

An Annotated Outline of the New Testament Narrative

- The Birth of Jesus Luke 1–2; Matthew 1–2
 - The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem demonstrates God’s continuing plan to provide *salvation* and *hope* for the fallen world.
 - Passages of Note:
 - The Lukan Birth Narrative, Luke 1–2
 - The Matthean Birth Narrative, Mathew 1–2

- The Announcement of the Beginning of Jesus' Ministry Luke 3–4
 - Jesus’ baptism and temptation initiated God’s plan to help the world find *forgiveness* for sins and *freedom* from sin.
 - Passages of Note:
 - The Baptism of Jesus, Luke 3:1-22
 - The Temptation of Jesus, Luke 4: 1-13

- The Galilean Ministry Luke 4–9
 - Jesus demonstrates His *power* and *authority* through *healing* and *teaching* as He calls the disciples.
 - Passages of Note:
 - The Call of the Disciples, Luke 5:1-11, 27-39

- Sabbath and Healing Controversies, Luke 6:1-11
- The Sermon on the Plain, Luke 6:20-49
- A Healer like the Prophets of Old, Luke 7:1-17 (Cf. 2 Kings 5 and 1 Kings 17:17-24)
- Healing of the Gerasene Demoniac, Luke 8:26-39
- Healing of Jaraius' Daughter/the Woman with the Issue of Blood, Luke 8:40-56
- The Appointment of the Twelve Apostles, Luke 9:1-6

- The Journey to Jerusalem

Luke 9–19

- As Jesus sets His face toward Jerusalem, He describes the true nature of *discipleship* with parables and predictions. His condemnation of the religious elite brings about increasing conflict with them.
- Passages of Note:
 - Teaching in Parables, Luke 15:1-32
 - The Parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:29-37
 - The Rich Young Ruler, Luke 18:18-26
 - Passion Predictions: Luke 9:18-27; 9:43b-50; 18:31-34
 - The Healing of a Blind Man in Jericho, Luke 18:35-43

- The Jerusalem Ministry

Luke 19–21

- The last few days of Jesus' ministry are filled with *conflict after conflict* between Jesus and the religious elite, culminating in Jesus' prophecy against the *Temple* and in the religious elite's decision to have Jesus put to death.

- Passages of Note:
 - The Triumphal Entry, Luke 19:29-40
 - The Condemnation of the Temple, Luke 19:41-46
 - The Plot to Destroy Jesus, Luke 19:47-48
 - “By what authority,” Luke 20:1-8
 - The Parable of the Vineyard, Luke 20:9-19
 - Render unto Caesar, Luke 20:20-26
 - The Olivet Discourse, Luke 21: 5-36

- The Passion Narrative

Luke 22-24

- The story of the *death, burial, and resurrection* of Jesus finally reveals God’s plan to provide a means of salvation and hope for the world.
- Passages of Note:
 - The Plot to Kill Jesus, Luke 22:1-6
 - The Passover Meal, Luke 22:7-38
 - The Garden of Gethsemane, Luke 22:39-53
 - Peter’s Denial, Luke 22:54-62
 - On Trial before the Sanhedrin, 22:66-71
 - On Trial before Pilate, Luke 23:1-25
 - The Crucifixion, Luke 23:32-49
 - The Burial, Luke 23:50-56
 - The Discovery of the Empty Tomb, Luke 24:1-12
 - Resurrection Appearances, 24:13-49

- The Ascension

Luke 24; Acts 1

- Jesus *empowers* His disciples with the Holy Spirit to bear *witness* to the message of salvation.
- Passages of Note:
 - The Ascension, Acts 1:1-11

- Witnesses in Jerusalem

Acts 1–7

- The disciples begin bearing witness in Jerusalem with initial success and establish a foundation for the church but not without *conflict within* the congregation and *persecution from without*.
- Passages of Note:
 - The Church at Pentecost, Acts 2:41-47
 - Conflict Within (Ananias and Saphira), Acts 5:1-11
 - Conflict Within (Hebraists and Hellenists), Acts 6:1-7, N.B. 6:7
 - Persecution from Without (Stephen's Martyrdom), Acts 7:54–8:3

- Witnesses in Judea and Samaria

Acts 8–12

- Following the martyrdom of Stephen, the church begins to bear witness in the neighboring areas of Judea and Samaria demonstrating how *the gospel will spread to the gentiles*.
- Passages of Note:

- Philip's work in Samaria, Acts 8:14-25
- Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch, Acts 8:26-40
- Peter's Vision and Visit with Cornelius, Acts 10
- Paul's Story, Acts 7:58–8:3; 9:1-9; 11:25-26; and, 12:24-25

- The First Missionary Journey

Acts 13–14

- Beginning with the church in Antioch of Syria, the church bears witness "to the ends of the earth," *to the Jew first and then to the gentile*. Barnabas and Paul lead a team of disciples to bear witness to the gospel in Asia Minor.
- Passages of Note:
 - Antioch of Syria calls Missionaries, Acts 13:1-3
 - Paul's Stoning in Lystra, 14:8-20

- The Jerusalem Council

Acts 15

- The church struggles with the inclusion of the gentiles but ultimately understands that God's plan of *salvation extends to all nations "by faith."*
- Passages of Note:
 - The Jerusalem Council, Acts 15:1-35

- The Second Missionary Journey

Acts 15-18

- Paul, now a well-established authority in the church, is bearing witness in significant urban centers such as Athens and Corinth showing gentiles how to overcome the barriers of paganism. Paul and Silas lead a team of disciples to bear witness to the gospel in Thrace, Macedonian, and Achaia.
- Passages of Note:
 - Paul's Sermon at the Areopagus, Acts 17: 16-34

- The Third Missionary Journey

Acts 18-21

- Paul and Silas revisit the churches established on the earlier missionary journeys and spend three years in Ephesus bearing witness to the gospel throughout Asia Minor.
- Passages of Note:
 - The Riot in Ephesus, Acts 19:23–20:1

- Paul's Arrest and Trials

Acts 21-28

- After being arrested in Jerusalem for bearing witness about Jesus, Paul is transferred to a jail in Caesarea-Maritima where he is questioned at length. Fearing for his life, he appeals to Caesar, then transported to Rome where he remains imprisoned but continues to bear witness to the gospel without hindrance.

- Passages of Note:

- Paul's Ministry while Imprisoned in Rome, 28:11-31
- The Problem of Patronage in Corinth, 1 Corinthians 3:21-4:7
- Idol Meat, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
- Paul's Brass Tacks for Ministry, Titus 1-3

- The Christian Diaspora

Hebrews–Jude

- As Christianity penetrates the Roman Empire, several voices call out to disciples to remain faithful to the gospel and live in obedience even during difficult times.

- Passages of Note:

- Christ is Superior to the Angels, Hebrews 1
- Trials and Temptations, Faith and Works, Poverty and Wealth, James 1–2

- The Roman Persecution of Christianity

Revelation

- By the end of the first century AD, a severe persecution has broken out across the Roman Empire against Christianity. John the son of Zebedee reminds disciples that God is still on the throne and they should remain faithful to the gospel, God's plan of salvation and hope.

- Passages of Note:

- The Letters to the Seven Churches, Revelation 2–3
- Worthy Is the Lamb, Revelation 4

