



NEW TESTAMENT EXEGESIS

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*A Contextual and Theological
Interpretation of the New Testament*



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PREFACE

Glory! Glory! to the most high God (Yahweh), that made you come across this book, that is full of God's intended words in the Holy Scripture. This book will take you through well-explained teachings, doctrines, and laws in the Bible following scholarly points of view in explaining the concepts. I pray that He will give you the knowledge and understanding to make His words more clearer.

I will be explaining all the things that is necessary for all believers to know, to understand the word of God, in both literal and deeper meaning (spiritual), so that the people's minds will be free from the shackle of fake preachers of our era.

In explaining the concepts in the Bible, I will follow the four main important way of reading and understanding religious literal work; like the Bible, that is called the Hermeneutics Circle. That is using the:

- 1.Pre-understanding ↓
- 2.New understanding ↓
- 3.Revised Prejudice ↓
4. Historical Context

In revealing the real intent of the word of God, my Biblical reference is from the New International Version (NIV), due to the use of modern English for easy understanding of my readers. Also, the readers will get to learn from the theological, spiritual point of view of the Bible.

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to all Christians who are seeking for divine knowledge of the word of God. As we do so, may God continue to bless us and make His words more clearer to us all. Amen.

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CHAPTER 1 (Part A)

Exegesis of the book of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John

In this chapter, I will be explaining the meaning of the same of some spiritual keys in the Gospel of Matthew. First of all we need to know that the Author of the book of Matthew, in the Holy Scripture is an anonymous writer, but the book Author is "suggested" to be Apostle Matthew, one of the Apostles of Jesus Christ (Yeshua Hamashiach).

This book the Gospel of Matthew is written between 80-85 AD. The author Apostle Matthew wrote the book to the Jewish audience in his time, but the book also has some universal themes, and message to all people. He wrote this book to proclaim the ministry of Jesus during His lifetime. The book also contains important themes, e.g Jesus as the Messiah, The Second Coming of Jesus Christ, and Believers as the new Israel, and many more in which will be discussed.

The birth of Jesus (Yeshua Hamashiach)

For many years now we all as been taught about the way Jesus was born. The story started with the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, whom was visited by an Angel who prophesied the forth coming of Jesus Christ, that the Holy Spirit will conceived in her to bring forth Jesus to earth. After the birth of Jesus, He was faced with the evil powers of the earth, this was shown in the decree made by Herod, the king of Judea at that time, who wanted to eliminate Jesus. But was save through the intervention of the Holy Spirit, that warned the Maggi not to return to Herod, to expose the new born child to evil desire of the king. Jesus was taken to Egypt but was brought back after the death of king Herod of Judea.

Baptism

Baptism is one of the important religious tradition of the Jew. It is seen as the ceremony cleaning for every new convert. This tradition was also

perform for Jesus, as He wanted to start His ministry. Which was done by John the Baptist, who was later regarded as an Incarnate of Prophet Elijah during his lifetime. John the Baptist ministry was to perform Baptism for people. During the Baptism of Jesus, He was declared the Son of God by the Holy Spirit who manifested as a Dove.

Temptation of Jesus

We all have been taught that, the spirit of Satan was the one who appeared to Jesus and Spoke to him to the 3 temptations. I am happy to inform you that it was not so, the evil spirit that was described in Matthew Chapter 4, was when Jesus was thinking through His mind on what He could have done with His Power. It is just like someone thinking of doing something bad, and later chooses to follow the right Part. This means the evil spirit that was mention here was evil desire (Bad desires) that was going through Jesus mind, but He rebuked it. This is telling us that as a Christian we must be careful of what we think. Because every evil desire and doings/practices starts from the mind: That is why Jesus do teach of inner transformation. That is, before we could become Righteous, we must be willing from within us to do the right things, not through legalism or through enforcement of human made doctrines.

And if we look deeper into this, it is also manifesting in our time, various religious organizations who practices legalism, if we do proper check we would see that their followers are not really following the Path of Righteousness, but they keep Pretending, that is why we need to be willing to follow the ways of Jesus teachings, not laws to become righteous. Moses during His era made law for the Israelites through the aid of Angels, to make people obey, due to their hardened heart, in which the holy Spirit reveal to Apostle Paul in one of his epistles.

The Calling of the Disciples

Jesus choose all His Disciples (Apostles) who are the closest to him, to represent the 12 tribes of Israel. They were the one Jesus handed over His ministry to, after his death. He appointed them as follows; Simon in which he called Peter (meaning Rock), Andrew Simon's brother, James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John and then other 8 Apostles were later appointed (Matthew Chapter 5). The Apostle were appointed by Jesus as his representatives, they also enjoy esoteric teachings by him during His lifetime. The Apostles and early christians were the one that formed the christian congregation of their time.

Jesus Ministry (Regarded as Jesus teachings or Laws)

Jesus taught on various topics during His lifetime. In which all his teaching have Spiritual and literal meaning when we study deeper on it. His teachings are hard to follow, that is why it is regarded as the narrow Path, but it will become easier when we are ready to become a real follower of him (Christian). When we follow his teaching it helps us navigate through evil things that may want to overshadow us, both physically and spiritually. It is to help every believer to remain closer with God. When we start practicing his teachings, life on earth will become more fulfilling for us. It will make us to enjoy Spiritual blessings, that is Joy, happiness, Growth, and to earn a free Passport to the Kingdom of God.

Jesus taught on the following Principles:-

1.Love for one's enemies:- Spiritually, loving one's enemy creates an umbrella against attack (SPiritual), that the devil may be planning to besiege on us. It also creates a room for positivity. Matthew 5: 43-48.

2.Private Prayer:- This will differentiate the believers from the Pagan's (Idol worshippers), who love blabbing, that is talking to much. Jesus made it known that God already know about our needs before we ask. And also, we

shouldn't shout or starting jumping around to create attention while praying, but we should make sure we pray in our room Privately. Spiritually, this help our prayer to be answered quickly, because we will be free from bad energies around us. And also we should learn to forgive others, for God to forgive us (Matthew 6: 5-14).

3.Helping the Poor/Needy:- Jesus taught His disciples to help the needy and the poor. And this must be done in private, not to generate clout or for Self Glorification. We should do it wholeheartedly, without request for any favour from them. Spiritually, it helps us grow, and also create Paths for Success in our endeavours in life, it also create a positive energy for us around us (Matthew 6: 1-4).

4.Adultery:- Jesus taught us that we shouldn't practice adultery (for married People), fornication for Singles, and we should desist from anything that could make us engage in it e.g lust, porn, sexual desires toward a person who is not someone spouse, or even engaging in sexual immoral discussions. Spiritually, it affect one's connection with the divine, It creates physical setbacks, and also one could easily contact STIs, when engaging in it. (Matthew 5: 27-30).

5.Anger and Murder:- He taught us to desist from being angry with our brothers & sisters (our family and other people). That is why He said we should make sure we make peace with everyone. Burning anger could lead to fight, and can lead to murder. That is why as a believer, Jesus urge us to live peacefully with our neighbours. We should also learn to forgive those who persecute us - (Matthew 5: 21-26). Spiritually it makes us grow higher, and create a positive environment for us.

6.Oath making:- We as a believer, should not engage in oath making, we shouldn't swear in the name of God, or of earth, heaven, or swear with our life. We should create a profile of trustworthiness for ourselves "simply let Your yes be yes, and Your No be No". Spiritually, it clear Paths for greatness for us (Matthew 5: 33-37).

7.Fasting:- Fasting is the willingness to abstinence from food, for spiritual, health or therapeutic reasons. It is also abstinence from regular and usual activities. It is to connect with the divine. It as been a Practice of the Jews from the ancient era (Matthew 6: 16-18).

8.Do not judge others:- In our time today, People have been mixing the concept of criticism, with judgement/judging them, when they Produce things against the teachings of Jesus. Judging means Passing a Verdict on someone e.g "Go kill him!", "Put him in the Prison!", while criticism is about checkmating the activities of others, and calling them back to righteousness. Jesus said, we should not judge others (Matthew 7: 1-6).

9 Seeking:- As a christian, we seek for divine intervention by praying, meditating, contemplating and having faith in what we have Prayed for. We have the ultimate access to ask anything we want from God. Through faith the Centurion servant was healed, the leprosy Man was healed and many people got transformed through their faith in christ (matthew 8:1-17)

Miracles of Jesus

- The Man with leprosy (Matthew 8:1-4)
- The Servant of the Centurion (Matthew 8:5-13)
- Peter's mother-in-law (Matthew 8:14-16)
- The Blind and Mute Men (Matthew 9:27-34)
- Healing of two Demon possessed Men (Matthew 8:28-31)
- Healing of a Paralytic Man (Matthew 9:1-8)
- Healing of the Dead/Sick Woman (Matthew 9:18-26)
- Healing of the daughter of the Canaanite woman (Matthew 15:21-28)
- Feeding of the 4,000 (Matthew 15:29-39)
- Feeding of the 5,000 (Matthew 14:13-21)
- He walked on water (Matthew 14:22-36)

- Coin in the fish mouth / Cursing the fig tree (Matthew 17:24-27, 21:18-22)

Understanding the Parables of Jesus

1) Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30)

In this Parable, Jesus told a story of a father (Sower) who sowed good seeds, but in the night the enemies came to sow weeds among the plants, and went away. Later, when the seed sprouted and formed heads, then the weed grew along with it. Then people asked the farmer, why do the weeds grow with the good seed, the farmer replied that it was the work of the evil doers. The servant of the farmer wanted to uproot the weeds, but the farmer told them not to in order not to mistakenly uproot the good ones, until the time of harvest.

