

Adults in Ministry

Associates Degree Program

BNT 105N

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

STUDENT RESOURCE PAGES

**St. Louis Christian College
1360 Grandview Drive
Florissant, MO. 63033
(314) 837-6777**

BNT 105N

New Testament Survey

Professor Contact Information

Dr. David Hoke

**Halls Ferry Christian Church
314-741-0372**

dhoke@slcconline.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

RESOURCE PAGES

| | |
|---|----|
| Events of Jesus' Early Life only Recorded in Luke | 5 |
| The Prayer Life of Jesus..... | 6 |
| Modern Approaches to the New Testament..... | 7 |
| Conversions in the Book of Acts..... | 10 |
| The Book of Acts Visualized | 11 |
| The Biblical View of Homosexuality | 12 |
| The Accusations Against Paul..... | 13 |
| Differences in Tone: 1 & 2 Thessalonians..... | 14 |
| Eschatology in 1 & 2 Thessalonians..... | 15 |
| The Trustworthy Sayings in the Pastoral Epistles | 16 |
| Trials Vs. Temptations in James | 17 |
| False Teachers in 2 Peter 2 and Jude..... | 18 |
| The Fallen Angels in Genesis 6 and 1 Enoch | 19 |
| The Use of Symbols in Revelation | 22 |
| A Thousand Years | 24 |
| Model Entry | 25 |

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Week #1 - Why Study the New Testament?..... | 27 |
| Week #2 - Matthew, Mark..... | 29 |
| Week #3 - Luke, John | 31 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Week #4 - Acts, Romans | 33 |
| Week #5 - Inspiration, Canonization, 1 & 2 Corinthians | 35 |
| Week #6 - Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon | 37 |
| Week #7 - 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus..... | 39 |
| Week #8 - Hebrews, James | 41 |
| Week #9 - 1 & 2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude..... | 43 |
| Week #10 - Revelation | 45 |

Events Of Jesus' Early Life Only Recorded In Luke

1. Events surrounding John the Baptist' birth
2. Elizabeth's relationship to Mary
3. Annunciation to Mary and Elizabeth
4. The *Magnificat* of Mary (Mary's Song)
5. The birth and childhood of John
6. The *Benedictus* of Zechariah (Zechariah's Song)
7. The coming of the shepherds
8. Announcement of the angels at Jesus' birth
9. Circumcision of Jesus and presentation in the Temple
10. Anna and Simeon in the Temple
11. Jesus in the temple when he was 12 years old

THE PRAYER LIFE OF JESUS

1. Jesus' human dependence upon prayer.

- Luke 3:21 – As praying after baptism, the Holy Spirit descended
- Luke 5:15 – “He withdrew and prayed”
- Luke 6:12 – Prayed all night, then chose 12
- Luke 9:18 – “He went up into the mountain to pray”
- Luke 9:29 – As he prayed he was transfigured
- Luke 11:1 – Disciples ask him to teach them to pray after observing Him
- Luke 22:32 – Prayer for Peter
- Luke 22:44 – Garden of Gethsemane
- Luke 23:34 – His first utterance on the Cross
- Luke 23:46 – His last utterance on the Cross

2. Jesus' teaching on prayer.

- Luke 11:9-10 (a midnight appeal)
- Luke 18:1 (always pray and not faint)
- Luke 18:9-14 (humility in prayer)
- Luke 21:36 (pray always)
- Luke 22:46 (rise and pray)

3. Prayers in Luke

- Prayer of Zacharias (Luke 1:6, 8-13, 67-75)
- Prayer of Mary (Luke 1:46-55)
- Prayer of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:20-24)
- Prayer from Hell (Luke 16:24, 27-28)
- Prayer of the thankful Leper (Luke 17:12-19)
- Prayers of the Pharisee and Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14)

Through the Bible in One Year
Alan Stringfellow, p. 131

MODERN APPROACHES TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

Have modern findings made it impossible to speak confidently about the origin and meaning of the gospel message? (p. 154)

Must a "modern" reading of the New Testament focus on current doubts about the biblical message? Areas of controversy: (Blue box p. 155)

