EXPLORING THE NEW TESTAMENT

TEST ANSWER KEY

Dr. Randall McElwain

shepherds
GLOBAL CLASSROOM

CONTENTS

1. THE WORLD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT 4

2. THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS: THE LIFE OF CHRIST 5

3. JOHN: THE GOSPEL OF BELIEF 7

4. ACTS AND THE EARLY CHURCH 8

5. ROMANS: THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD 9

6. 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS AND GALATIANS: LETTERS TO TROUBLED CHURCHES 11

7. EPHESIANS, PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, AND PHILEMON: LETTERS FROM PRISON 12

8. 1 & 2 THESSALONIANS: THE RETURN OF CHRIST 13

9. TIMOTHY AND TITUS: LETTERS TO PASTORS 14

10. HEBREWS AND JAMES: GENERAL EPISTLES, PART 1 15

11. PETER, JOHN, AND JUDE: GENERAL EPISTLES, PART 2 17

12. REVELATION: JESUS IS LORD 18

Each test includes written Scripture memory. To check students' answers to Scripture memory questions, use your Bible.

LESSON 1 - THE WORLD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

1. **Moving from west to east, list the three geographical regions of Palestine.**

   Coastal Plains Central Highlands Jordan Valley

2. **What is the importance of Samaria to Jesus' ministry?**

   It lies between Judea and Galilee. It was avoided by most Jews. Jesus went there to minister to the woman at the well.

3. **List three contributions of the Greek language to the early church.**

   - A common language for the spread of the gospel
   - A precise language to communicate theological concepts
   - The Septuagint, the translation of the Old Testament into Greek

4. **Define the *pax Romana*.**

   The Roman peace that allowed for relatively safe travel throughout the Roman empire.

5. **List four roles that the synagogue played in the Jewish community.**

   - Religious worship
   - Education for children
   - Local court for religious and civil issues
   - Social interaction

6. **What teachings did Pharisees and Christians have in common?**

   Resurrection, angels, prayer, a coming Messiah, and respect for the Old Testament.

7. **What were the primary doctrinal differences between the Pharisees and Sadducees?**

   Sadducees rejected the prophetic books. They rejected orthodox Jewish teachings on angels, spirits, and the resurrection.

8. **List two reasons for the formation of the New Testament canon.**

   False teaching

   Persecution

9. List three standards used in establishing the New Testament canon.

- The author must be an apostle or associate of an apostle.
- The message must not conflict with the Old Testament. It must be faithful to the message of Jesus. It must be spiritually edifying.
- The book must be accepted by the entire church.

10. The term "textual integrity" addresses what issue related to the New Testament?

Is the text we have received consistent with the original manuscripts?

11. Write Galatians 4:4-5 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 2 - THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

1. Why are the first three gospels called the Synoptic Gospels?

They provide three views of the same events.

2. Give three evidences that Matthew was addressed to a Jewish audience.

Any three:

- He does not explain Jewish customs
- Frequent Old Testament quotations
- Attention to Jesus' fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy
- The use of the phrase "Kingdom of Heaven" instead of "Kingdom of God"

3. List three major themes in Matthew.

- Jesus as the King
- Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament
- Sermons of Jesus

4. List three major themes in Mark.

- Jesus the Servant
- Jesus the Son of God
- The Messianic Secret

5. List and explain the three audiences related to the Messianic Secret of Mark.

- Demons: Jesus did not want any association with them.
- Those he healed: Jesus wanted to avoid the pressure of crowds seeking healing.
- Disciples: they did not yet understand his role as Messiah.

6. What do we know about Theophilus? About Luke?

Theophilus was a Roman official; probably a new convert.

Luke was a Gentile doctor who traveled with Paul.

7. What does the Chalcedonian Creed teach about the nature of Jesus?

He is truly God and truly man.

8. List four major themes in Luke.

- Jesus as the Son of Man
- Jesus as the Savior of the world
- The importance of prayer
- The importance of the Holy Spirit

9. List three examples from Luke of Jesus' ministry to those of low social status.

Any three:

- The shepherds
- Women in Jesus' ministry
- Zacchaeus
- Samaritans
- The thief on the cross

10. List three examples of the Holy Spirit's work during the earthly life of Jesus.

Any three:

- John the Baptist, Elizabeth, and Zacharias
- The conception of Jesus
- Simeon
- The baptism of Jesus
- The temptation of Jesus
- Jesus' ministry in Galilee

11. Write Matthew 5:48; Mark 10:45; Luke 19:10 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 3 - JOHN: THE GOSPEL OF BELIEF

1. Why is Polycarp's testimony to the authorship of John of particular importance?

Polycarp was a disciple of John.