This Parable is talking about the church; though there are many people calling themselves followers of Jesus, but as allowed the evil doing grow in their mind, and as been led astray to being unrighteous, while the Good Seeds represent the people who really understand and follow the teaching of Christ, and as not made themselves led astray. The weeds are those who regard themselves as Christians (Christ-like), but are not, while the good seeds are the real followers of Christ, but are been left together to grow with the weeds, until the time of the coming of Christ (Harvesters), to separate the good grain from the weeds.

2) Parable of Mustard Seed and the Yeast (Matthew 13:31)

Jesus compared the kingdom of God as a mustard seed, a small seed, but when it germinate it grows larger. And like the yeast a woman use in making a bread (dough). This means the words of God when studied grows in our heart and it continues to multiply.

3) Parable of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl (Matthew 13:44-46)

In this Parable, Jesus compared the kingdom of God to a hidden treasure, a valuable one that the merchant sold all his property to acquire it. This means the revelation of God's words to us, but if we are not careful we

could sell it away in the market of this world. We must be ready to follow him with all what we have - willingness.

4) The Parable of the Net (Matthew 13:47-52)

Jesus described the kingdom of God as a net a fisherman uses in hunting for fishes, that got a lot of fishes, but when the fisherman brought it out, the fisherman separated the good ones from the bad one. This means, though many are called, but few were chosen. The righteous one for the kingdom of God. The fisherman is Jesus Christ, referred to as Son of Man who fished for people, many followed him, but the unrighteous one were later separated from him. This is what will happen during the end time.

Note: Importance of Faith

When Jesus finished teaching the people, he went to the Synagogue to teach, but the people downgraded him, due to his background as a person; from the family of a carpenter. He also warned the Apostle of their lack of faith during the time on the lake. And also Jesus told them to be careful of the yeast of the Pharisees and the Sadducees, that is the teachings of the Pharisees. That is as a Christian we must have ultimate faith in Christ, so that we won't be led astray with the yeast of the world.

The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23)

This parable explains the different responses to God's word, comparing it to seeds falling on various types of soil. Some seeds fall by the roadside, some on rocky ground, some among thorns, and others on good soil, representing different hearts that receive God's word. As a true follower of Christ, we should make sure that the seed of life grow in our heart.

The Parable of the Householder (Matthew 13:52)

Jesus compares God's kingdom to a householder who brings out new and old treasures, representing the new insights and understanding that come from following Jesus.

The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

He teaches us about forgiveness, illustrating the importance of forgiving others as we have been forgiven. (Matthew 18:23-35)

The Parable of workers in the vineyard

Explains God's generosity and fairness, comparing it to a vineyard owner who pays workers equally regardless of when they started working. This means the time you spent, or your position in the congregation won't be used as a measure for attaining the kingdom of God. You may have been following Jesus for decades, your reward is equal to a man who joined him later on. It is telling us that there is no one God can't save, or that there is no late time God can't save someone. Let us continue to grow in Christ altogether. (Matthew 20:1-16)

The Parables of the Two Sons (Matthew 21:28-32)

This highlights the importance of actions over words, comparing it to two sons who were asked to work in a vineyard, one agreeing but not going, the other disagreeing but going. This means that our behaviour to his teachings is important, we must work to the path of righteousness to attain the kingdom of God.

The Parable of the wicked tenants (Matthew 21:33-46)

This Parable warns about the consequences of rejecting God's messengers, comparing it to tenants who kill the servants and son of a vineyard.

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Illustrates God's invitation to His kingdom and the excuses people make,

comparing it to a king who invites guests to a wedding feast. (Matthew 22:1-14)

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

Emphasizes preparedness for Jesus' return, comparing it to virgins waiting for a bridegroom, with some being prepared and others not. (Matthew 25:1-13)

The Parable of the talents

Teaches about responsibility and stewardship, comparing it to servants who are given talents to invest while their master was away. (Matthew 25:14-30)

The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats

Describes the final judgment, where people will be separated based on their treatment of others, comparing it to sheep and goats being separated. (Matthew 25:31-46)

THE END TIME (Matthew)

Jesus' teachings on the end times in Matthew can be understood through hermeneutics, the study of biblical interpretation.

1) Signs of the End Times: Jesus describes several signs that occur in his return:

a) emergence of False Messiahs: Many will claim to be the Messiah, deceiving many people. In which if we study our time, there are a lot of preachers who doesn't follow the teachings of Christ, but have polluted the congregation; we all need to be careful of false preachers.

b) Wars and Rumors of wars: Conflicts will arise between nations and kingdoms.

c) Famines and earthquakes: Natural disasters will increase.

d) Persecution of Believers: Christians will face persecution and hardship.

2) The Gospel will spread across all nations: Jesus emphasizes that the Gospel must be preached to all nations before the end comes. (Matthew 24:14)

3) Sudden and unexpected Return: Jesus' return will be sudden and unexpected, like a thief in the night. (Matthew 24:43)

4) Judgement and Separation: Jesus will separate the righteous from the wicked, like a shepherd separates sheep from goats. (Matthew 25:31-46)

5) Importance of preparedness: Jesus encourages believers to be prepared and be vigilant, as the exact timing of His return is unknown. (Matthew 24:42-44)

Overview

i. Double fulfillment: Some prophecies may have multiple fulfillments, both near and far. (Matthew 24:4-14). This prophecy can also be linked to the

destruction of the temple in Jerusalem by the Roman empire in 70 AD.

ii. Illustration as birth Pains: Jesus describes the signs of the end times as birth pains, indicating that they will intensify and increase in frequency (Matthew 24:8).

iii. Uncertainty: The exact timing of Jesus' return is unknown, and believers should be prepared at all times (Matthew 24:36).

Literary Devices: Jesus uses different literary devices in his teaching, such as apocalyptic imagery, to convey his message, which cannot be read literally but must be interpreted.

Crucifixion of Christ (Matthew 26–27)

The event of the crucifixion of Christ happened in Jerusalem during the time of Passover (New Year festival of Jews; in our calendar, it occurred in Nisan = April). Tensions were high as the Jewish leaders sought to eliminate Jesus, whom they perceived as a threat to their authority. This was the major reason why he was crucified.

Judas Iscariot sold Jesus for 30 silver coins, Jesus was arrested after the Supper in which He confirmed His sacrifice for all believers, using bread as His body and wine as His blood. We must note that for anybody to drink from the cup, they must be a true believer of His teachings and must have undergone inner transformation.

Peter's Denial: Why did Peter deny Jesus? This is a question we need to study for upholding our faith in Christ. He did that out of fear; he was afraid to be crucified along with Christ and didn't want to die easily through the Roman Scourge.

Judas' Motive: Why did Judas Iscariot betray Jesus? To answer this, we must first remember that Jesus was the one who appointed Judas Iscariot as an Apostle. He knows what will happen before it happens. To fulfill the prophecy, Judas must sell the Messiah. He may have done that thinking Jesus can't be arrested, or surely he will escape as he has been known for

escaping the evil plans of the elders in the Synagogue.

Soteriology: Jesus' crucifixion serves as an absolute payment for all our sins—the ultimate atonement for our unrighteousness. To appreciate this sacrifice as a true believer of Christ, we must try our best to be Righteous.

Resurrection of Christ (Matthew 28)

The resurrection of Christ is a pivotal event in Christian theology and offers valuable insights into its significance:

1.Victory over Death: The Resurrection showcases Jesus' triumph over death, demonstrating His divine power and authority.

2.Validation of Jesus' Claims: The resurrection validates Jesus' claims about Himself, including His divinity and role as Savior.

3.Basis for Salvation: It provides a basis for salvation, as it demonstrates Jesus' power to give life and overcome death.

4.Role of Women: The women who discovered the empty tomb played a crucial role in the narrative, highlighting their importance in the early Christian community.

5.Significance of the Angelic Message: The angelic message at the tomb emphasizes the importance of the Resurrection and provides key insight into the event's significance.

6.The Post-Resurrection Appearances: These appearances demonstrated His continued presence and interaction with the disciples, providing a basis for their mission and ministry.

7.Hope and Assurance: It provides hope and assurance for believers, demonstrating Jesus' power to overcome death and give life.

8.Mission and Ministry: The Resurrection commissions believers to spread the message of salvation and hope.

9.Theological Foundation: The Resurrection serves as a theological

foundation for Christian doctrine, emphasizing Jesus' divinity, authority, and role as Savior.

Summary of the Book of Matthew

The Book of Matthew is a cornerstone of Christian faith, offering a rich tapestry of historical context, literary structure, parables, and theological themes. It was written to demonstrate that Jesus is the fulfillment of Jewish prophecy and the rightful heir to the throne of David. The author, believed to be a former tax collector named Matthew, emphasizes Jesus' teachings, miracles, and interactions with others to showcase His authority and divinity.

Themes

- 1]Fulfillment of Prophecy
- 2]Authority and Divinity
- 3]Kingdom of Heaven
- 4]Discipleship

Key Fact

The Book of Matthew was originally written in Koine Greek. To understand it, you must use hermeneutics. This means we must understand the historical context of that time to be able to explain and understand the real intent in today's world.

Chapter 1 Part B

Exegesis of Mark & Luke

The teaching of Jesus, offered in all the gospels, including His life, prophecies, and His authority as the Son of God. The book of Mark, scholastically, is seen to have been written in 60–70 AD during the

persecution of the early Christians. Written to the Romans, this is why it is said to have been written for the universal audience, unlike Matthew which was written to the Jews.