1. ROOTS OF HISTORICAL CRITICISM

In the seventeenth-and eighteenth-century Europe (Enlightenment) the Bible began to be interpreted in the light of different, non-Christian assumptions (p. 156):

1. The church has misread the Bible. Intelligent, independent readers need to free themselves from church doctrine and interpret the Bible in light of human reason alone.
2. Jesus Christ was not the divine son of God. He was a superior ethical guide and spiritual example. He taught about God's moral law, but not salvation through his death for our sins and his resurrection. These ideas were inventions of the early church.
3. Miracles in the New Testament, including Jesus' resurrection, can no longer be the basis for Christian belief, since modern reason doubts that they happened as the Bible reports.

"The literal History of many of the Miracles of Jesus, as recorded by the Evangelists, does imply Absurdities, Improbabilities, and Incredibilities; consequently they, either in whole or in part, were never wrought."
(Thomas Woolston, *Discourses on the Miracles of our Savior*, 1727-29, textbook p. 164)

4. The Bible calls for ridicule, not reverence, since much of it is offensive to the modern mind.

5. The only legitimate way to interpret the Bible is the "historical" way.

- a. "Historical" in the sense of the non-Christian assumption just listed.
- b. A "historical" reading in this vein assumes that cardinal Christian doctrines are rationally unacceptable.
- c. Jesus was no more than a mere mortal
- d. Miracles should be rejected or at least radically reinterpreted

2. TIPS ON MEANINGFUL BIBLE READING (p. 161- Box adapted)

Helpful hints for reading the New Testament with profit:

- 1. Read it as the unique and inspired Word of God.
- 2. Read it with anticipation of personal transformation.
- 3. Interpret narratives in the light of doctrinal passages.
- 4. Interpret unclear passages by clearer passages.
- 5. Determine word meanings with the help of a good Bible dictionary or concordance.
- 6. Allow context to help define the specific use of a word.
- 7. Give careful attention to genre: narrative, epistles, law, poetry, prophecy, wisdom.
- 8. Prayer for the Holy Spirit's guidance as the revealer of truth.

3. APPLY PROPER EXEGESIS

- 1. Discern the text's original meaning and personal application.
- 2. Allow the God-inspired meaning of the Word to speak today.
- 3. "The ultimate aim of hermeneutics is not systematic theology but the sermon." (Grant Osborne, text p. 162)

5. THE MODERN SEARCH FOR JESUS (chapter 12)

A. The Gospels:

- 1. Were not considered to be the story of Jesus, but only

stories about Jesus, written by people who had not known him and perhaps a hundred years after Jesus died.

2. During that time many myths, legends, and heavily edited accounts had arisen and became part of the tradition ("Demythologizing," Rudolf Bultmann, *Jesus and the Word*, 1926)
3. Hence, the real Jesus was buried in a mass of questionable material and had to be rediscovered.
4. Anything that sounded supernatural had to be ruled out or reinterpreted (Epitomized by Adolf von Harnack, *What Is Christianity?*, 1900).

B. The Jesus Seminar:

1. Group of scholars banded together in a group called the Jesus Seminar whose intention was to answer the question: What did Jesus really say?
2. After six years on the project, they published *The Five Gospels: The Search for the Authentic Words of Jesus*, 1993).
3. Concluded that Eighty-two percent (82%) of the words ascribed to Jesus in the gospels were not actually spoken by him (textbook, p. 185)
4. Also concluded that not a single saying in the Gospel of John can be trusted and, to cite but one example from the Synoptics, in the Lord's prayer we may be certain only that the words "Our Father" go back to Jesus (textbook, pp. 185-186)

