

# St. Matthew A.M.E. Church

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## PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

**Tuesday, September 11, 2018**

6:30 pm



## I. Quick Review of the First Lesson Last Week

- A. First few lessons will be an Introduction to the Bible
- B. Established teaching methodology - highlighting principle vs. literal interpretation.
  - 1. “A text without a context is a pretext for a proof text.”
  - 2. Not just what the Bible “**says,**” but what does it “**mean.**”
- C. Talked about how the Bible is put together.
  - 1. Books of the Apocrypha



## The divinely inspired, written Word of God.

### II. Books of the Apocrypha

- A. There are several books which comprise “The Apocrypha” (“outside, hidden books”) which are not included in the 66 books of the Protestant canon. Please find the listing of the apocryphal books below.
  - Tobit
  - Judith
  - Esther (the Greek Version Containing Additional Chapters)
    - The Wisdom of Solomon
  - Sirach (Also known as Ecclesiasticus or the Wisdom of Jesus)
    - Baruch
    - The Letter of Jeremiah (Baruch ch. 6)
  - The Additions to Daniel (The Prayer of Azariah, The Song of the Three Jews, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon)
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Maccabees
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Maccabees
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Maccabees
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Maccabees
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Esdras

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Esdras
- The Prayer of Manasseh
- Psalm 151 (See 1 Samuel 16 & 17)

<sup>1</sup> I was small among my brothers, and the youngest in my father's house; I tended my father's sheep. <sup>2</sup> My hands made a harp; my fingers fashioned a lyre.

<sup>3</sup> And who will tell my Lord? The Lord himself; it is he who hears. <sup>4</sup> It was he who sent his messenger and took me from my father's sheep, and anointed me with his anointing oil.

<sup>5</sup> My brothers were handsome and tall, but the Lord was not pleased with them.

<sup>6</sup> I went out to meet the Philistine, and he cursed me by his idols. <sup>7</sup> But I drew his own sword; I beheaded him, and took away disgrace from the people of Israel.

B. Most Protestant Christians do not accept these books as authorized or authoritative Scripture.

C. Translations/Versions of the Bible

1. The difference between a translation and a paraphrase.
  - a. Translation – Start with one language, end up with another.
  - b. Paraphrase – Starting and staying with the same language, restating the meaning of the text using different words in the same language.

### III. The Basic Structure of a Pauline Letter (Epistle)

A. Basic Facts:

1. 13 New Testament books ascribed to Paul. Scholars believe that he only wrote (dictated) 7 of them (First Thessalonians (50 AD), Galatians (53 AD), First Corinthians (53–54 AD), Philippians (55 AD), Philemon (55 AD), Second Corinthians (55–56), Romans (57 AD). Paul is responsible for 75% of the New Testament writings.
2. Paul's Letters are in the New Testament longest to shortest.
3. Paul was the “model missionary.”
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey – Acts 13-14
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey – Acts 15:36 – 18:22
  - c. 3<sup>rd</sup> Missionary Journey – Acts 18:23 – 20:38
  - d. 4<sup>th</sup> Missionary Journey - ??
4. Paul's Ministry Focus – To preach Jesus to the Gentiles. See Acts 9:10-16.

B. The Structure

- **Salutation** – usually indicated who is writing the letter (Paul), and who the letter is addressed to.
- **Thanksgiving & Prayer** – Paul usually expresses his thanks to God for various things and offers an initial prayer for the church. In cases where what he needs to address is urgent and imminent, there is no thanksgiving.
- **Body** – In the body of the letter, Paul addresses the issues which caused him to write the letter. Many times, he is responding to requests for his opinions or perspectives.

- **Ending Greetings** – This is where Paul extends greetings to various people, and often offers thanks for their assistance with his ministry.

### APPLYING THIS STRUCTURE TO PAUL'S LETTERS

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Salutation</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>Body</b>	<b>Ending Greetings</b>	<b>Benediction</b>
Romans	1:1-7	1:8-10	1:11-15:33	16:1-24	16:25-27
1 Corinthians	1:1-3	1:4-9	1:10-16:18	16:19-22	16:23-24
2 Corinthians	1:1-2	1:3-11?	1:12-13:12	13:11-13	13:14
Galatians	1:1-5	None	1:6-6:16	6:17	6:18
Ephesians	1:1-2	1:15-23	1:3-14; 2:1-6:20	6:21-22	6:23-24
Philippians	1:1-2	1:3-11	1:12-4:20	4:21-22	4:23
Colossians	1:1-2	1:3-14	1:15-4:6	4:7-17	4:18
1 Thessalonians	1:1	1:2-10	2:1-5:24	5:25-27	5:28
2 Thessalonians	1:1-2	1:3-12	2:1-3:15	3:16-17	3:18
1 Timothy	1:1-2	1:12-14	1:3-11; 1:15-6:10	6:11-20a	6:20b
2 Timothy	1:1-2	1:3-7	1:8-4:19	4:20-21	4:22
Titus	1:1-4	None	1:5-3:14	3:15a	3:15b
Philemon	Vss. 1-3	Vss. 4-7	Vss. 8-22	Vss. 23-24	Vs. 25

#### IV. What About Hebrews?

#### V. For Next Week

- A. **“Each One, Reach One”**. Invite someone to come with you to Bible Study or to attend the new “Wednesday in the Word” Bible Study on Wednesday mornings at 11 am.
- B. What would the Bible look like if it were written chronologically?

### NOTES

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Join us on the St. Matthew Prayer Line tomorrow morning at 6:30 am. The call-in number is 515-604-9855, access code 886823#.