THE Author: The author of the book is said [Suggested] to be Mark, a close associate of Apostle Peter.

Language: Written in Koine Greek, and it covers all what has been explained in

part A.

Though there are some events in Mark that cannot be found in Matthew, this is because each author used different sources for writing their books.

Mark is the shortest among the gospels. Unique Events in Mark

1. Miracle at Bethsaida: Mark 8:22–26.
2. Parable of the Mystery of the Kingdom of God: Mark 4:26–29.
3. Miracle of the Healing of the Deaf and Dumb in Decapolis.
4. The Young Man at Gethsemane: A young man followed Jesus during his arrest but later fled naked (Mark 14:51–52).

The Gospel of Luke

The Gospel of Luke is said to have been written to Theophilus (meaning lover of God). This means it is for all believers (Christ-like/Christians) to demonstrate the uniqueness of Jesus' Ministry to all nations. It was said to have been authored by Saint Luke, described to be a physician; the historical context of its authorship states that he was an associate of Apostle Paul. It was said to have been written in 75–85 AD. It also covers the Birth, Baptism, Ministry, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of Christ.

There are some things that can only be found in the Gospel of Luke only:

1. Birth Narrative of John the Baptist: Luke 1:5–25, 57–80 describes the birth of John the Baptist and the events surrounding it.
2. The Annunciation: Luke 1:26–38 describes the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she will bear a Son, Jesus.
3. The Visitation: Luke 1:39–56 describes Mary's visit to Elizabeth and the significance of the encounter.
4. The Shepherds and Angels: Luke 2:8–20 describes the visit of the shepherds to the newborn Jesus and the Angelic announcement.
5. The Parable of the Good Samaritan: Luke 10:25–37 emphasizes the importance of showing compassion and mercy towards others.
6. The Parable of the Prodigal Son: Luke 15:11–32 teaches about God's love and forgiveness towards sinners.
7. The Story of Zacchaeus: Luke 19:1–10 describes Jesus' encounter with Zacchaeus, highlighting the theme of salvation and redemption.
8. The Emmaus Road: Luke 24:13–35 describes Jesus' post-resurrection appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Facts: The Gospels of Mark and Luke were written originally in Koine Greek.

Chapter One Part C:

Exegesis of Gospel of John

The book of John is a unique and profound portrayal of Jesus Christ, emphasizing His divine nature, the necessity of faith, and the promise of eternal life. The Gospel of John begins with a poetic introduction describing Jesus as the Word who was with God and is God, emphasizing His divine nature (John 1:1–18).

John highlights various miracles and encounters that demonstrate Jesus'

identity as the Messiah, including:

The Wedding at Cana

The healing of the blind man

The raising of Lazarus (John 2:1–11; 9:1–41; 11:1–44)

Jesus' final teachings and prayer emphasize His love for His disciples and His mission to bring salvation to the world (John 13–17). The Gospel concludes with Jesus' resurrection and appearances to His disciples, solidifying their faith and commissioning them for mission (John 20–21).

The book aims to convince readers that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that faith in Him brings eternal life (John 20:31). It was written for both Jewish and non-Jewish (Gentiles) audience, explaining Jewish customs and Palestinian geography for non-Jewish readers while presenting Jesus as the fulfillment of Old Testament themes. It is believed to have been authored by Apostle John during 90–100 AD, though scholars still debate the time of its composition.

Themes (Theology)

1.**Christology**: John's Gospel presents a high Christology, emphasizing Jesus' divinity and pre-existence (John 1:1–18).

2.**Salvation**: John highlights the theme of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, emphasizing that eternal life is a present reality for believers (John 3:16, 20:31).

3.**Mission**: Jesus' mission to bring salvation to the world is a central theme, and He commissions His disciples to continue this mission (John 20:21).

Facts: In the composition of the gospels, the authors used different literary devices. So while reading the Bible, we must take note of it and do research on each to learn the meaning of some of the words. It was written originally in Koine Greek to fit the Mediterranean world during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

CHAPTER TWO:

Exegesis of Acts of the Apostles

The book of Acts was written by Saint Luke, a companion of the Apostle Paul. It was traditionally considered a two-volume work by Saint Luke. It was said to have been written between 80–90 AD, based on internal evidence and the relationship with the Gospel of Luke. Some scholars suggest an earlier date, while others propose a later date.

The book of Acts of Apostles is a book written to tell the story of the early Christian community (Church) and the spread of Christianity to the Roman Empire. It comprises:

The spread of Christianity

Jewish rejection and Gentile (non-Jewish) inclusion

Relationship with the Romans

The Pentecost

Mission to Gentiles

Apostle Paul's journeys

Apologetic purpose for Christ's ministry

Confrontation with magic

Chapter 1

The book starts with the summary of what was said in the Gospel of Luke about the ministry of Jesus when he was alive before his resurrection. The author mentions the command Jesus gave the Apostles: not to leave Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit will baptize them (that occurred on the Pentecost day), Then Jesus was taken up into heaven (spiritual realm/sky). Two men dressed in white told them that Jesus will return to them the same way he rose up into heaven.

The Apostles later journeyed back to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives where the believers then joined them. Apostle Peter led the assembly to choose a replacement for Apostle Judas Iscariot, in which Matthias was chosen to replace him (through lot casting).

Chapter 2

The believers all gathered on the Pentecost day (in Jewish tradition, it is a day after 50 days from the Passover day. It is to celebrate the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai). The Holy Spirit was with them; they all started speaking in different languages of various nations.

Due to the curiosity of the assembly, Apostle Peter, the spokesman of the Apostles, made it known to them that it was the manifestation of the prophecy of the Prophet Joel. Then he preached the Gospel to them; 3,000 joined the Christian community and were baptized. They all stayed together and donated their properties to those who were poor among them. They continued to gather together through the help of the Holy Spirit and they continued to multiply.

Chapters 3–5

On their way to the temple for prayer, Apostle John and Peter met a crippled man who wanted them to give him money, but they healed the man through the intervention of the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ.

Due to this, they were taken to the Sanhedrin (the Jewish council of elders comprising the Sadducees and the Pharisees) to stop them from performing miracles in the name of Jesus Christ. But they told them boldly that they will continue to preach the Gospel without fear—a lesson for all modern Christians. After their release, they gathered with other believers to pray for the intervention of God. They continued to share their things to help others who were needy among them.

Due to the greediness (covetousness) of Ananias and Sapphira, they both died because they hid their own properties and lied to the Apostles. Their death was due to their fear of the Holy Spirit. The Apostles continued to do miraculous signs. The High Priest was jealous and wanted to kill them, but a teacher of the law named Gamaliel helped them calm the elders, but they were flogged and were released.

Chapters 6–7

Due to the disunity of sharing food among the Christian community, the Apostles appointed 7 Deacons to help distribute food items to the widows. The Deacons were 7 in number, in which Stephen was one of them.

Stephen's persecution is a description of the fight between wisdom and foolishness. The elders were jealous of Stephen's great intelligence and his declaration of Christ. He was stoned and killed, but he said before his death that God should not hold the sin against them—a lesson for us to forgive those who offend us.

Chapter 8

Due to the persecution of the Christian community, the believers fled and scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. They continued to preach the Gospel. Apostle Philip preached the Gospel in a city in Samaria and did miraculous signs.

A popular sorcerer who was astonished due to the works of the Holy Spirit and wanted to buy it was rebuked. This means the Holy Spirit can't be sold. This goes against those who sell miracles for money in churches today.

An Ethiopian eunuch who met Apostle Philip accepted the teachings of Christ and became a believer.

Chapters 9–12

Saul, who was later named Paul, a Pharisee who persecuted the early Christian community, [met] Jesus [who] appeared to him on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christian community. He was blinded and was cured by Ananias through the intervention of the Holy Spirit. He joined the Christian community and declared Jesus the believes.

Though he was to be persecuted by the Jews but was saved and was taken to Caesarea and then to Tarsus.

Peter travelled round various nations to proclaim the Gospel and did miracles.

The Holy Spirit appeared to Cornelius and told him to send for Peter, before the arrival of Peter he saw a vision instructing him not to talk against the Gentiles, and he went to visit Cornelius a roman soldier and preached to him. The Jewish Christians criticized the action of Peter, because he was with the gentiles who are uncircumcised and Apostle Peter explained to the Christian that his actions was backed by the holy spirit.

Apostle Peter was persecuted by King Herod He arrested Apostle Peter put him in jail, But was saved by the intervention of the Holy Spirit. King Herod Agrippa I, was said to have been killed by Angel but scholastically this was seen as an assumption of the Jews, because they did not know what killed him. Agrippa's death was said to be based on his health issues.

Chapter 13–28

These chapters was the record of Apostle Paul Journey's to various nations, preaching the Gospel and setting up of different christian communities. Paul was also arrested by the Jewish elders and was taken to the Roman Governor, but later he was taken to Rome after he pleaded for an appeal to the emperor in order to be free from the Jewish elders. Apostle Paul response when he was asked about His nation in which he told the soldiers, that this action he was a Roman, depicts that as a Christian whenever we are facing a problem, we shouldn't be too afraid to know what we should say and not to say. There are some instance, we need not to say everything, I mean downloading all information, we all need to be wise in doing, we could be saved when we are wise. I am using the example of Apostle Paul as an example to pass this message across to us all. (Act 22: 22–29) – WISE OF GOD.