CONVERSIONS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

| Text/Person | Hear | Believe | Repent | Confess | Baptized |
|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|----------|
| 2:36-38 Jews | The people heard | Cut to the heart | Repent | | Baptized |
| 2:40-41 Jews on Pentecost (3000) | He warned them and pleaded with them | Accepted his message | | | Baptized |
| 8:12-13 Samaritans Simon the sorcerer | As he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ | Believed | | | Baptized |
| 8:34-38 Ethiopian eunuch | Told him the good news about Jesus | | | Why shouldn't I be baptized? | Baptized |
| 9:17-18 Saul/Paul | Filled with the Holy Spirit; healed sight | | For 3 days he was blind and didn't eat or drink (9:9) | | Baptized |
| 10:42-48 Cornelius' household | Heard the message | | | Speaking in tongues & praising God | Baptized |
| 16:13-15 Lydia and her household | Paul spoke to them | Lord opened her heart | Responded to his message | | Baptized |
| 16:31-34 Jailer and his family | Spoke the word of the Lord to him | Filled with joy because they had come to believe in God | | | Baptized |
| 18:1-8 Crispus & many Corinthians | Paul reasoned in the synagogue | Believed in the Lord | | | Baptized |
| 22:16 Saul/Paul | Received his sight | | | Calling on his name | Baptized |

The Book Of Acts Visualized

| PART 1 – (1 through 12) | PART 2 – (13 through 28) |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JERUSALEM – the center • PETER – main character • GOSPEL – To Jerusalem, Judea Samaria • PETER IMPRISONED | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANTIOCH – the center • PAUL – main character • GOSPEL – to “uttermost part,” Rome • PAUL IMPRISONED |

| THE CHURCH EXTENDED – (Chapters 13- 21:17) | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY 13:1 – 14:28 | JERUSALEM COUNCIL 15:1 – 15:35 | SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY 15:36 – 18:22 | THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY 18:23 – 21:17 |

| PAUL AS A PRISONER (Chapters 21:18 – 28:31) | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| BEFORE THE MOB 21:18 – 22:29 | BEFORE THE COUNCIL 22:30 – 23:30 | BEFORE GOVERNORS FELIX AND FESTUS 23:31 – 25:12 | BEFORE KING AGRIPPA 25:13 – 26:32 | AWAITING TRIAL IN ROME 27:1 – 28:31 |

The Biblical View Of Homosexuality

A. Romans 1:26-27: Paul underscores that homosexual relations, like all sexual intimacy outside monogamous marriage, are displeasing to God.

1. Forbidden by the Law (Leviticus 18:22, 20:13)
2. Male and female Homosexuality condemned (Romans 1:26)
3. Excluded from kingdom of God but forgivable (1 Co. 6:9-11, 1Tim 1:10)
4. It is wrong to single out homosexuals as worse sinner than others.

“Without softening the harsh verdict that Scripture delivers on both homo-sexual and heterosexual sin, divine forgiveness and the higher road of moral fidelity to a good and caring God need to be proclaimed in both true word and gracious deed.” - Encountering the New Testament, p. 279

5. Male shrine prostitutes practiced even in the temple (I Kings 14:24, 15:12, 2 Kings 23:7, Deuteronomy 23:17-18)
6. Sodom (Genesis 19:4-5, Jude7)

AGAPE = Saying and doing what's in a person's best interest.
LOVE = Acceptance of any lifestyle.

B. God's plan is that sexual intimacy be shared only within heterosexual marriage (Genesis 2:24; Proverbs 5:15-19; Matthew 19:4-6; I Timothy 4:3-5)

1. The modern tendency to condone homosexuality is a denial of God's creation his law, and his power through Christ's cross to loosen the grip of sin.
2. Some people feel a strong attraction to homosexual expression, just as others feel trapped by illicit heterosexual desire.
3. But is sin's stranglehold on the human will greater than God's liberating grace? The Bible's answer is a clear no.

The Accusations Against Paul

1. Walking according to the flesh (10:2)

- a. “live by the standards of the world” – “walking according to the flesh”
- b. In the world but don’t wage war like the world
- c. answers this accusation in (10:3-6)

2. Paul’s service in Corinth was worthless because he did not accept any payments from the church.

- a. The accusers were charging for their preaching
- b. Paul’s work must be below par and his love questionable
- c. His motives must be questionable since he doesn’t want to be under the hire of the church.
- d. Paul answers this charge by asking them a rhetorical question 11:7 (diatribe)
- e. Paul “robbed” other churches (strong language, churches in Macedonia were desperately poor in comparison to the people in the reading center of Corinth.
- f. Would he do this because he doesn’t love them? (11:11)

