Five Major Divisions

Gospels

History

Epistles of Paul

General Epistles (Letters)

Prophesy

Gospels – Birth, Life, Teachings, and Death of Christ

Matthew 1:1

Matthew is written to the Jews. Matthew shows us that Jesus is the Messiah; the Living King that the Jews were looking for. There are 129 quotes or references to the Scripture or Prophesies that were fulfilled by Jesus. The purpose of the Matthew is to convince the Jewish people, that Jesus was the Christ.

Mark 10:45

Mark is written to the Romans. Mark emphasizes Christ's role as the servant. Mark focuses on the divinity of Christ, which points to His authority. Mark gives more attention to the miracles that Christ performed and not the discourse.

Gospels – Birth, Life, Teachings, and Death of Christ

Luke 1:1-4

Luke written to the Greeks. Luke is the most detailed of all the Gospels; sighting Times, Locations, Travel, Feelings, Appearances, etc. Luke focuses on the humanity of Christ as the "Perfect Man." Luke reads like a story, so detailed, so pointed, so exact.

John 1:1-5

John is written to the World. John focuses on the discourse or conversations of Christ. John portrays Christ's Deity, He was God, but also Man – "He was God manifested in the flesh. He was human but also divine"

'euaggelizo' – good news, good message

History – The Church and early persecution

Acts 1:8

Acts of the Apostles; Book of Conversions

The Church starts – Acts 2: 41, 47

The Gentiles are saved – Acts 10: 44 – 48

The ministries of Paul and Barnabas – Acts 13:3

The book of Acts details the persecution that the young Church goes through, the encouragement we get from each other, and the details on how the Word of God reached the ends of the world and the power it has.

Epistles of Paul

Epistles to Churches (Congregations)

Romans, I & II Corinthians

Romans – Because of God's love, everyone both Jew and Greek can come to a knowledge and true peace with Him. All have sinned, but all can be reconciled. He focuses on the righteousness of God, and the laws that we find ourselves under.

I & II Corinthians – These two books address the Church at Corinth which was having trouble deciphering proper order and discipline. In I Corinthians Paul addresses numerous problems dividing the Church. In II Corinthians Paul is glad to hear of their repentant heart, and encourages them to remain true to their faith and love in Christ.

Epistles of Paul

Epistles to Churches (Congregations)

Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians

Galatians – Paul defends the gospel, and encourages the brethren to come back to the truth that they believed in the beginning.

Ephesians – Paul encourages the brethren to continue their spiritual walk, and to understand how rich they have become in Christ.

Philippians – Paul thanks the brethren for their help in him time of need, and encourages them to continue in unity.

Colossians – Paul exhorts the brethren to realize that it is through Christ that they have life, liberty, and freedom from sin.

Epistles of Paul

Epistles to Churches (Congregations)

I & II Thessalonians

I Thessalonians –

Paul encourages the young Church to remain faithful, to remember how he treated them and acted while he was with them. As he closes he reminds them that Jesus will come again, and we should be ready for that day.

II Thessalonians –

Paul addresses different issues, the issues of false doctrine. They have been deceived into believing that Christ had come. Paul encourages them to remain strong and continue to work, to be counted worthy when the day does come.

Epistles of Paul

Epistles to People

I & II Timothy

I Timothy 1:3-5; 6:20-21

Paul writes to the young evangelist Timothy to encourage him to fight earnestly for the faith. He encourages him to establish elders and deacons.

II Timothy 4:1-4,6-8

Paul nearing the end of his life writes to encourage Timothy to continue to fight. Beware of itching ears. Preach, fight, and encourage to the end.

Epistles of Paul

Epistles to People

Titus & Philemon

Titus 1:5; 2:1; 3:9 – 11

Paul writes to the young evangelist Titus to encourage him to set in order things that are lacking in the church at Crete. Finally, Paul instructs Titus to avoid foolish arguments.

Philemon 15 – 16, 20 – 21

Paul tells Philemon that Brotherly Love should overlook everything. Paul who sends back a run away slave, encourages Philemon to accept him as a Brother and not a slave. This will not only fulfill the law of Christ, but the joy of Paul.

General Epistles (Letters)

Hebrews & James

Hebrews – Book of Better Thinks

The Hebrew writer explains how the new law of Christ is better than the old law in everyway. He encourages them to remain true to Christ, and to not turn back to the old ways.

James 2 : 26

James writes a book to Christians explaining how our Faith in Christ should work, and what works are acceptable to the Lord. James – Daily Christian Living

General Epistles (Letters)

I & II Peter

I Peter –

Peter writes to encourage Christians to keep faithful through persecution. He explains how the basis for our walk is submission.

II Peter –

Peter writes to encourage Christians to deal with destructive doctrines and the ultimate devastation of false teachers and false doctrine.

General Epistles (Letters)

I, II, & III John

I John – A book on love

John writes in this first book about Love for God, Christ, the Brethren, and how we have true fellowship with each other.

II & III John –

John's final two books are discussions on specific issues of deception and preeminence of certain individuals. He encourages the Church to remain true.

General Epistles (Letters)

Jude 3 – 4

Doctrine has changed, problems are in the Church. Jude writes with examples to explain what God has done in the past because of similar doctrinal changes. Repent, stand fast for the doctrine, God will return.

Prophecy

Revelation 1:1

Revelation of Jesus, as given to John to write and send forth the Prophecy which will come to pass very soon. John describes not only the destruction of Jerusalem, but the destruction of the world and ultimately judgment.

Sin is in the world.

But, the Good News is Christ came to save the world from sin.

Christianity will mean persecution.

But, Jesus has overcome the world.

Living faithfully to the end will lead us to Heaven But, if we die in our sins it will lead to Hell.