What I am trying to say is that, instead of lieing we could withdraw some information or release if the need for it. Wisdom is one of the Powers of a true believer. In one of the teachings of Jesus, He affirmed it. (Matthew 7:24–25).

Facts: The book of Acts of Apostles shows the life of the early Christian communities, in which we also could learn from their doings, as a true believer. The story of Ananias and Sapphira is to tell us that, it is important to be truthful in all what we do. Our offering to the church of God should come from our heart, without enforcement from religious leaders: It should be a joyful offering to the community, in order for it to be a blessing for the giver.

The story of Saint Stephen is to warn a Christians that though we are in a world where there is evil, but we must stand firm even though he was persecuted, he stood his ground, and prayed for his enemies, a great lesson for all Christians.

CHAPTER THREE

THE EPISTLES OF APOSTLE PAUL

The word Epistle, comes from the Latin word "Epistol" meaning "Letter". Therefore all the letters written or that is said to have been written by Apostle Paul was directed to various specific Christian communities of their time. Though reading the book in our time, we need to understand the real intent of each saying. The question we first need to ask is that, why did Apostle Paul wrote all the Epistle's? He wrote the Epistles as a "Concession" meaning to allow or do something in order to end an argument or to make a situation less difficult due to the controversies in the early Christian communities. He gave them doctrines, and gave advise on various matters in the church. He was able to do that with the help of his associates e.g Luke, Mark, Gaius, Titus, Timothy, etc.

All the Epistle was written to meet each church spiritual and needs. He wasn't able to go to each churches due to his imprisonment by the Roman Government. According to the Biblical chronology, the Epistle of Rome called Book of Romans is the first in the New -testament Bible. Let examine it.

PART A

Exegesis of the Book of Romans

The Book of Romans is one of the most theologically rich and influential letters in the New testament written by the Apostle Paul around AD 56-58 (most likely from Corinth). It is addressed to the Christian community in Rome - a mix of Jewish and Non Jewish (Gentile) believers. Understanding it exegesis means carefully drawing out the meaning of the text in its true historical, literary, and theological context.

Chapter One - end Overview

Apostle Paul introduces himself and the Gospel tracing back to Prophetic Sayings in the Scripture. He also expresses his eagerness to visit the church of Rome. He talked about the universal sin of both the Jews and non- Jews. Apostle Paul passed a great message, that legalism (enforcement of laws), is not the yardstick of being Righteous. That all christian should have their faith in Christ Jesus, that is obeying His teachings and believing in His resurrection. He used Abraham the father of faith as an example that he was not under legalism, but was seen as righteous due to his faith in God.

Apostle Paul was telling the church that their circumcision is not the gateway for righteousness, that obeying the law is not the guarantee, but one's life should glorify christ. He said law brings sin and death to the world, but Righteousness through faith brings life in christ. He describe sin as sinful nature, that is the flesh, what the flesh made us to do, but we all are saved through Christ. The sole purpose of this letter was to emphasize the importance of faith in Christ. He also told them not to disagree due to each others believe on food, or special days, they should both honour each other. This is a great lesson for christian's today. Apostle Paul urge christians to live in love, unity, submission and holiness. This is a major topic for christian's today divided by race, culture or doctrines.

Facts: The Book of Romans was specifically written to the christian in Rome of their time. It was to settle the disagreement between Jewish and Non- Jewish christian's on following Mosaic laws as a way for Righteousness, and the Importance of circumcision. But Apostle Paul told them that their faith in Christ is superior to keeping human made law made for flesh.

PART B

Exegesis of the Book of Corinthians

The book of Corinthians was written to the christian community of Corinth. The purpose of the letter was to settle some of the disunity, doctrines, and morality/ethics of the church. The people of Corinth was popularly known for the worship of a goddess called Aphrodite. In which historically its temple was known for encouraging sexual immorality. That was one of the major reason Apostle Paul told them to shun any sexual immoral act in the church.

The letter was also to address various disunity in the church at the time, to make them see themselves as Brothers and Sisters. It was said to have been written during 53-55 AD.

Overview Corinthians I

Apostle Paul address the church about the disunity, and the creation of factions among them. Some said they are of Apollo, some of Peter and Paul. He made them understand that the Apostles work in unison to spread the Gospel. He also urges the church to be wise. Apostle Paul described their act of division as an act of a baby that was given milk, that is not yet mature in the word of God. He encourages them not to be like the unbelievers, whom quarrel and envy themselves. That they should all encourage and embrace themselves.

He warnd them against judging themselves, that it is God only that can reveal the inner mind of everyone at the appointed time. He told them that, his warning are like a fatherly love to his offsprings. Apostle Paul in chapter 5 talked about a man who was engaged in sexual immorality, and was said to be shun in order not to make it a normal behavior in the church, to make others learn that it is a punishable offence. Handing him over to Satan means, the man should be excommunicated from the church in order for

him to repent and should be allowed back when he understand the gravity of his sin. He warned them against the teachings of the world that goes against God described as yeast. He encouraged them to settle their dispute as brothers and sisters like a unified family in Christ. In chapter 6 he talked against taking themselves to court, and also warned them against greediness, cheating, homosexuality, stealing, over drinking, lying against each other (slander). He informed them that the body is the temple of God and must be kept sacred.

In Chapter 7,

Apostle Paul talked about marital Issues, he gave advises for married, widows, virgins and singles to prevent against sexual immorality. He told the church that what he has said a concession, and not as a command.

In chapter8,

he advises the church that if food sacrificed to idols could make a brother backslide, they should not eat the food of idols. Though their decision is based on the mindset they have, they all know there is only one true God no one else, and food can't make one unrighteous, but if it can weaken one's brother faith we should desist from it. In general, what this is passing to us is that, whatever could make our brother backslide we should not engage in it.

Apostle Paul warned the church against idolatry practices in chapter 10, that they should learn from the story of the Israelites in the wilderness. They should all have absolute faith in God. In chapter 11-13, Apostle Paul emphasis the importance of love, unity and also informed the church to worship God in holiness. In Corinthian's culture, the practice of head covering for women Prophet means, giving honor to their husband's. this means every woman who is a preacher is expected to give honor to their husbands, and every preacher should also give honor to their head. (Revised Prejudice).

Talking about speaking in tongues, historically in the early Church, this means the ability to speak different languages, speaking to the Angel also was predominantly through Hebrew language, while speaking in tongues meant speaking different languages e.g the ability to speak Spanish, English, Swahili, Yoruba, etc to deliver spiritual messages. (Revised Prejudice).

Though many preacher sees these differently, it is due to their unawareness and blindly following traditions, without understanding its roots. All languages spoken in the church must be clear to the congregation. That means there is a great need of decency in the church.

The matter of women not to talk in the church, was part of the concession made by Apostle Paul to make orderliness in the gathering of believers backed by law, this means the historical context of their time was patriarchy. Apostle Paul talked about the assurance of the Resurrection of the dead, like Christ did after his crucifixion, he also explained that there is both natural body, and spiritual body, the spiritual is the eternal body, the natural one dies, though not all people will be died during the resurrection after the trumpets as been blown. He explained that the perishable and imperishable, the mortality and immortality will clothe each other during the end time. In chapter 16 he talked about the collection of donation for the work of the ministry, and sends greetings to the church.

Facts: All the Epistles is centered on the spiritual need of each church, backing it with their cultural context. For us to understand these concepts we need to do thorough research to make us understand more better.

Overview of Corinthians II

The book of 2 Corinthians is a rich and complex letter written by Apostle Paul to address various issues within the Corinthian church. It provides profound insights into Paul's ministry, his relationship with the church, and how he navigates challenges from the internal divisions, moral lapses, and rival leaders he termed "Super Apostles". The book was said to have been written around 55-57 AD, likely from Macedonia during his missionary journey.

In chapter 1-3, Apostle Paul started the letter by greeting the church, and also explaining the situation he and other believers are facing in Asia. He talked about his plans of visiting the church, he emphasis the importance of forgiveness of sin among themselves. He also urges them to see themselves as the ambassador of the Gospel. He described the importance of the words of the letter as a letter from christ to show the importance of the things said in the letter, for them to imitate it in their daily life. Apostle Paul also informs them that the ministry of christ gave life, not like the ministry that brought death through sin.

In chapter 4, Apostle Paul said the god of this age, meaning the government of their time whom are seen as god, and that as gave out decrees for people not to listen or accept christ. He encouraged the church to strengthen their faith in christ. He described their faith in christ as something that is unseen, that is spiritual, but the one that is seen is the physical which doesn't last, long.

In chapter 5, he urges them to look forward for the heavenly dwelling and as a new born in christ, they should be a good representative of christ.

In chapter 6, he talked about having perseverance, though the church may face persecution, he explained to them that his ministry as made the Gospel acceptable to all, without implementation on what they do not understand (legalism). Though he has faced many accusations for his ministry, but as kept on growing in christ, and he urge them to be open

minded as he has done for the church.

Apostle Paul urges all the believers, not to imitate the ways of the unbelievers, illustrating it as light and darkness. The word "Belial" (Hebrew) or "Beliar" in Greek, historically means "wicked" or "worthless," or someone who portrays morally corrupt. he urges the church not to be like Belial, but to imitate christ. In chapter 7-9, he urge them all to purify themselves in christ in reverence to God, and he encouraged the importance of generosity. He informed them about taking care of the saints, who are his fellow workers of christ, and urge them all to engage in cheerful giving to his ministry, without being force to do it.

Enforcing people to give donation in the church today is not good, though many church leaders engage in this but it is not Biblical and does not follow the way of christ during his earthly ministry (Revised Prejudice).

