



Introduction to New Testament

Saint Mina Coptic Orthodox Church
Holmdel, NJ

Servants' Prep Class
October 2014



con·tract

- a. An agreement between two or more parties, especially one that is written and enforceable by law.
- b. The writing or document containing such an agreement.

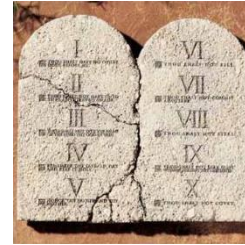


Contract with God

- ❖ Contractual entity?
- ❖ Why written?
 - ✓ Salvation_2Timothy3:14,15
 - ✓ Rebuking_2Timothy3: 16,17
- ❖ Effective date?

Contract Status

❖ God's promise? Genesis 17:7,8



❖ Contract breaching!



❖ Amending the contract? Jeremiah 31:31-33



❖ Silent years? Amos 8:11



❖ Resume? Galatians 4:4



The New Covenant

❖ With who?

- ✓ Followers of the road, Acts 18:25
- ✓ Christians, Acts 11:26
- ✓ Saints, Acts 9:32
- ✓ Brothers and sisters

❖ Hebrew bible for early Christians

❖ 27 books, written in Greek

❖ Indexing? 367 A.D.

Gospel

- ❖ Euangelion_Definition? Luke 2:10
- ❖ Author?
- ❖ Gospel or “Gospels”?



Across the Gospels

Examples:	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Jesus childhood	1,2		1,2	
Jesus Baptism	3:13-17	1:9-11	3:21-22	
Temptation	4:1-11	1:12-13	4:1-13	
Galilean Ministry	4:12-19:1	1:14-10:1	4:14-9:51	4:43-54 6:1-7:1
Last week	21-27	11-15	19-24	12-19

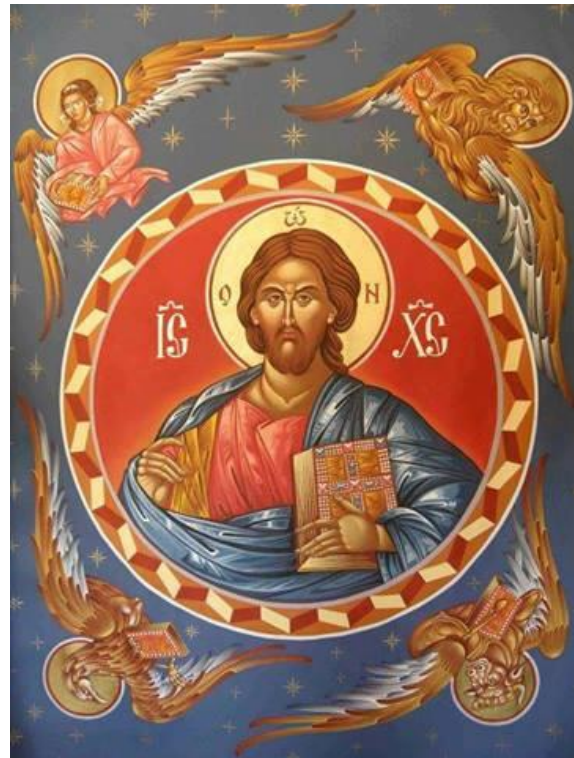
Purpose

Matthew

- ❖ King from Judah
- ❖ Promise of Messiah fulfilled
- ❖ Faith is through acts

John

- ❖ Divine Messiah from heaven
- ❖ Son of God came
- ❖ Theology
- ❖ Lamb who carried sins of the world



Mark

- ❖ King & servant
- ❖ Suffering
- ❖ Power to forgive
- ❖ Win over sin
- ❖ True disciples

Luke

- ❖ Compassionate savior
- ❖ True example to follow
- ❖ What pleases God

Books of Acts

- ❖ Who wrote it? Acts 1:1 & Luke 1:3
- ❖ Main characters: Peter, John, Stephen, Paul, Barnabas, Luke & Lydia
- ❖ Next steps? Power of Pentecost, Acts 1:8
- ❖ How did the disciples spread the word?
- ❖ The end? Acts 28:30

Pauline Books

Romans	Righteousness of God and salvation
Corinthians	(1) Problems in divided church & immorality (2) Defending Paul's ministry against false teachers
Galatians	Settle debate about submitting to Jewish law
Ephesians*	Practical applications – family, spiritual war (body of Christ)
Philippians*	Letter of thanks for helping St Paul – living joyfully in Christ
Colossians*	Heretics (Gnosticism) , Christian salvation & sufficiency
Thessalonians	(1) Persecutions (2) wrong teaching about 2 nd coming - Eschatology
Timothy	(1) Advice to Timothy, church administration– worship principles (2) Standing by faith, farewell - 2Timothy 4:6,7 & 22
Titus	Qualifications of church leaders – warning against false teaching
Philemon*	To friend asking forgiveness of slave, Onesimus
Hebrews	Real meaning of faith (Ch 11), Jesus _last declaration, superiority

General Epistles

James	Practical applications living faith & subtle sins
Peter	(1) Encouragement during persecution, duties of Christian (2) Warning against false teachers, apostasy – affirms 2 nd coming
John	(1) God is the light – love each other (2) Faithful obedience , walking in truth (3) Christian behavior (good vs bad)
Jude	Against wrong teaching, heretics
Revelations	Second coming – ultimate triumph of Christ

Non-canonical Christian Writing

- ❖ Apocryphal works – not accepted in NT canon (e.g. Gospel of Thomas, Peter)
- ❖ Patristic works – theologically acceptable but “not apostolic” (e.g. Letters of Clement, Ignatius of Antioch)