3. Cowardly or mousy in his approach (10:1, 9-10)

- a. “weighty and forceful” not a compliment
- b. too heavy in teaching and too forceful in rebuke
- c. contrasting absence and presence
 - Absence: Mighty and Powerful
 - Presence: Weak and no account
- d. Considered him a man without stamina or eloquence.
- e. Paul answers 10:11; 11:6; 11:23-28

4. Not a true apostle (11:5; 12:11)

- a. Paul shows the inferiority of the “super-apostles”
- b. 11:4-6 they listen to anyone, they are the ones that are inferior
- c. 11:13-15, 19-21; 12:11-13

5. No credentials (3:1-3)

- a. His letters of recommendation are the converts themselves
- b. Authority from God (12:1-6)
- c. Thorn in the flesh (12:7-10)

6. Implication of embezzling funds (8:20-23)

Differences In Tone 1 & 2 Thessalonians

| 1 THESSALONIANS | 2 THESSALONIANS |
|--|--|
| How the Thessalonians received Word of God | Mentions their progress in faith, love, and patience |
| Teaches the imminent return of the Lord | Corrects false teaching about His coming |
| Comforts and encourages the saints | Assures coming judgment on Christ's foes |
| Concerns the Church | Concerns Satan, Anti-Christ, the world |
| Presents great passage on end time (4:13-18) | Presents great passage on end time (2:1-12) |
| Presents the Day of Christ (4:13-18) Positive | Presents the Day of the Lord (2:2) Negative |

Eschatology 1 & 2 Thessalonians

“Eschatology” – The study of the last days; end of time.

Paul’s aim is edification, not speculation!

1. Jesus will come bodily and physically. (Acts 1:11)
2. His arrival will be sudden, startling and glorious. (1 Thess. 4:16)
3. The dead will be raised. (1 Thess. 4:13-14; 1 Cor. 15:52)
4. The living will be changed and caught up with the Lord in the air.
(1 Thess. 4:17; 1 Cor. 15:52)
5. It will not be a secret unknown coming. (1 Thess. 4:16)
6. The dead in Christ shall rise first. (1 Thess. 4:16)
7. The apostasy will come first. (2 Thess. 2)
8. All mankind will be gathered before the Lord for judgment.
(Matt. 25:32; Rev. 20:12)
9. The Lord will assign men their final destinies. (Matt. 25:34, 41)
10. The earth will be destroyed. (2 Pet. 3:10)
11. There will be a new heavens and a new earth. (2 Pet. 3:13)

Trustworthy Sayings Pastoral Epistles

1. 1 Timothy 1:15-16,

¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

¹⁶ But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

2. 1 Timothy 3:1:

¹ Here is a trustworthy saying: If anyone sets his heart on being an overseer, he desires a noble task.

3. 1 Timothy 4:9-10:

⁹ This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance ¹⁰ (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe.

4. 2 Timothy 2:11-13:

¹¹ Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; ¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; ¹³ if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

5. Titus 3:4-8:

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

Trials Vs. Temptations

Dr. David Hoke

James chapter 1 deals with both trials and temptations. Often in studying the book of James believers assume that the two are interchangeable. This is not true. There is a marked difference between a trial and a temptation. These differences can be summarized by analyzing three key elements:

A. (S)_____:

1. The source of trials is _____.
2. The source of temptations is our _____ which Satan uses against us.

B. (M)_____:

1. God's motivation in sending us trials is _____.
2. Satan's motivation in tempting us is _____ toward _____.

D. (P)_____:

1. God's purpose in trials is to develop our _____, which results in "_____."
2. Satan's purpose in temptation is to _____ with our own desires and _____ us to _____ upon them.