2. What was John's purpose for his gospel?

"That ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:31).

3. How is John's purpose seen in the material included in his gospel?

- He included seven "signs" that show that Jesus is the Christ.
- He included Jesus' testimonies to deity.

4. What does the prologue of John show about Jesus' genealogy?

It is a "divine genealogy" that shows Jesus as the eternal Word of God.

5. List the seven "signs" in John.

- Turning water to wine at Cana
- Healing an official's son in Capernaum
- Healing the paralytic at Bethesda
- Feeding the 5,000
- Walking on the water
- Healing a man born blind
- Raising Lazarus from the dead

6. Give three examples of Jesus' testimony to his deity.

Any three:

- Jesus' testimony to Nicodemus
- Jesus' testimony to the Samaritan woman
- Jesus' testimony after healing the man at Bethesda
- Jesus' testimony after feeding the 5,000
- Jesus' testimony at the Feast of Tabernacles
- Jesus testimony that "Before Abraham was, I am"

7. What was the response of the Jewish leaders to Jesus' claims to be divine?

They tried to kill him.

8. In Jesus' "High Priestly Prayer," he prayed for what three things?

- For himself: that he would be glorified through the Father
- For the disciples: that they would be preserved and sanctified
- For all believers: that their unity would testify to the world

9. Write John 20:30-31 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 4 - ACTS AND THE EARLY CHURCH

1. Why was Ephesus important for Paul's evangelism strategy?

It was the capital city of the Roman province of Asia.

2. Why was Rome important for Paul's evangelism strategy?

It was the central city of the Roman Empire.

3. Which Roman emperors are associated with persecution of the early church?

Nero and Domitian

4. Why is a date of the late 50's or early 60's most likely for Acts?

At the end of Acts Paul is under house arrest. He does not yet face imminent martyrdom.

5. List three aspects of the *kerygma*, the core message preached by the apostles.

- The lordship of Jesus Christ
- The historical truth of the gospel
- Salvation by grace through faith

6. Who was the first Christian martyr?

Stephen

7. What was the role of persecution in the evangelistic outreach of the early church?

It pushed Christians beyond Jerusalem.

8. What was the primary multi-cultural and missionary-sending church of the first century?

Antioch

LESSON 5 - ROMANS: THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

1. List three purposes for Romans.

- Immediate purpose: relationships between Jewish and Gentile Christians
- Personal motivation: support for Paul's evangelistic campaign to Spain
- Ultimate purpose: teach how we are made right with God

2. List four truths about the gospel found in the introduction to Romans.

- It was prophesied in the Old Testament.
- It teaches that Jesus was truly the Messiah and Son of God.
- It is the power of salvation to all who believe.
- It reveals the righteousness of God to all who believe.

3. List the three groups that stand condemned in Romans 1-3.

- Gentiles, particularly pagans
- Moralists
- Jews

4. In Romans 6, what is Paul's response to someone who asks if we can continue living in sin so that grace may abound?

When we are baptized into Christ, we died to sin. We can no longer live in sin.

5. What are three interpretations of Romans 7:7-25?

- Paul is describing the normal Christian life.
- Paul is describing an unsanctified believer.
- Paul is describing an awakened sinner.

6. Paul responds to the problem of Israel's unbelief with three truths. List those truths.

- God's promises are only to believers.
- Israel has been rejected for her unbelief.
- Israel's rejection is remedial, not final.

7. From Romans 12-15, list three ways of living out the righteousness of God.

Any three:

- We will use our spiritual gifts to serve others.
- We will treat others in ways that show the marks of true Christianity.
- We will submit to the governing authorities.
- We will fulfill the law through love.
- We will practice the principle of liberty by not judging our brother.
- We will practice the principle of love by not exercising freedom in a way that causes a weaker brother to stumble.
- We will follow the example of Christ.

8. Write Romans 1:16-17 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

9. List the four requirements that the Jerusalem council placed on Gentile converts.

- Avoid meat offered to idols
- Avoid meat that has been strangled
- Avoid meat with the blood in it
- Avoid sexual immorality

10. What positive results came from the division between Paul and Barnabas?

- Silas became a valued worker in the church.
- The efforts of Paul and Barnabas were doubled by their separate work.

11. Write Acts 1:7-8 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 6 - CORINTHIANS AND GALATIANS: LETTERS TO TROUBLED CHURCHES

1. **Why was Corinth an important city for Paul's evangelism strategy?**

   Its location drew sailors from across the empire.

