

A Study of the Epistles of Paul

(NT Survey lesson 165--Chronology of the letters)

Intro: In this lesson our objective is to get a better understanding of the chronology and historical framework of several of Paul's letters. We will take an overview of Paul's life and the messages of the various books. Answering these questions ahead of time will aid our class discussion very much!

About Paul's letter in general

1. How many letters did Paul write?
2. Are they found in the N.T. in the order in which they are written?

An overview of Paul's preaching travels and his letters

1. Let's review quickly the highlights of Paul's life from his conversion to the call of the Holy Spirit for the first journey in Ac. 13:1-3.
 - A. Where was Paul converted? (Ac. 9:1-22)
 - B. Where did he go afterward? For how long? (Gal. 1:15-17)
 - C. How long did Paul stay in Jerusalem? (Gal. 1:18)
 - D. Where did Paul work in the period after leaving Jerusalem? Do you think he established churches there? (Gal. 1:21)
 - E. Who brought Paul to Antioch? (Ac. 11:25-26)
 - F. For what purpose did Barnabas & Saul visit the churches of Judea? (Ac. 11:27-30)
2. Scanning Ac. 13:1-14:28 make a list of the places Paul traveled on his first preaching trip. Write one highlight of his work in each place, where such is given.
3. What is discussed in Ac. 15? What is the purpose of this meeting?
4. Scanning Ac. 15:36-Ac. 18:22 make a list of the places Paul traveled on his second preaching trip. Write one highlight of his work in each place, where such is given.

5. What was the main concern of Paul in writing letters to the Thessalonians? (See the books themselves)
6. Scanning Ac. 18:23-20:2 make a list of places Paul traveled on his third preaching trip. Write one highlight of his work in each place, where such is given.
7. What concerns caused Paul to write to the Corinthians? Do you know from where Paul would have written the two letters to the Corinthians?
8. What is the main concern of the letter to the Galatians?
9. From where did Paul write the Romans? What were his plans at the time? (See Rom. 15)
10. What happened to Paul upon his arrival in Jerusalem? (Ac. 21:15ff)
11. Under what governors was Paul held captive? Before whom did he give a defense of his faith? (Ac. 23:23-26:32)
12. What happened on Paul's journey to Rome? (Ac. 27:1-28:15)
13. How long did Paul live in Rome? (Ac. 28:30)