FALSE TEACHERS 2 PETER 2 AND JUDE

2 PETER 2

1. Secretly introduce heresies (1)
2. Deny Sovereignty of the Lord (1)
3. Greedy (3, 14)
4. Make up stories (3)
5. Examples of judgment:
 - a. Angels (4)
 - b. Flood (5)
 - c. Sodom/Gomorra (6)
 - d. Lot (7-8)
6. Follow corrupt desires (10)
7. Despise Authority (10)
8. Bold and Arrogant (10)
9. Blaspheme about what don't understand (12)
10. Behave like animals, instinct (12)
11. Springs without water (17)
12. The way of:
 - a. Balaam (15-16)

JUDE

1. Secretly slipping in (4)
2. Deny Sovereignty of the Lord (4)
3. Examples of judgment:
 - a. Angels (6)
 - b. Egypt (5)
 - c. Sodom/Gomorra (7)
4. Follow evil desires (16)
5. Reject Authority (8)
6. Slander celestial beings (8)
Abusive about what don't understand (10)
7. Like animals, instinct (10)
8. Clouds without rain (12)
9. The way of:
 - a. Cain (11a)
I John 3:12
 - b. Balaam (11b)
Numbers 22
 - c. Korah (11c)
Numbers 16

The Fallen Angels of Genesis 6 and 1 Enoch

| 1 Enoch | JUDE 6 |
|--|---|
| [The angels] have abandoned the high heaven, the holy eternal place. (12:4) | And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home—(6a) |
| Bind Azaz’el hand and foot (and) throw him into the darkness! (10:4) | these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains (6b) |
| that he may be sent into the fire on the great day of judgment. (10:6) | for judgment on the great Day (6c) |

1. Jude quotes directly from the apocryphal book 1 Enoch in verses 14 and 15, and alludes to this work in verse 6.
2. In chapter 6-19 of 1 Enoch, the writer relates the origin of evil on the earth. He describes how fallen angels lust after the beautiful daughters of men.
 - descend upon Mount Hermon
 - commit adultery with them
 - these fallen angels are responsible for producing offspring, the Nephilim
3. The writer of 1 Enoch presents a commentary on Gen. 6:1-4 and explains that the angels fell into sin by committing adultery with women.
4. They are put in prison and bound forever.

1 Enoch – This is a pseudepigraphal Jewish writing written in the First Century B.C. It is not actually written by the Biblical Enoch nor is it inspired. The author, knowing that Enoch went to heaven without dying (Genesis 5:24), imagines what Enoch saw as he toured heaven. 1 Enoch thus represents common notions of heaven that people held in the time of Christ and at the time when New Testament writers wrote. 1 Enoch is important to us because 1 Peter, 2 Peter, and Jude assume knowledge of its contents and base some of their points on it, and Jude actually quotes it. Knowledge of key passages about the fallen angels of Genesis 6 will provide important background to understanding 1 Peter 3:19-20, 2 Peter 2:4, and Jude 6. They are quoted from *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*, edited

by James H. Charlesworth (Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1983), vol. 1. This may be found in the SLCC library.

1 Enoch 12:3-6

And I, Enoch, began to bless the Lord of the mighty ones and the King of the universe. At that moment the Watcher [angels] were calling me. And they of heaven who have abandoned the high heaven, the eternal place, and have defiled themselves with women, as their deeds move the children of the world, and have taken unto themselves wives: They have defiled themselves with great defilement upon the earth; neither will there be peace unto them nor the forgiveness of sin. For their children delight in seeing the murder of their beloved ones, but they shall groan and beg forever over the destruction of their children, and there shall not be peace unto them forever.

1 Enoch 18:12-19:2

And I saw a deep pit with heavenly fire on its pillars; I saw inside them descending on top of that pit I saw a place without the heavenly firmament above it or earthly foundations under it or water. There was nothing on it – not even birds – but it was a desolate and terrible place. And I saw there the seven stars which were like great, burning mountains. Then the angel said to me, “This place is the end of heaven and earth: it is the prison house for the stars [evil powers] and the powers of heaven. And the stars which rollover upon the fire, they are the ones which have transgressed the commandments of God from the beginning of their rising because they did not arrive punctually. And he was wroth with them and bound them until the time of the completion of their sin in the year of mystery.” And Uriel said to me, “Here shall stand in many different appearances the spirits of the angels which have united themselves with women. They have defiled the people and will lead them into error so that they will offer sacrifices to the demons as unto gods.”

2 Enoch 7:2

And those men took me up to the second heaven. And they set me down on the second heaven. And they showed me prisoners under guard, in measureless judgment. And there I saw the condemned angels, weeping.