In chapter 10,

Apostle Paul talked about the defense of his ministry, though when he is present he may not be able to talk as he does in his letters, but what is absent is what is present - that means what he writes in the letters depicts who he is.

In chapter 11,

Apostle Paul talked about the super apostles, historically they are rivalry to Apostle Paul in Corinth, who do boast of their charismatic nature like eloquence, ability to do signs and wonders and visions. But Apostle Paul boast of his own suffering for christ, he talked against the immoral behaviours of this Super Apostle on the church. He warned them that their behaviours are like the unbelievers, who have become fools for not trying to imitate christ meekness.

He said **in chapter 12**, that instead of him boasting in his good things for christ, he will boast of his weakness so that the eyes of God will shine upon him, a great lesson to all christians today. Apostle Paul's thorns mean his sufferings or personal affliction or challenge that has kept him humble. He

urges the church to remain righteousness, not to indulge in impurity, sexual sin and debauchery meaning immorality.

In chapter 13, he gave the church final warnings to continue to be a good representative of christ through their behaviour.

Facts: Apostle Paul mentioned the Super Apostles, in our contemporary time, this are example of church leaders who engaged in imperialising themselves over the congregation - and who are easily seen boasting of their capabilities. This is urging us to remain in christ and imitate his behaviour, through following all his teachings.

PART C

Exegesis of the Book of Galatians

The letter to the church of Galatians, is one of the profound writings of Apostle Paul. Its major theme is justification through faith in christ. It was said to have been written around 48-55 AD, likely written after the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15) teaching Gentile converts about circumcision and law keeping. It is to counter the influence of Judaizers (Jewish believers who believe in keeping Mosaic law and affirm the Gospel of justification by faith to Gentile (Non Jewish) believers in Galatia.

Overview

In chapter 1, Apostle Paul talked about His Apostleship, that he was not sent by man or taught by man, but His works are through the revelation of God. He warned the church against different Gospels apart from the one he teaches. Historical there were different Gospel's that was being preached, but to make the people stand in faith in christ he said what he said.

In chapter 2, he explained that circumcision a Jewish custom is not the evidence of righteousness, but their faith that is believing in christ and His teachings makes one righteous. He further explained to the church **in chapter 3**, using Abraham as an example for them that is faith made him righteous not by following Jewish laws. He made them understand that law was given due to transgressions until when christ will come. That law was given to Moses through the Angels to the Israelites, to keep them on the side of the LORD until the Messiah will come. Therefore, our faith in christ will make us a partaker of God's family to become His offsprings.

Judaizers among them kept on observing special days and months, seasons and years, just as the Jewish custom as stated. He used the story

of Hagar and her son the slave as an illustration of those under law in **chapter 4**, and Isaac son of Sarah as one under covenant through faith counted as righteousness, as those who are free in christ.

Apostle Paul urges all the believers to love themselves, and to keep their faith in christ growing. He encourages the church not to let their flesh (sinful nature) desires to separate them from God. Chapter 5:19-21, but they should encourage love, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control among themselves. As a born again we have all crucified the sinful nature desires, and we should put on the new body of christ. In chapter 6, he urges the church to continue to encourage each other to grow in christ, all man will surely reap what he/she sows, we should all sow the seed of the spirit not of the flesh. He completed His letter by telling them that circumcision according to Jewish custom does not make them righteous, but their ultimate faith in christ does it.

Facts: This letter was to counter the believe in their time, that circumcision according to the Jewish tradition, bring righteous.

PART D

Exegesis of the Book of Ephesians

This book was said to have been written by Apostle Paul, but with its dating of its authorship, states that possibly, it may be one of his followers that wrote the letter in his name after his death. And it could be when he was at Rome in prison. The book was said to have been authored around 60-62 AD. To the church in Ephesus, and possible to the churches in Asia Minor about the importance of unity in christ and christian living. Its feature major themes like salvation by grace, christian conduct and unity of believers.

OVERVIEW

Apostle Paul talked about the spiritual blessings God as giving to all believers through christ. He thanked God on behave of the church for their work for the Saints (early christian leaders).

In chapter 2,

He urges the church to remain one in christ .he emphasis the fact that though the Gentiles were not shown the revelation of God, but through christ, with the aide of Apostles and Prophets, they were given insight into the ministry of christ. He prayed for the church, for them to continue growing in christ through faith.

In chapter 4,

Apostle Paul urges them to continue living a life that will glorify christ and be united.

He made them understand that the spirit of God is the one that enable one to participate in God's work as a preacher, teacher, evangelist, Apostles and some to be overseer (pastors, vicar, Bishop) in order to create unity among believers, until His coming back (christ). He urges believers not to engage

in immoral act like stealing, bad mouthing, not forgiving, falsehood, they should put off their old garment and put the one of christ on.

He urges wives to love and submit to their husbands, and husbands should love their wives in christ. He also urges the children to submit to their parent and honor them, that is children should make their parent proud and pleased with them, likewise the parents should also not exasperate, meaning not to annoy or irritate someone. He also urges the slaves to respect their masters, in today's context it means that all those who serve understand someone should do their work wholeheartedly e.g in the working place, and also the masters should treats these servants in a good way not with favoritism.

Finally, Apostle Paul urges believers to put on the Armor of God, meaning they should strengthen their faith in God. In order to let the ruler rulers that is their persecutors the government of their time, in today's context those who goes against christ not to overcome them. He also urges the believers to pray for him during his time in the prison.

PART E

Exegesis of the book of Philippians

The letters to the church at Philippians was dated to be around 60-62 AD, when Apostle Paul was in prison in Rome. He wrote the letter to thank the Philippians church for their financial support, encourage the church, and guide them on living as Christians in Philippi and also to inform them about his situation in the prison.

OVERVIEW

Apostle Paul in chapter one, explains his situation at the prison, that though some preach Christ for their selfish benefits, and some do it for Christ, all in all, Christ is being preached and His message is being passed across. He urges them to conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ. In chapter 2, he urges all Christians to stay humble just like Christ. And believers should also care about the interest of others not only theirs just as Christ. Believers should do all things from their heart, with reverence to God. He warned them, that they should be free from the Judaizers who only proclaim circumcision, and enforce laws, but faith in Christ will set one free.

He urges Euodia and Syntyche to be united, and all other followers. He urges them to pray to God whenever they need spiritual support, and told them to be righteous. He all thanked the church for their gifts they give to him, during his time of need, and he prayed for them.

PART F

Exegesis of Colossians / Thessalonians

Colossians is another letter attributed to the Apostle Paul. Like Philippians, it is considered one of Apostle Paul's Prison letters, written during His

Imprisonment in Rome. It was written to counter false teachings in Colossae and to emphasize the supremacy of Christ. He also informed the church about His suffering for His ministry.

Thessalonians I & II

It was one of the earliest written letters of Apostle Paul. Addressed to the Christian Community of Thessalonica around 50-51 AD. It was to encourage Christians in the time of persecution and to clarify questions about the return of Christ. He also discusses the Second coming of Christ and how believers should live in anticipation.

Thessalonians II was also said to have been written around 50-51 AD, to encourage believers to remain steadfast in faith and to work.

Note: Most of the warning and themes in these letters are already have been discussed earlier, that is why this one is short. Themes like righteous living, expectation of the coming of Christ, Hardworking etc. and also when reading it, it is understandable.

PART G

Exegesis & Pastoral Epistles I & II Timothy and Titus

These two letters are seen as Pastoral, due to the fact that Apostle wrote it to Timothy one of the church leaders of their time, to provide him the guideline of appointing church leaders, deacons and treating elders among them.

In the 2nd letter to Timothy, it serves as an encouragement for him not to be timid, and be faithful. To encourage him to remain righteous, promote it and treat fellow believers as his family, for him to remain faithful in ministry despite challenges, emphasizing the importance of living righteously.

Titus

Also a Pastoral letter to Titus, on appointing leaders in the churches of Crete, and to provide guidance on Godly living. It is said to have been written around 63-64 AD.

Epistle of Philemon

The Epistle to Philemon is a brief but significant letter written by Apostle Paul. It is one of the shortest of Paul's letters, and it is considered a "Prison Epistle" written during Paul's Imprisonment in Rome. It is written to Philemon, a believer and possibly a leader in the Colossian church, regarding Onesimus, a slave who had run away from Philemon. Onesimus became a Christian after meeting Apostle Paul.

He urges Philemon to welcome back Onesimus, now a brother in Christ.

CHAPTER FOUR

Exegesis of the General Epistles

The General Epistles in the New Testament Bible is for all believers not to a specific Christian community. It comprises of different authors who wrote to the church.

The Book of Hebrews

The book of Hebrews was written to explore the superiority of Jesus Christ over various aspects of the Jewish tradition. It emphasizes Jesus' divinity, superiority over prophets, and Angels, and His role in God's final revelation to humanity. It also highlights Jesus' Priesthood, comparing it to the order of Melchizedek (king of Peace), and emphasizes the need for faithfulness. It established the new covenant established by Jesus, contrasting it with the old covenant made with Israel.

The author of Hebrews remains anonymous with various theories attributing its authorship to Apostle Paul, Luke or even Priscilla. The epistle was written to Jewish Christians facing persecution, encouraging them to remain faithful to Jesus Christ. The book uses typology to interpret old-Testament events, people, and institutions as foreshadowing of Christian reality. The book's emphasis on the new covenant's superiority had led to debates about Supersession, the ideology that Christianity replaces Judaism (Jewish traditional religion).

