Your Bible* with an \_\_\_\_\_.