JUDE 9

The Testament of Moses gives this account of Moses' burial:

Joshua accompanied Moses up Mount Nebo, where God showed Moses the land of promise. Moses then sent Joshua aback to the people to inform them of Moses' death, and Moses died. God sent the archangel Michael to remove the body of Moses to another place and bury it there, but Samma'el, the devil, opposed him, disputing Moses' right to honorable burial...The devil brought against Moses a charge of murder, because he smote the Egyptian and hid his body in the sand. But his accusation was not better than slander against Moses and Michael, not tolerating the slander, said to the devil, "May the Lord rebuke you, devil!" At that the devil took flight, and Michael removed the body to the place commanded by God, where he buried it with his own hands. Thus no one saw the burial of Moses.

Simon J. Kistemaker, *Peter and Jude*, New Testament Commentary, p. 386. The ending of the Testament of Moses is no longer extant, yet the church fathers supply source material for its ending.

JUDE 14-15

I Enoch 1:9, Here is Enoch's prophecy:

Behold, he will arrive with ten million of the holy ones in order to execute judgment upon all. He will destroy the wicked ones and censure all flesh on account of everything that they have done, that which the sinners and the wicked ones committed against him.

Isaac, *I (Ethiopic Apocalypse of) Enoch*, pp. 13-14. Quoted by Kistemaker, p. 396.

Use Of Symbols In Revelation
Worthy Is The Lamb
Ray Summers, Pp. 19-25

One of the main characteristics of apocalyptic is the use of symbol. Among writers of this type of literature there was developed an elaborate system of cryptic symbols and figures of speech for the expression of spiritual ideas.

"Symbolism' is a system in which qualities, ideas, principles, etc., are represented by things concrete." (p. 20). One of the main usages of symbol in this literature is found in the symbolism of numbers. The symbolism of numbers in Revelation:

"1" Associated with the idea of unity or independent existence. It stood for that which was unique or alone.

"2" Two were far stronger and more effective than one. It came to stand for strengthening, for confirmation, for redoubled courage and energy. In the book of Revelation the truth of God is confirmed by two witnesses (11:3-12). There are two wild beasts waging war against the cause of righteousness. They present a formidable foe.

"3" A symbol of the divine. The concept of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Three carries the thought of the divine Trinity.

"4" Four is the cosmic number representing the world. In Revelation there appear four living creatures symbolical of the four divisions of animal life. There are four horseman symbolical of the destructive power of the world at war. The world in which men lived and worked and lived was conveniently symbolized by four.

"10" A perfect man was one who had all his members intact. So the number "5" doubled to "10" came to stand for human completeness. The picture of complete power in government was that of a beast with ten horns. In Revelation the dragon, the first best, and the scarlet beast have ten horns each. As a multiple, "10" occurs also in many of the higher

numbers of Revelation: "70" = a very sacred number, "1000" = ultimate completeness.

"7" Numbers are also combined. The perfect world number "4" when added to the perfect divine number "3" is "7", the most sacred number to the Hebrews. "7" expresses completeness through union of earth with heaven. This number runs throughout the book of Revelation. There are seven beatitudes, seven churches, seven spirits, seven golden lampstands, seven stars, seven seals, seven horns and seven eyes, seven trumpets, seven thunders, seven signs, seven crowns, seven plagues, seven golden bowls, seven hills, and seven kings. The sacred number, multiplied by the complete number "10", resulted in the very sacred "70". There were seventy members of the Jewish high court. In a sweeping figure Christ presented the idea of an unlimited Christian forgiveness when he told a disciple to forgive his brother seventy times seven.

"12" "4" was multiplied by "3" and resulted in "12", a well-known symbol. There were twelve tribes of Israel, twelve apostles, twelve gates to the Holy City in Revelation. This number was reduplicated to 144,000 when the writer of Revelation wanted to picture the security of a perfect number of people sealed from the wrath of God visited upon the world.