The Book of Hebrews was said by scholars to have been written around 60-69 AD.

Overview of the Book

Chapter 1:

It begins with the explanation about the relationship of the Patriarchs with God, the significant work of the prophets to the people of Israel. Verse 2 introduces the authority of Christ as the new light to the darkness of the world. The son of God who has paid for our sin and has reconnected us with God.

This chapter established a very important fact, the authority of Jesus Christ over other Angels. He was exalted above other Angels and also made the eternal king of God's Kingdom. Many of us do overlook (Hebrews 1:14), it explains the grace given to those who follow Christ, "Are not all Angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?" This explains the authority given to Christians to call on God's messenger when we are in distress for help.

Chapter 2:

Starts with warning to the people not to reject the salvation of Christ, because those who does it will be punished, like the people of Israel who were punished by the Angels when they disobeyed. Jesus became man to fulfill a purpose of calling people to God's Kingdom. He suffered the death, persecution just like normal human to fulfill this purpose. This act show the depth of love God has for us His sons and daughters.

Chapter 3:

Tell us that Jesus is the chief caretaker of God's building (that is we Christians), whom we believed in all what He had taught us, although Moses was a faithful servant, but Jesus is greater than Him because He is the owner of the house Himself. The statement informed the primary audience the Hebrew Christians then that, although Moses came before Jesus to earth, but both of them was faithful to the purpose and calling which God as predetermined for them. Moses built the house, but Jesus is the owner of the house, in which the owner is found greater than the builder.

The author also encouraged Christians to remain in Christ, and continue to live a life worthy of God.

Chapter 4 & 5:

Encourages all Christians to have faith, having of faith in Christ means obeying His teachings in which we can find in the Gospels, although those who were given the law couldn't obeyed it (Law of Moses), because of their lacked of faith. And that is why they haven't entered God rest, for whoever accepts Christ as entered into God rest, the new Sabbath for believers. It also tells us that Jesus is our new High Priest the Great one. Aaron was made a priest in the order of Melchizedek because He was called, likewise Jesus was called to bear the sin of God's people, Jesus was declared a Priest by God himself (Hebrews 5:6). The author compared those with little wisdom about the scripture as those who are still taking milk, but those who have trained themselves in the word of the Lord are those who could decide evil from good, good from evil.

Chapter 6:

The author urges Christians to ensure they engage thoroughly in the word of God, He was telling Christians to let of the path that leads to death, but should follow Christ that gives life.

Chapter 7:

Explains who Melchizedek the priest was, His name Melchizedek means king of righteousness, who was the king of Salem meaning king of peace. Though He didn't have genealogy but He was respected by Abraham, who gave Him 10% of the plunder (meaning gain from war). This chapter explains why priest who served in the temple collected tithes from the people of Israel, who are descendant of the tribe of Levi (it is only the tribe of Levi that collects tithes). The author explained further that if law could have saved the people, there won't be a need of a savior or another priest to come. Because when there is a change of the law, there will surely be a change of the law, the Levi were priest in the order of Aaron, though the law

which enacted their office couldn't bring salvation, that is why Jesus came in the order of Melchizedek a new priest. Jesus was a citizen of the tribe of Judah who were not priest, but He became a priest in the order of Melchizedek, who was not a member of the tribe of Levi. The old covenant which brings death is being put off, that is why that Christian who are not bound by the old law which brings death, but by Christ which brings life.

Chapter 8

Explains that it was because of the imperfection of the old covenant (law), we now have a new law through Christ. Though the law of Moses was in existence on earth, but was just a type and shadow of what is to come that is Christ.

Chapter 9:

Describes how the earthly temple of Israel was built from verse 1-5, and how the temple service was being held from verse 6-9, the author of the book made us know that the things done by the priest serve as illustration of the things to come, the sacrifice of blood of Jesus that cleared the sin of man once, not like the annual one that was carried out by the priest, that couldn't wash away their sins. Making Christ the mediator (Priest) of the new covenant.

Chapter 10:

Made us know that the old- testament served as type and shadow of the things to come, that is why the sacrifices made annually couldn't save the people permanently, but the sacrifice of Christ washed away our sins permanently for those who accept Christ.

We need to take note of Hebrews Chapter 10:12-13, according to the worldview of their time "He sat down at the right hand of God" means sharing the same authority, it is not literally a sit beside God, it describes the exaltation of Christ after suffering. It also means that the ministry of Jesus as a priest for offering sacrifice is complete atonement is final, no repetition is needed, this shows the different between Him and the Levitical

priest who offers sacrifice under the old law annually for atonement, who stand during service, while the priesthood of Jesus is done once and it is eternal. Then from verse 19 to the end, the author encouraged Christians to remain in Christ and preserve their salvation, they should continue to work in God's way.

Chapter 11:

Introduces to us the act of having faith in Christ, the explanation of faith as being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see, was coined from the story of Abel, creation story, Enoch story, Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Isaac, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets because they all believed what was promised to them by God, without doubting, but none of them met with Christ, that is why we are luckier.

Chapter 12:

Urge all Christians to remain in Christ, though we might face persecution we should let our faith remain in Christ, and we should live peaceful worthy of the Grace of God, we should not engage in the things that goes against God's way, e.g. sexual immorality, we should remember our body serve as the temple of God, we should be contented with all we have, we shouldn't be like Esau.

Chapter 13:

Urge Christians to imitate the act of Christ, loving each other, caring for their neighbors, care for those in prison, and those in marriage union should keep their vow to each other, too much love of money could lead us to sin. Verse 9 was talking about those who love implementing Jewish laws for Christians known as the Judaizers, in Apostle Paul epistles he rebuked their teachings, that Christians are not bound by any law, but in Christ alone. The author urges Christians to obey authorities, not obeying authorities that recognize Christ only. The author ends with a prayer.

Facts:

The book of Hebrew was written to defend the priesthood of Christ, serving in the order of Melchizedek. It was written primarily to the Hebrew Christians, to make them understand that Jesus is our High Priest, and under the new covenant, He has paid for our sin on the cross. The death on the cross serves as the end of the temple worship, we Christians are now God's temple, and that is why we need to be holy in our doings. May God help us Amen.

The Book of James

The Book of James is traditionally attributed to James the brother of our Lord Jesus Christ (also called James the Just), a key leader of the Jerusalem Church (Acts 15, Galatians 1:19). Although he was not among the original Twelve Apostles, his authority in the early Church was widely recognized.

The book was said to have been written between AD 45-48, because James does not address major later theological controversies (like Gentile Circumcision in detail), and shows a strong Jewish Christian tone. The latest possible date will be before AD 62, because he was martyred around AD 62, setting upper limit for the letter. The epistle was written from Jerusalem where he served as the leading elder of the church.

We should note that this epistle was primarily written to the 12 tribes of Israel, scattered among the nations (throughout the world) (James 1:1). This was as a result of persecution of Believers of Christ, Jewish Christians fled outside the confines of Palestine. It features the theme of economic oppression, persecution and suffering, internal problems within the church, and encouragement to the Churches at large.

Chapter 1,

Begins with a greeting from Saint James to the 12 tribes of Israel, the

author talked about trials and temptations facing the Christian Community, he encouraged them to seek for God's wisdom, and also to believe in God, emphasizing on practical faith. He made them understand that God doesn't test people; you might be thinking about the story of Job, God didn't test him, the story itself wasn't a real story, it is part of a parable in Jewish wisdom traditions, to communicate truth to the people.

God is not a tempter who tempt people, our evil desire, tempt us to make bad decisions. This explanation can also be used to explain the temptation of Jesus after His 40 days fasting

(check chapter 1 Part A). The author in James 1:16-18 made us know that God is the giver of Blessing (spiritual), the eternal light that glows from above. He encouraged believers to always be calm even when we are angry, "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry". The word of God is the only thing that can save us, and when we hear we should put it into actions. This means obeying all the teachings of Christ. He urges Christians to be compassionate to all people.

Chapter 2,

in this chapter the author taught about how people in the church treat the less privileged in a bad way, in which it is not of Christ, he gave an illustration of a rich man and a poor man, the same treatment should be given to both of them, there should not be an act of favoritism in the Church.

He urges Christians to support each other in time of need, this is to show our faith, not only by the word of mouth. Our faith must be in actions also (Love of our Neighbors). He used Abraham as a Case study, to explain faith with action, when Abraham showed his faith when God said he should sacrifice his only son Isaac. Also Rahab the prostitute, was considered righteous because of her action of service and welcoming of guests, made her count as righteous.

Chapter 3,

He urges believers to be conscious of what they speak, because our word influence people, especially those who serve as teachers, that is (Pastors, Theologians, Evangelists, Prophets) among us. It is because people judge their action the most, based on the authority of their office. He also explains 2 type of wisdom one from God and the other from man. The one from God is shown through humility, good way of living, and does not engage in enviousness, selfish ambitions, boasting or denying of truth, that comes from man, without God.

Chapter 4,

This chapter warn against quarrels, Covet meaning yearning to wrongfully or enviously, desire for something that belongs to another person. He warned Christians not to conform with worldly desires meaning things that goes against the will of God, People (Unbelievers) does, we should submit ourselves to the will of God, and resist Proudness. He warned those who serve as officer of the law, to stop their act (meaning those who behave like the Pharisee, who enjoy the outward displays of the law, than the inward), we should not judge others, but we could call them into the right path, because God is the judge. We should also put our faith in God, because He is our strength and Comforter.

