

NT1 Lesson 1

Bible Overview

	Old Testament	New Testament
Number of Books	39	27
Language Written	Hebrew, Aramaic	Koine Greek
Years to Write	~1000 (1400 BC – 400 BC)	~50 (45 AD – 95 AD)
Written on What Material	Papyrus (reed paper)	Animal Skins
Longest / Shortest Books	Psalms / Obadiah	Acts / 3 John
Chapters / Verses	929 / 23214	260 / 7959
Promises	documents God's promises	fulfillment of promises

a) Over 300 OT quotes and over 4000 allusions to the OT exist in the NT; hence, the NT is tightly linked to the OT, confirming the harmony of the entire Bible.

b) Why is the OT called “old”? references “previous”, not “old”; the NT is “renewed/fulfilled”

New Testament Authorship

a) Who wrote it? God through human authors.

- similar to how/why Jesus is fully God and fully man at the same time.

b) Why would God use others to write His Word, instead of doing the “10 commandment” thing?

- 1 Cor 2:12-13; 2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:20-21

- God inspired people to write without error

- Each author's style and personality are used by for God's purpose

Luke: emotional, medical (was a doctor)

James: practical (probably a carpenter)

Paul: theological (conversion, persecutor)

c) **Verbal Plenary**: the very words of the Bible, and every part, - complete

- The Holy Spirit inspired not just the thoughts, but also the exact words

d) How do we know the Scripture is perfect? (Prov 30:5)

- God is perfect and is the author

e) Six aspects of Scripture's origin, authority, trustworthiness

1) Scripture claims to be God breathed / inspired (2 Tim 3:16-17), and

cannot be broken (John 10:35)

2) All OT writings are not from man directly (I Pet 1:10-12), and are divinely inspired

3) NT is also divinely inspired, and is perfect prophecy (Eph 3:4-5, Rev 22:18)

4) The "Word of God" will stand the test of time (Isa 40:8), unlike anything before it, and the NT is the "Word of God" (Heb 4:12, Eph 6:17)

5) NT authors believed they were writing divinely inspired Scripture (2 Cor 13:3, Gal 1:12, 2 Cor 5:20), and many died for making bold but accurate claims that they wrote God's word

6) The early church treated the NT writings as authoritative

f) **Sola (or Prima) Scriptura**: Scripture alone is our highest authority

Solo Scriptura: Scripture is the only place to find truth - - is this correct?

g) Why was the NT written?

- To document Jesus' resurrection
- Proof the He is God, and the only way to eternal life

(the widespread worship of God, transformation of disciples into fearless preachers, transformation of Paul from a murderer of Christians into a Christian pastor, Jesus' family worshipping Him as God)

New Testament: Can any more books be added?

a) What does Rev 22:18-19 and Deut 4:2 say? do not add to God's prophecy or commandments

Scripture already has all we need for faith and godliness – we just have to read, learn, obey, apply

b) Any additional books must meet the criteria that all NT authors met:

- Be an eyewitness, or have direct contact with an eyewitness
- Be inspired by the Holy Spirit in a miraculous way

Homework:

a) complete your info sheet, and return

b) Come with a list of reasons (4-5) why some people think Scripture is NOT perfect

c) What are some characteristics of ALL NT books?