2. **Who worked with Paul in planting the church in Corinth?**

   Aquila and Priscilla

3. **What problems at Corinth motivated 1 Corinthians?**

   - Division in the church
   - Open sin was being tolerated
   - Paul's authority was challenged

4. **What phrase introduces each question that Paul answers in 1 Corinthians?**

   "Now concerning…."

5. **List three themes addressed by Paul in 2 Corinthians.**

   - Defense of Paul's apostleship
   - Defense of Paul's integrity
   - Plans for Paul's third visit

6. **What is the purpose for Paul's letter to the Galatians?**

   To call them from the false gospel of the Judaizers to the law of love

7. **What was the false teaching of the Judaizers?**

   "We are saved by faith plus Law"

8. **What is the choice offered in Galatians?**

   Freedom in Christ or bondage in the flesh

9. **Define a legalist.**

   A person who obeys God's law in order to earn salvation

10. In his argument against legalism, Paul pointed to four things. What are they?

- Paul's experience
- The experience of the Galatians
- The experience of Abraham
- The law itself

11. Write 1 Corinthians 1:20-21 and Galatians 5:22-23 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 7 - EPHESIANS, PHILIPPIANS, COLOSSIANS, AND PHILEMON: LETTERS FROM PRISON

1. When and from where were the Prison Epistles written?

In the early 60's from Rome

2. Why does Ephesians contain no personal greetings?

Because it was a circular letter to be shared with Colossae

3. List the two large divisions of Ephesians.

- *Doctrine*: what God has done for the Church
- *Application*: what God is doing in the Church

4. From Ephesians 1, list the role in our salvation of each member of the Trinity.

- The Father: election
- The Son: redemption
- The Spirit: preservation

5. According to Ephesians 3, what is the "mystery of the gospel"?

The creation of the church as one body made up of both Jew and Gentile

6. List two dangers facing the Philippian church.

- External attacks from Judaizers
- Internal division

7. In Philippians 2, what does it mean that Christ "humbled himself"?

He became human. He did not give up his deity.

8. What three influences made up the Colossian heresy?

- Orthodox Jewish teaching
- Jewish mysticism
- Pagan rituals

9. Define syncretism.

The blending of more than one religion

10. List three ways in which the Prison Epistles speak to the church today.

- Doctrine must be applied in daily life.
- Spiritual warfare is real, but Christ had already won final victory.
- The gospel of reconciliation must be lived in the real world.

11. Write Ephesians 4:11-16 and Colossians 3:1-4 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 8 - THESSALONIANS: THE RETURN OF CHRIST

1. Describe the circumstances in which the church was planted at Thessalonica.

Intense opposition from the Jews

2. List three ways in which Paul encourages the church at Thessalonica in the face of opposition.

- Assurance of Paul's prayers
- Reminder of Paul's own suffering
- Thanksgiving for their faithfulness

3. What does Paul tell the Thessalonians about the times and seasons of Christ's return?

They do not need for him to write about this.

4. Paul gives these Christians specific encouragement about sanctification. What does he tell them?

The God who calls them to holiness will make them holy.

5. **If a primary message of 1 Thessalonians is "Christ will return," what is the primary message of 2 Thessalonians?**

   Christ has not yet returned.

6. **If we follow Paul's example, what will be our primary emphasis when preaching about the Second Coming?**

   How to live today in preparation for the Second Coming

7. **Write 1 Thessalonians 4:23-24 from memory.**

   (Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 9 - TIMOTHY AND TITUS: LETTERS TO PASTORS

1. **What is the most likely date for the Pastoral Letters?**

   They are written between A.D. 64 and 67.

2. **Identify one way in which the content of 2 Timothy and Titus shows Paul as the author.**

   Any of the following:

   - Personal references to coworkers
   - Future plans
   - References to Paul's impending death

3. **What was Paul's purpose for writing 1 Timothy?**

   To give instructions to Timothy and to encourage Timothy

4. **How is Paul's testimony an encouragement to Timothy when facing false teachers?**

   Paul had been an opponent of the gospel and had received mercy. This shows the power of Christ to change lives.

5. **List and define the two offices in the early church.**

   - Bishops taught and preached. They cared for the flock, particularly spiritual needs.
   - Deacons had responsibility for areas of physical service.

6. What was Titus's relationship with Paul?

Titus was a Gentile who was probably converted under Paul's ministry and became one of his assistants.

7. What was Paul's purpose for writing the Epistle to Titus?

To guide Titus in building up the local church

8. What are the two motivations for good works that Paul gives in Titus?

- That the word of God be not blasphemed
- To adorn the doctrine of God

9. How does John Mark's experience fit Paul's message of faithfulness in 2 Timothy?

John Mark had once quit Paul's missionary team and returned home. However, 15 years later he has proved his commitment and faithfulness.

