

An overview of the
New Testament

1

Introduction and background

How well do you know your New Testament?

Freshman Level (1 point per blank)

1. In the Bible, the New Testament follows the _____ Testament.
2. The New Testament has _____ books.
3. The New Testament was originally written in the language of _____.
4. The books that record the history of Jesus' life are known as the _____. There are _____ of them. They are _____.
5. The book that records the history of the early Christian church is _____.
6. Books like Romans and Galatians are known as _____, which means "letters."
7. The book that comes in order after 1 Peter is _____.

Graduate Level (3 points per blank)

1. The book that comes in order after Philippians is _____.
2. The New Testament was written approximately between _____ A.D. and _____ A.D.
3. Of the books that record the history of Jesus' life, the one that is significantly different from the others is _____.
4. The language that Jesus and his disciples most often spoke was _____.
5. Paul's primary companion on his first missionary journey was _____.
6. The chapter and book of the New Testament where the most complete account of Jesus' birth is written is _____.
7. During the New Testament, the most powerful nationality in the world was the _____.

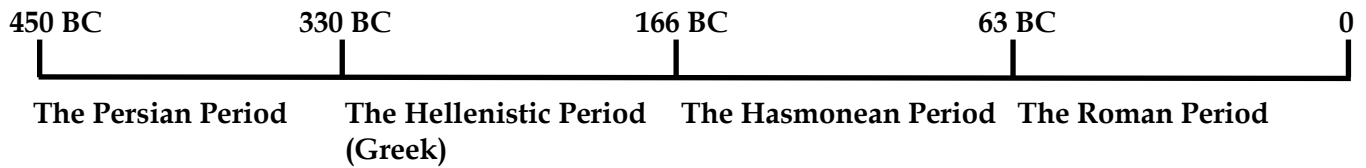
Ph.D. Level (5 points per blank)

1. The version of the Old Testament that Jesus and his disciples read and quoted was written in the language of _____.
2. The book that was written chronologically after 2 Corinthians was _____.
3. Of the books that record the history of Jesus' life, the one that was written under the influence of the apostle Paul was _____.
4. The chapter and book of the New Testament where the impact of Jesus' resurrection is most clearly explained is _____.
5. The number of letters of the New Testament that Paul wrote to the church in Corinth was _____.
6. Most likely, the first book of the New Testament to be written was _____.
7. The apostle of Jesus who died a ripe old age was _____.

Total Points = _____

The time between the Testaments

"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons" (Galatians 4:4,5 EHV).



The Persians

1. When the Jewish people lived in exile, what did they learn about religion?
2. When Cyrus sent the Jews back, how many returned?
3. What happened to everybody else?
4. Where did those *dispersed* people worship?

The Greeks

Alexander the Great

Hellenization

The Greek Old Testament (Septuagint), 250 BC

Ptolemies and Seleucids, Antiochus IV Epiphanes , 167 BC

1. What impact did these things have on the time in which Jesus and the apostles lived?

The Hasmonean Dynasty

Hasidim

Judas Maccabeus

<u>Hellenizers</u>	<u>Maccabeus (Hasmoneans)</u>	<u>Hasidim</u>
Sadducees	Zealots	Pharisees

As we think about the self-complacency and spiritual pride of the Pharisees, what warning is there for us?

The Romans

Pompey

Octavius ➡ Caesar Augustus, *Pax Romana*

Herod the Idumean (Edomite)

1. What impact did these things have on the time in which Jesus and the apostles lived?

Your homework

For next time...

- ⇒ Begin memorizing the books of the New Testament (Matthew through Revelation).
- ⇒ Pick one of the three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, or Luke) and read it from beginning to end.



The Annunciation by Albrecht Durer, c. 1503

Intertestamental Chronology

PERSIAN EMPIRE

Cyrus	538-530 BC
Cambyeses	530-522 BC
Darius I	522-486 BC
Xerxes I	486-465 BC
Artaxerxes I	465-424 BC
Xerxes II	424-423 BC
Darius II	423-404 BC
Artaxerxes II	403-358 BC
Artaxerxes III	358-338 BC
Arses I	338-336 BC
Darius III	336-331 BC

GREEK EMPIRE

Alexander the Great	336-323 BC
Ptolemies rule Palestine	323-198 BC
Seleucids rule Palestine	198-165 BC
Antiochus III	223-187 BC
Seleucus IV	183-175 BC
Antiochus IV (Epiphanes)	175-163 BC

ROMAN EMPIRE

Pompey enters Jerusalem	63 BC
Julius Caesar assassinated	44 BC
Caesar Augustus	27BC-4AD

ISRAEL

	Return under Sheshbazzar; altar set up; temple begun Joshua and Zerubbabel
520 BC	Temple resumed
515 BC	Dedicated
450 BC	Nehemiah's journeys to Jerusalem Ezra
250 BC	The Greek Old Testament
168 BC	Temple desecrated
165 BC	Temple Rededicated
166-160 BC	Judas Maccabeus
160-142 BC	Jonathan Maccabeus
142-134 BC	Simon Maccabeus
134-104 BC	John Hyrcanus I
104-103 BC	Aristobolus I
103-76 BC	Alexander Jannaeus
76-67 BC	Alexandra Salome
67-63 BC	Aristobolus II
63-40 BC	Hyrcanus II
40-37	Antigonus
67-4BC	Herod the Great