Chapter 5,

The end of the epistle of James, warn wealthy people who oppress the poor, to stop their bad behaviour and repent. The statement "Let your yes be yes, and your No be No" means be truthful in all things we do, we should be known for speaking the truth always. Chapter 5:13-19 encourage believers to have communal prayer importantly, the author wrote this to the twelve tribe to make their faith strengthen during the time of persecution.

Fact: This epistle was written to address the issue facing the 12 tribes (Jewish Christians), of persecution, economic instability, oppression, and suffering, these are the things this epistle talked against. And also, it

urges Christians to strengthen their faith.

The Epistle of Peter 1

The letter is traditionally attributed to Peter the Apostle, one of Jesus' closest disciples and a leading figure in the early church (Matthew 16:18, Acts 1-12). Although some modern scholars debate Petrine authorship due to language and theology, the early church strongly affirmed Peter as the author. The reference to Silvanus (Silas) as a co-worker or secretary help explain the letter's polished Greek style.

It was said to have been written between AD 60-64. This places the letter shortly before or during intense Nero's persecution of Christians in Rome. Peter writes from "Babylon" (1 Peter 5:13) which is widely understood as a symbolic reference to Rome. It represent a place of oppression and exile, fitting Rome's role in persecuting early Christians. It was written primarily to churches in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia. These regions are known as Asia-minor (Modern-day Turkey). It included both Jewish and Gentile Christian audience. The Christian Community was facing hostility, ridicule, and legal disadvantages.

Chapter 1,

Begins with the author greetings to the Churches in Asia minor, he explains the Grace given to us through Jesus Christ, who is our Living Hope. He encourage believers to rejoice though they might be facing trials, it might be hard but it increases our faith in God. Although we haven't seen Christ we believed in him which brings salvation to our souls. He urge Christians to strengthen their faith in Christ, and we should continue to live a life of holiness.

Chapter 2

Begins with a plea to the church to avoid deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander, we should crave for spiritual milk (food) meaning studying the

word of God. As Jesus is the Great High Priest, we join him in the priesthood offering spiritual sacrifice which is our worship and submission to God (note it is not monetary), those who rejected the living stone will stumble, but those who chose the living stone (Christ) that forms the important part of the building (body of Christ) as received mercy from God. The author urges Christians to continue live a life of holiness.

Verse 13; urge Christian to submit to rulers and masters, this act is not of slavery but of wisdom, because the primary audience this statement was written to, was under a powerful earthly power that can destroy them easily, so to keep them safe Apostle Peter urge them not to "Rebel", they should live a life full of freedom in the Glory of God. He urges slaves to respect their master as though to the Lord (some Christians were slaves under unbelievers then, slavery was a normal social thing in those days). He also urges them to show respect to everyone, especially the brotherhood of believers, a great thing for us to learn from. Though the early Christians were being oppressed Apostle Peter urge them to continue to do what is right in the sight of God. He used the sacrifice of Christ, to explain to them that, they might be suffering just as Christ does to save us, they should not be tired but continue to walk in the right way.

Chapter 3,

He urges wives to submit to their husband, for they could be an influence to those who have unbelievers as husband, to lead them to Christ. Verse 3-6, does not go against putting on of jewelries for females, but he was telling women that they should make their behaviours as beautiful as their physical (outward) appearance. They shouldn't let their outward appearance goal, but have bad behaviour, it must be on the same level. Likewise, Husband should respect their wives, though they might be weaker in physical capability, Husband shouldn't disrespect their wives. This is a concession statement, just like what Apostle Paul said in Ephesus and in Colossians.

Apostle Peter urges all believers to love each other, we should not pay evil

with evil, but evil with good, this conform with peaceful living and conflict management. He gave Christian advise on how to manage criticism from unbelievers in **Verse 13-18**.

Chapter 4,

He advised Christians not to live their life as the unbeliever's, but they should live in love, offering of hospitality without grumbling, and they should serve one another for the glory of Christ. In verse 12, he told them that although they suffer persecution because of their faith, but they should rejoice that they partake in the suffering of Christ, just like we Christians today also.

Chapter 5,

A call to elders in the church, to be a good shepherds (Pastor, Bishop, Vicar) to the Christian community, they should not be greedy for money, but eager to serve, they shouldn't be imperialist over the congregation, but they should be a good influence to their followers. Apostle Peter also advised young men to be submissive to their elders, they should be humble, and they should put their anxiety away because God is with them. The imagery of the devil who roars like a lion, was talking about the Roman Government who was against them, and also it could also mean the people against us in contemporary time. The author ends the letter with a greeting, acknowledging Silas and the body of Christ.

2 Epistle of Apostle Peter

The letter claims to be written by Simon Peter, a servant and Apostle of Jesus Christ. The author refers to being an eyewitness of the Transfiguration, is a key Petrine credential. However this epistle is the most disputed book in the New Testament regarding authorship.

i) Its Greek style differs from 1 Peter

ii) It appears to depend on the Epistle of Jude

iii) It was written by a disciple using Peter's authority according to some scholars. It was said to have been written between AD 64-67, shortly before Peter's martyrdom under Emperor Nero. If it was written by a secret disciple of Apostle Peter, its dating will be between AD 80-100.

The letter does not explicitly name a location of Petrine, it was likely written from Rome, where Peter was believed to have ministered and later Martyred. It was addressed to the same general audience of churches in Asia minor, predominantly Gentile (Non-Jewish) Christians.

The letter was not about threat from external persecution, but internal corruption within the church. It was written to tackle, False teachers promoting destructive heresies, moral laxity and sensual living, denial or ridicule of the Second Coming (Parousia) of Christ, skepticism toward Apostolic authority and tradition. The letter was constraint against false teachers, (Epignosis) / knowledge and moral transformation, divine judgment, the delay of the Parousia, scripture and Apostolic authority, Christian virtue and perseverance.

Chapter 1

Begins with greetings to the church, the author then advised Christians to be godly, add to their faith in God, add to their knowledge, add to their self-control, add to their perseverance, and to brotherly kindness, and love, for those who engage in these will increase their productiveness, and effectiveness in the Lord. He emphasized that our sins as been paid for, and if we keep increasing in Christ, we will continue to have more knowledge about him. He explained to them that, His faith in Christ, is not of mere story but he was a partaker an eyewitness, and was with Jesus during the transfiguration (Matthew 17:5, Mark 9:7, Luke 9:35).

Chapter 2

Warned christian to be cautious of fake teacher's, who teaches things against Christ. The word Hell in verse 4 was translated from the Greek

word Tartarus meaning the deepest part of the underworld, far below Hades (Grave), symbolizing a place of imprisonment and punishment, especially for rebellious divine beings (like the Titans. Note: This explanation is from the Greek mythology of the place for "Tartarus". The Bible was not affirming this belief, but it was using what the audience could understand to communicate the truth to the audience.

The author uses the story of Noah, Lot, to encourage the church, that God usual keep those who are righteous when those who are unrighteous are receiving their punishment, they should continue to grow in their faith, and they should not conform to the ideologies of the false teacher. From verse 10, warn against slandering of celestial beings, and also warned against the following heresies that grew in their era.

1.Antinomian / Libertine Heresy: The belief that grace or "knowledge" frees believers from moral obligation.

2.Proto-Gnostic Influence: This means an early form of Gnosticism, claiming to possess special knowledge, dualism (Spirit is good, body is insignificant). The author rejects this by insisting that true knowledge of Christ produces holiness.

3.Denial or Mockery of the Parousia: meaning teaching that Christ is no more coming, which prompt the believers to live on their own terms, in tens of loving on Christ terms.

4.Rejection of Apostolic Authority: The false teachers rejected teaching passed down by the Apostles.

Chapter 3

Explains the coming of Christ, which will come when people are not expecting, "which will come like a thief", "The day of the Lord is like thousand years", he urges them to continue to live a life full of God's glory and to guard themselves from false doctrines.

Epistle of Apostle John 1

1 John is traditionally attributed to John the Apostle, the son of Zebedee and one of the closest disciples of Jesus. The letter does not name its author, but early church testimony (Irenaeus, Polycarp) connects it to John. Its language and theology closely resemble the Gospel of John, suggesting a common author or Johannine circle. Most scholars date 1 John around AD 85-95, this places it late in the first century, it reflects a church facing internal division, not external persecution. Likely written from Ephesus or the wider region of Asia Minor, where John is believed to have ministered in his later years. The letter was written to Johannine Christian communities, probably house churches in Asia Minor. The audience included Gentile Christians—They were believers shaken by false teachers who had left the community. It was written to refute false teaching, assure believers of their salvation, define the marks of true Christianity, restore confidence after community division.

Chapter 1

The author started with identification of Jesus as the word of life, which was from the beginning, in which the author also serves as an eyewitness to. He urges believers to continue to walk in the light of Christ, that as washed away our sins.

Chapter 2

The author established the fact that even if we sin we have one who serves as speaker for us Jesus Christ, the atoning sacrifice for our sins, that means the blood of Jesus Christ as washed away our sins. All believers of Christ must continue to walk in His command, His teaching of love to each other—the Golden Rule. In verse 15, the author advised believers not to conform to the things of the world, meaning things unbelievers do that goes against the will of God. which is boasting, sinful desires, lust, but those who live by the word of God will live forever.

