



15 Dec – 21 Dec

Monday
15 Dec

☐ Hebrews 4:14 to
8:5

In Hebrews 4:14-5:10, we are told that Jesus is our high priest, and He is contrasted with the high priests among the Levites. In 5:11-6:20, the writer launches into a rebuke for their being a dull of hearing (lazy hearers) and an exhortation to growth. From 7:1:8-5, he finishes his discussion of the priesthood of Christ, proving that He is greater than Levi (7:1-10), that the law had to be replaced in order to make Jesus a priest (7:11-28), and that His priesthood is true and final (8:1-5).

Tuesday
16 Dec

☐ Hebrews 8:5 to
13:25

In the first part of the reading, the two covenants are discussed (8:5-10:18). In this section, he shows that the new is greater because—it is faultless (8:6-13), the old was but a figure of the new (9:1-14), the new is based on the death and blood of a better mediator (9:15-22), and because under the new, only one sacrifice was needed (9:23-10:14). The grand conclusion is: The New Covenant is in force (10:15-18)! In the second part of this reading, he exhorts us to be steadfast in the covenant (10:19-39). In the third part of this reading, he gives exhortations to growth (11:1-13:25).

Wednesday
17 Dec

☐ 1 Timothy 1:1 to
6:21

This is the first of three letters Paul wrote to preachers (evangelists); two to Timothy and one to Titus. Paul says that he has left Timothy in Ephesus (thus implying that Paul is no longer in prison). This book could be titled, "Guard the Gospel." He is to guard it (6:20) by following true teaching and true examples (1:3-20), by proper worship (2:1-15), by having qualified leaders (3:1-13), by behaving (3:14-16), by accepting his responsibility as a preacher (4:1-16), by dealing with people properly (5:1-6:2), and by trusting in God and in truth (6:3-21). The date would be AD 63 or 64.

Thursday 18 Dec	☐ Titus 1:1 to 3:15	Paul had left Titus on the island of Crete to do a similar work as that which Timothy was to do in Ephesus. This book could be titled, "Practice the Gospel." He is to practice the gospel by having qualified elders (1:5-9), by not giving heed to false teachers (1:10-16), by encouraging others to righteousness (2:1-10), in order to have hope (2:11-14), as a faithful evangelist (2:15), and from the time of baptism onward (3:1-11). The date would be AD 63 or 64.
Friday 19 Dec	☐ 1 Peter 1:1 to 5:14	This is the first of two letters written by Peter to Christians in the areas of Paul's work in the book of Acts. In this letter, he says he is in Babylon, and he is working with Silvanus (Silas) and Marcus (John Mark). In many ways, this book has Leviticus as its background. Both are based on the theme that God's priesthood is to be holy (Leviticus 11:44,45; I Peter 1:15,16). The major topics here are the origin and goal of salvation (1:3-12); exhortations to faithfulness (1:13-2:10), special duties of Christians (2:11-3:13), how to react to persecutions (3:13-4:19), and directions for the church (5:1-9). The date would be about AD 65.
Saturday 20 Dec	☐ 2 Peter 1:1 to 3:18	This letter was written to the same people as his first one (3:1). But now his death was near, so the date would be about AD 67 (1:13,14). The title of this book could be, "If You Don't Know, You Can't Grow." In chapter 1, he presents the positive side of knowledge by emphasizing the quality of God's way. In chapter 2, he warns of the destiny of false teachers. In chapter 3, he reminds them of the certainty of the Lord's promise (regarding the second coming).
	☐ Jude 1-25	Jude, like James, was a half brother of Jesus. He does not date his book, but it is similar to II Peter 2; so we place it here for comparative purposes.
Sunday 21 Dec	☐ 2 Timothy 1:1 to 4:22	Another "last words" epistle is now written, again in about AD 67. Paul is in prison once more, but this time he realizes that he is going to die (4:6-8). He thus pleads with Timothy to "Preach the Gospel" in his last letter to preachers. He even hopes that Timothy can get to him before he is killed for Jesus (4:13). He urges him to preach the gospel with respect to the past (1:6-18; it was planned by God); with respect to the present (2:1-26; in spite of hardships that come); and with regard to the future (3:1-4:8; because the one true gospel is the one remedy for perilous times).