"3½" The perfect number "7" was cut in half. The resulting "3½" came to express the incomplete, that which was imperfect. In Revelation this takes several forms: "3½", "a time, times, and a half time," "forty-two months", "1,260 days" - all have the same meaning. Two witnesses preached "3½" years - an indefinite time; the court of the Temple was trampled by the ungodly "3½" years; the saints were persecuted forty-two months; the church was in the wilderness "1,260 days". Always "3½" or its equivalent stood for the indefinite, the incomplete, the dissatisfied.

"6" To the Jew the number "6" had a sinister meaning. As "7" was the sacred number, "6" fell short of it and failed. It was to the Jew what "13" is for many today - an evil number. It is important to keep this in mind when we come to the number "666" in Revelation.

A Thousand Years

PS 90:4 For a **thousand years** in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.

EC 6:6 even if he lives a **thousand years** twice over but fails to enjoy his prosperity. Do not all go to the same place?

2 PE 3:8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a **thousand years**, and a **thousand years** are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

RE 20:1 And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a **thousand years**. ³ He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the **thousand years** were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time.

⁴ I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a **thousand years**. ⁵ (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a **thousand years**.

⁷ When the **thousand years** are over, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. ⁹ They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. ¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

MODEL ENTRY: FOR YOUR EXPOSITORY JOURNAL

1. Mt 4:8-10 This is the third temptation of Jesus by Satan in the desert at the start of His ministry. The devil urges Jesus to bow down and worship him. He falsely promises Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. Jesus refuses and bases His refusal on Dt. 6:3 which declares that worship and service is to be offered only to the Lord your God! From this we learn the importance of relying on the truth of Scripture when we are tempted. This is especially true when we are tempted to engage in idolatry by putting someone or something ahead of God. Like Jesus we need to “hide God’s Word in our hearts” to help us resist any temptation that confronts us.
2. -----
3. ----- etc.

Thought flow (organization) for the Expository Journal

3-4 sentences to describe what’s in the text in its context

3-4 sentences to thoughtfully apply the main point of the text to today

Note that the summary of the text and context come first, followed by the application. Also, note that the two are kept separate. Be sure to follow this organizational pattern for the sake of clarity.

When this is applied to the model above you’ll note the following:

- Sentence one sets the event described in the text in its literary context and its historical context. The literary context is found in the statement that this is the third temptation, indicating that there are two others discussed. The historical context is evident in the statement that the temptations occurred in the desert and at the start of Jesus’ ministry.
- Sentences 2-4 summarize the content of the passage itself.
- Sentences 5-7 apply the text in a way which is both legitimate and specific.

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT
Week #1
Why Study the New Testament?

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapters 1 - How many pages did you read? (18) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 1 - How many pages did you read? (21) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT
Week #2
Matthew, Mark

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapter 4,5 - How many pages did you read? (20) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 2 - How many pages did you read? (13) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT

Week #3
Luke, John

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapters 6, 7 - How many pages did you read? (20) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 3 - How many pages did you read? (15) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT

Week #4

Acts, Romans

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapters 14-16, 18 - How many pages did you read? (34) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT

Week #5

Inspiration, Canonization

1 & 2 Corinthians

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapter 19 - How many pages did you read? (19) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 4 - How many pages did you read? (17) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT
Week #6
Galatians, Ephesians,
Philippians, Colossians, Philemon

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapter 20 - How many pages did you read? (20) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 5 - How many pages did you read? (15) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT

Week #7

1 & 2 Thessalonians

1 & 2 Timothy, Titus

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapter 21 - How many pages did you read? (18) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 6 - How many pages did you read? (19) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT
Week #8
Hebrews, James

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapter 22 - How many pages did you read? (14) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

Jesus and the Jewish Festivals

- Chapter 7 - How many pages did you read? (15) _____
- Explain two pertinent facts gleaned from your reading of the chapter.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT

Week #9

1 & 2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament

- Chapter 23 - How many pages did you read? (14) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

GRADE

Name

Box #

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY READING REPORT
Week #10
Revelation

Answer the following questions regarding this week's reading assignment.

Encountering the New Testament (35 points)

- Chapter 24 - How many pages did you read? (11) _____
- Discuss two important insights from your reading of the textbook.

(1)

(2)

GRADE