

Evangelistic Newspaper
“All Honour to God”
“Daar is Lig in die Wapad” 101

Evangelistic Newsletter

New Testament Orientation

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Dear all in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour

Having been asked by a few members to help with some of the basics of the Bible, the Apostolic faith etc., I have decided to introduce some assistance via this Newsletter. It is research I am happy to share with those seeking a deeper understanding of the Bible and the Saving Grace of Jesus Christ. Please see it as an effort to stimulate some conversation regarding our Christian Apostolic faith, beliefs and biblical history.

Tud Nest, Ph.D

The new Testament is a collection of writings that form part of the Holy Bible. These writings begin with the Gospel of Matthew and end with the Book of Revelation also known as the Apocalypse. Contrary to common belief, the News Testament was not written in a chronological order. Matthew was not the first Gospel, but Mark’s Gospel was.

Another interesting fact is that Apostle Paul lived and wrote his epistles before the first Gospel, that of Mark, was written. What was probably written by Apostle Paul was years before Matthew.

The oldest book in the New Testament is 1 Thessalonians, written by Apostle Paul.

The Gospel of Luke, was intended with the Acts of the Apostles to be one volume. However, it was split into two separate sections for the inclusion of the Gospel of John with the other three synoptic gospels, that of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

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The New Testament’s opening genealogies in the Gospel of Matthew is to emphasise the continuity of Jesus with the figures of the Jewish Bible or Old Testament. It is important for the author of Matthew that Jesus, as the Son of God, cannot be separated from His Own Scriptures as a prophet, Messiah and the Son of God. Jesus fulfils everything that was given by Moses in the Mosaic law and in the other writings.

The New Testament is a community-based book, brought together by the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus
The four Gospels present separate accounts of the life, mission and person of Jesus.

- ▶ Matthew presents Jesus as the Messiah who is the new Moses and as the Messiah from God who is also God;
- ▶ Mark shows Jesus as the Messiah who suffered and died for all people;
- ▶ Luke portrays a compassionate Messiah and a prophet who invites people to follow in his journey especially the poor and oppressed and those on the fringes of society.
- ▶ John’s Jesus is the Messiah who comes to bring life and light to the human condition. John’s Gospel begins with the statement that the Word was with God in the beginning and all things were made through the Word (John 1:1-3). This Word is Jesus the Saviour who is also referred to in Revelation 19:13.

Hope this helps. I am happy to try and answer emailed questions.

Nag Ou groete, fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.

