

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

Lesson 2 – Introduction to the Gospels (part 1)

The purpose of this portion of our study is twofold: 1) to provide students with a chronological framework for the people, events, and books of the New Testament describing the life of Christ and 2) to probe key lessons for Christian living today.

- A. How many books are in the New Testament? List them in Bible order and then in chronological order (when the events described occurred). Note the differences.
- B. Briefly describe the more significant manuscripts (including their approximate ages) we have available for the New Testament. What is the difference between the "Textus Receptus" texts and the "Wescott and Hort" texts?
- C. What do the following terms mean?
- a) "Gospel"
 - b) "Synoptic Gospel"
 - c) "Q source"
 - d) "Messiah"
 - e) "Christ"
 - f) "Son of Man"
 - g) "Son of God"
- D. What are some of the challenges associated with harmonizing the gospel accounts? (hint: do an internet search on the term "gospel harmonization" or "gospel synopsis")
- E. List at least two websites that provide a chronological list of events in the life of Jesus.
- F. How would you divide the events covered by the Gospels into at least seven chronological periods?