

How to Read the Bible

Didactic Literature:

Paul writing to churches:

Romans:

Heavily doctrinal; the most complete doctrine of Salvation by grace through faith in all the Bible.

1st and 2nd Corinthians:

Heavily practical; deals with a specific series of problems in the Corinthian church body.

Galatians:

Refutes legalism and defends salvation as faith alone in Jesus Christ.

Ephesians:

Deals with a believer's position in Christ and its practical implications.

Philippians:

A warm letter of joy despite trials.

Colossians:

Deals with the pre-eminence of Christ in all things.

1st and 2nd Thessalonians:

Dealing with certain issues in this church body, especially prophecy and practical living.

**"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
*2nd Timothy 3:16-17***

(Continued next page)

LESSON 3

How to Read the Bible

Didactic Literature:

Paul writing to individuals:

1st and 2nd Timothy:

Letters to a ministry partner in Ephesus.

In 1st Timothy, Paul counsels Timothy on local church issues.

In 2nd Timothy, Paul counsels Timothy to remain strong in faith despite trials.

Titus:

Letter to a ministry partner on the island of Crete.

Mostly deals with local church issues, especially the qualifications of church leaders.

Philemon:

Letter to a Christian slave owner.

Paul urges lenient treatment for a runaway slave who has become a believer, and is now his master's brother-in-the-Lord.

Different authors, general letters:

Hebrews:

Heavily doctrinal; uses Old Testament truth in teaching New Testament truth about Jesus to a Jewish audience.

James:

Emphasis on practical issues; especially the outworking of the Christian faith in everyday life... Show your faith by your actions.

(Continued next page)

How to Read the Bible

Didactic Literature:

Different authors, general letters (continued):

1st and 2nd Peter:

Written to believers scattered throughout Asia and Galatia.

Describes and encourages the proper response to suffering and opposition.

1st, 2nd and 3rd John:

Discusses the love of God and its outworking in our lives...

Jude:

Warns against ungodly living.

Revelation:

Apocalyptic and prophetic letter written to encourage churches experiencing persecution.

**“All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful for teaching, rebuking,
correcting and training
in righteousness,
so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped
for every good work.”
*2nd Timothy 3:16-17***

Lesson 3