

Discovery 26

Letters of Paul		
The Core Tradition	In the Pauline Tradition	Interpreters of Paul (Pastorals)
10 1 Thessalonians 11 1 & 2 Corinthians 12 Philippians 13 Philemon 14 Galatians 15 Romans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Thessalonians• Colossians• Ephesians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Timothy• 2 Timothy• Titus

Epistles

Often, answering a letter or addressing a problem that we must infer.

Sections of a standard letter of the day

- Greeting
- Prayer for the health of recipients
- Thanksgiving to the gods
- Special contents
- Special salutations and personal greetings.

The Book of Romans

Outline:

- Chapters 1-8 – which deal with the problem of righteousness – by law or by faith.
- Chapters 9-11 – which deal with the problems of the Jews – a real Jew is like Abraham who responds to God in faith
- Chapters 12-15 – which deal with practical questions of life and living
- Chapter 16 – letter of introduction for Phoebe; final greetings.

1 Corinthians

Chapters 1-5 Divisions in the Church

- 5 Man living with his stepmother
- 6 Lawsuits among the believers; men going to prostitutes
- 7 Sex and marriage
- 8-10 Meat offered to idols
- 11 Women's use of headcoverings
- 12-14 Spiritual gifts in the congregation
- 15 Resurrection

2 Corinthians

- Chapters 1-2 Assurances of concern
- 2-5 Comments on apostleship
- 5-7 Appeals about reconciliation
- 7-9 Appeals about the collection for Jerusalem
- 10 Appeal for obedience
- 11-12 Fools speech

Discovery 26

- 12-13 Disavowals and warnings
- 13 Closing and benediction

2 Cor 4:1-15

Some rival, perhaps underhanded, apostles in Corinth. Focus on Jesus, not Paul. All messengers are clay pots, breakable. Saving power of selfless, serving love. Paul is willing to undergo any trial for the sake of the gospel.

Galatians

- 1 Opening : with an immediate introduction of Paul's apostolic defense
- 2 Rebuke Section: 1:6-4:11
- 3 Request Section 4:12-6:10
- 4 Closing with reprise of main themes

Colossians

- 1:1-1:2 Salutation
- 1:3-1:14 Paul Thanks God for the Colossians
- 1:15-1:23 The Supremacy of Christ
- 1:24-2:5 Paul's Interest in the Colossians

- 2:6-2:19 Fullness of Life in Christ
- 2:20-2:23 Warnings against False Teachers

- 3:1-3:17 The New Life in Christ
- 3:18-4:1 Rules for Christian Households

- 4:2-4:6 Further Instructions
- 4:7-4:18 Final Greetings and Benediction