10. List four ways in which the Pastoral Letters speak to the church today.

- The importance of right doctrine
- Qualification for church leaders
- The importance of good works as a demonstration of the gospel
- A call to lifelong faithfulness

11. Write 2 Timothy 4:7-8 and Titus 2:11-14 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 10 - HEBREWS AND JAMES: GENERAL EPISTLES, PART 1

1. Why are the books from Hebrews through Jude called "General Epistles"?

They are addressed to no specific audience or to someone about whom we know little.

2. List two arguments in favor of Paul as the author of Hebrews.

Any two:

- Its emphasis on the person and work of Christ
- The author's association with Timothy
- The benediction in the final chapter

3. List two arguments against Paul as the author of Hebrews.

- It never uses the phrase Christ Jesus.
- It does not have a greeting like Paul's other letters.

4. List two ways in which the Book of Hebrews shows great respect for the Old Testament.

- The heroes in Hebrews 11 are drawn from the Old Testament.
- The lessons taught in Hebrews are based on texts from the Old Testament.

5. How is the new covenant better than the old covenant?

The new covenant is the fulfillment of the promise made in the old covenant.

6. What is the difference between backsliding and apostasy?

Backsliding may result from sin or lack of faith; apostasy involves denial of the truth of the Christian faith.

7. When did James the brother of Jesus come to believe in Jesus as Messiah?

After Jesus' resurrection

8. Based on the greeting, who is the likely audience for the Epistle of James?

Jewish Christians who live outside Jerusalem and Judea

9. In one paragraph, show the relationship between James 2:24 (a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone) and Romans 3:28 (a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law).

James is addressed to people who view faith as no more than mental assent to the truth. Romans is addressed to people who may attempt to earn salvation by obedience to the Law. James shows that true saving faith will result in a changed life.

10. Define antinomianism.

The false teaching that Christians are under no obligation to obey ethical or moral law.

11. Write Hebrews 4:14-16 and James 2:17-18 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 11 - PETER, JOHN, AND JUDE: GENERAL EPISTLES, PART 2

1. **What is the likely meaning of "Babylon" in Peter's greeting?**

   It refers to Rome as the enemy of God's people.

2. **What is the primary danger faced by the church in 1 Peter?**

   Persecution

3. **What is the primary danger faced by the church in 2 Peter?**

   False teaching

4. **What are the two possible interpretations of the phrase "the elect lady and her children" in 2 John?**

   - A lady who allowed a church to meet in her house
   - A local church and its members

5. **What two truths are important in 1 John's teaching about sin?**

   - God provides strength for a victorious life.
   - God provides forgiving grace for those who fall and repent.

6. **According to 1 John, what three characteristics will be seen in any child of God?**

   - Obedience to truth
   - No willful sin
   - Love for other Christians

7. **What was the primary purpose of 3 John?**

   To teach about Christian hospitality

8. **What was the relationship between Jude and Jesus?**

   Half-brothers

9. **Write 1 Peter 1:6-7, 1 John 1:6-7, and Jude 1:24-25 from memory.**

   (Check memorized verses against Bible)

LESSON 12 - REVELATION: JESUS IS LORD

1. **What did the phrase "Caesar is *Dominus et deus noster*" mean in the first century?**

   Caesar is our lord and god.

2. **Where is the Island of Patmos?**

   A small island in the Aegean Sea

3. **What is the most likely date for Revelation?**

   Late in the reign of Domitian (A.D. 81-96)

4. **List three ways in which John presents the message that Jesus is Lord.**

   - The messages to the Seven Churches
   - A vision of God on his throne and Jesus as the Triumphant Lamb
   - A view of history from heaven's perspective

5. **List two characteristics of apocalyptic literature.**

   - Use of symbols
   - Use of visions

6. **Briefly define each of the four views of Revelation.**

   - Preterist View: Revelation took place in Roman Empire.
   - Historical View: Revelation is a symbolic view of church history.
   - Idealist View: Revelation is purely a symbol of the battle between good and evil.
   - Futurist View: Revelation 4-22 is future.

7. **List four views of the future among futurists.**

   - Classical premillennialism
   - Dispensational premillennialism
   - Postmillennialism
   - Amillennialism

8. **List the three major themes in Revelation.**

   - Jesus is Lord
   - God is in control
   - Victory for the people of God

9. Write Revelation 3:20-21 from memory.

(Check memorized verses against Bible)