Verse 18, warned believer's against false teachings the Antichrist (those who goes against the established truth about Christ, as the Son of God, the light of the world), these are the heresis this letter was against:—

- i) Docetism / Proto-Gnosticism: The central false teaching denied the true incarnation of Jesus Christ. It teaches that Jesus only appeared to be human (Docetism). It also teaches that Christ did not come in the flesh, separation of the man Jesus from the divine Christ. The author goes against these teachings, and emphasize the physical reality of Jesus (1 John 1-3). The necessity of confessing Jesus Christ come in the flesh.
- ii) Moral Indifference / Ethical heresy: The false teachers claimed that spiritual enlightenment without moral responsibility is eased, that sin no longer mattered. The author of this epistle directly counters this by insisting: The true fellowship with God requires walking in the light, obedience and righteousness are evidence of genuine faith. (1 John 1:8-10)
- iii) False claims of knowledge: The false teachers claimed special spiritual knowledge, direct access to God without need for Apostolic teaching. The author defines true knowledge as, knowing God through obedience and love (1 John 2:3-6).

Verse 20-23, made it known that those who acknowledge the father also acknowledge the Son, whoever denies one does not believe in any. When we believe in both the father and the son, we will gain eternal life. We should also allow the Holy Spirit to guide us. Verse 26-27, 28-29 encourages us to continue to live righteously.

Chapter 3

Encourage every believers to continue to live sinlessly, because those who are sinful does not live in Christ. He also made it known that we should continue to live in love of one another, we should not be like Cain who killed his brother, even if the world doesn't like our ways we should continue to live. We should imitate the way of Christ, who sacrifice for our sin, the greatest love. When notice that our neighbours are in need, if we have what

they need we should share with, our faith shouldn't be on what we say, but with our actions.

Chapter 4

Advise believers to test every spirit, whether they are from God, or from the devil. Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in flesh is from God. (Note: this statement was referring to the heresy of Docetism, which says Jesus didn't come in the flesh). It is not for exorcism, that is why we must be careful, while using biblical verses, because evil spirit also knows God and the scripture. We should get rid of any evil spirits because we Christians already have the authority from our father our Lord, Shalom. He also urges them from **verse 7-14** encourages of brotherly love.

Chapter 5

Made it known that those who keep the commandment of God, are His children, the author concluded the letter by making it known to His readers that so that their faith in Christ will grow. He urges them not to continue to live a sinful life, they should continue to they the teachings of Christ.

Sin that leads to death: Death here in this letter, primarily refers to spiritual death, not physical. The author consistently use "Life" that means fellowship with God, eternal life (1 John 1:2; 5:11-12). Death means separation from God, absence of life in Christ. So this is not about a single mistake causing instant punishment.

Sin that does not lead to death: are sins committed by believers that are open to repentance. These sins are real, but they do not result in spiritual death, because the sinner still abides in the Son, where life is found. This sin does not include the following:

- i) Apostasy
- ii) Denial of Christ's incarnation
- iii) Hardened persistent rejection of truth (Christ)

iv) Blasphemy against the spirit.

He urges Christians to live a sinless life and they should continue to live by the will of God. They should be idol free!

Facts: 1st John confronts Proto-Gnostic and Docetic heresies that denied the incarnation of Christ and minimized sin, affirming that true faith is shown in right belief, righteous living, and genuine love.

2 Epistle of John

It is traditionally attributed to John the Apostle, who identifies himself simply as the "Elder". Early church testimony links this title to John's later ministry. The language, themes, and theology closely resemble 1 John and the Gospel of John. Most scholars date the letter around AD 85-95, the same period as 1 John. Likely written from Ephesus, or the surrounding region of Asia Minor, where John exercised pastoral oversight over several churches. The recipient, the letter is addressed to "the elect lady and her children":

1.A local church and its members (most widely accepted)

2.A Christian woman and her household.

Either way, the message is corporate, not merely private.

Purpose of the Letter

- i. Encourage believers to walk in truth and love.
- ii. Warn against receiving false teachers.
- iii. Protect the church from doctrinal contamination.

The letter balances love and truth, showing that genuine love never compromises core doctrine.

Major Themes

- i) Truth and love as inseparable.
- ii) Christological orthodoxy (Jesus truly came in flesh)
- iii) Discernment hospitality
- iv) Obedience as love in action.

Key Warning (2 John 10-11)

"If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house." In the first century, hospitality meant endorsing and enabling a teacher's ministry. The author is not advocating hatred, but refusal to support false doctrine.

3 JOHN

3 John is traditionally attributed to John the Apostle, who again identifies himself as the Elder. The language and style and theology is closely related to 1 and 2 John. Early church tradition strongly supports Johannine authorship. Likely written between AD 85–95, at Ephesus or the surrounding region of Asia Minor. The letter's recipient was Gaius, a respected Christian leader known for:

- i] Faithfulness to the truth.
- ii] Hospitality to travelling missionaries.

The letter reflects internal church conflict, not persecution.

Gaius was a faithful believer who walks in truth, supports itinerant missionaries; a model of Christian hospitality.

Diotrephes who loves to be first, rejects apostolic authority, refuses hospitality to true teachers, excommunicates those who oppose him. He represents abuse of power and authoritarian leadership in the early church.

Demetrius, well spoken of by all, he was likely a messenger or teacher endorsed by Apostle John.

The letter provides a rare glimpse into local church politics, evidence of early struggle over authority and mission, a model for balancing love, truth and order.

The Epistle of Jude

The letter is written by Jude (Judas), the brother of James, and therefore a brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55). The author identifies himself as a servant of Jesus Christ, not by family status. Early church tradition accepts his authorship. Most scholars date Jude between AD 60–80. The letter reflects an early stage of church life, but addresses developed heretical threats. It was likely written before or around the time of 2 Peter, which shares similar material.

Jude writes to Christians in general, not to a specific church. The audience was familiar with Jewish traditions and Scripture (Old Testament), likely mixed Jewish-Gentile believers.

The Epistle of Jude confronts Libertine heresy / false teaching, who abused grace, rejected Christ's lordship, and threatened the moral and doctrinal integrity of the church, urging believers to defend the apostolic faith.

The Heresy Opposed in Jude Libertine / Antinomian Heresy

The false teachers taught:

1. Moral freedom without accountability.
2. Sexual immorality sustained by "grace."
3. Rejection of lordship and discipline.

Chapter Five:

Exegesis of the Epistle of Revelation

The Book of Revelation (Greek: Apokalypsis Iesou Christou) stands as the climatic book of the New Testament and the Christian canon. Often misunderstood as a cryptic prediction of the end of the world, Revelation is in fact a pastoral, prophetic, and apocalyptic text, written to encourage persecuted believers by unveiling God's sovereign rule over history and His final victory over evil.

An exegetical reading of Revelation requires attention to its historical context, literary genre, symbolic language, and theological message, rather than a purely literal or speculative approach.

Revelation identifies its author simply as John (Rev 1:1, 1:4, 1:9). Early church tradition associates him with John the Apostle, though some scholars argue for another prophetic figure named John. Regardless, the authority of the text lies in its divine revelation mediated through a prophetic witness. The book was written during a time of intense pressure on Christians, most likely during the reign of Emperor Domitian (AD 81–96). John writes from Patmos, an island used as a place of exile (Rev 1:9), indicating that the letter emerges from a context of persecution, marginalization, and imperial oppression.

Literary Genre and Structure

Revelation uniquely combines three literary forms:

1. Apocalyptic: Symbolic visions revealing heavenly realities.
2. Prophetic: Calling God's people to repentance and faithfulness.
3. Epistolary: Addressed to real churches in real historical situations.

This fusion is evident in Revelation 1:3, where the book is described as prophecy, yet it unfolds through visions and is sent as a circular letter to Seven Churches in Asia Minor.

Structurally, Revelation unfolds in cycles rather than a straight chronological timeline. These cycles repeatedly portray the conflict between God and evil, culminating in final judgment and restoration.

The book was centered on Jesus Christ, not on the Anti-Christ. He is presented as:

Faithful witness

The Lamb who was slain

The Alpha and Omega

The Conquering King (Rev 1:5, Rev 5:6, Rev 22:13, Rev 19:11-16).

The image of the Lamb is crucial. Victory comes not through brute force but through sacrificial faithfulness. This reverses worldly expectations of power and directly challenges Roman Imperial ideology

Historical and Theological Meaning (The Seven Churches)

Chapters 2–3 address 7 literal churches, each facing unique challenges such as persecution, compromise, false teaching, or spiritual complacency. The repeated phrase "He who has an ear, let him hear" emphasizes that Revelation is meant to be heard, obeyed and lived, not merely decoded.

Meaning of Some Words

1) A New Heaven and New Earth: It means God dwelling with humanity, the removal of death, pain and evil. The New Jerusalem imagery draws heavily from Eden and the temple, portraying salvation as restored communion with God, not escape from creation.

2) Judgment and Hope: Divine judgement in Revelation is not arbitrary vengeance but moral accountability. It vindicates the suffering faithful,

exposes injustice, demonstrates God's holiness. At the same time, Revelation repeatedly offers calls to repentance (Rev 2:3, 9:20-21), showing that judgement is always paired with mercy.

3)Beasts represent oppressive political powers (Daniel 7).

4)Babylon symbolizes Rome and, more broadly, corrupt world systems.

5)Numbers (7, 12, 666) carry theological meaning rather than mathematical precision. The number 666, for instance, signifies human power falling short of divine perfection, likely alluding to Imperial authority that demands worship.

Facts: An exegetical reading of Revelation reveals it as a book of hope for suffering believers, not a codebook for fear-driven speculation. Its message is profoundly pastoral: remain faithful, because God is Sovereign, Christ has conquered, and the future belongs to Him. Revelation does not ask Christians to predict the end, but to live faithfully in the present, bearing witness until the Lamb's victory is fully revealed.

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