

New Testament Survey Part 1

A Programmed Course for
Theological Education by Extension

By
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NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

PART 1

Course description:

A synthetic study of the New Testament is presented in simple programmed form to enable lay pastors and other Christian workers to know the main theme and the most important teachings of each book of the New Testament, and how the books together present Christ: His Person and work, His church, His second coming and His plans for the future.

Target Population:

Lay pastors or other Christian workers.

Pre-requisites:

General knowledge of the Bible, some experience in pastoral work or other Christian service; as a minimum, a sixth grade education.

Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Name the four periods in the history between the two Testaments, and the most important facts for each period.
2. Give the divisions of the New Testament.
3. Give evidences of the inspiration of the New Testament.
4. Show how we know that the New Testament has been transmitted to us in its true form, during the centuries since it was written.
5. Identify the Synoptic Gospels and explain the term.
6. State the source of the knowledge which the writers had of the happenings mentioned in the Gospels.
7. Give the theme of each of the four Gospels.
8. For each of the Gospels give the aspect of Christ which the writer emphasizes and the readers for whom he writes.
9. For each book of the New Testament, give the following: writer, date, theme and distinctive characteristics.

TO THE STUDENT

Welcome to the study of New Testament Survey! We trust this course will be a great value to you as you seek to serve the Lord.

This is a programmed course: the lessons are divided into small steps or “frames” of learning. In each frame, you are to actively participate in the learning process by answering a question, filling in a blank, choosing between various possible answers or whatever other activity is required in the frame.

After writing your answer, you will find the correct answer given in the space following the frame. This correct answer, called the “feedback,” is provided so that you can check your response with that given in the feedback; if your answer was incorrect, you are to **write** the correct response as found in the feedback. If you are unable to answer, **write** the correct response as given in the feedback. This is very important.

You are not to look at the feedback until after you have written your own response. For this reason, use a small sheet of thick paper as a mask or shield to cover the feedback. You will note that there is a dotted line at the end of each frame: position the mask at the level of the dotted line while you read the frame and write your response. To check your answer, drop the mask to the next dotted line. You’ll note that there is a small square in the left margin at the level of the feedback; this will help you know how far down to drop your mask.

Example:

8-3 In this lesson, we’ll learn about the Author and the writers of the New Testament. There is one Author of both the Old and the New Testament; therefore, we say that the Bible is the Word of God.

.....

God

8-4 Yes, God is the Author of the Scriptures; for this reason the message of the Bible is the message of God. In lesson nine, we’ll look at some of the reasons why we know that God is the Author of the New Testament.

In 2 Timothy 3:16, how does Paul express the fact that God is the Author of the Bible?

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.”

.....

M A S K

The following suggestions are given to help you derive the maximum profit from this course:

1. Try to study **at least** one lesson daily; the lapse of several days between lessons interrupts the logical process and hinders learning.
2. Before beginning your study each day, review the previous lesson.
3. Read each frame **carefully** before making your response.
4. **Always** read the feedback, even though you are sure your response is correct.
5. After checking your response, drop the mask immediately to the next dotted line, thus exposing completely the following frame.
6. As to the Bible passages that you are asked to read:
 - a. Read the passage, even though you believe you know it by heart.
 - b. Keep you Bible open to the passage indicated; sometimes various frames are based on one passage.
7. If you find a word you don't understand, look it up in a dictionary.
8. Don't interrupt the study of a lesson until you have finished it.

You'll notice that some of the response blanks include the following sign: (ow). This stands for "own words," and means that your response can be formulated in your own words, but that it should be equivalent to the correct answer given in the feedback. Sometimes an alternate correct answer is given in the feedback; this alternate acceptable answer will be given in parenthesis.

It's a good idea to begin each lesson with a time of prayer, asking for the help of the Holy Spirit in understanding and utilizing the truths contained in the course. Go ahead now with the study of the first lesson, and may the Lord guide you in the learning process.

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