

I. James c. AD 45-48**II. 1 Thessalonians c. AD 51****III. Galatians. c. AD 49 (prior to Jerusalem Council)****IV. 2 Thessalonians c. AD 51****V. 1 Corinthians c. AD 54-55****VI. 2 Corinthians c. AD 55****VII. Romans c. AD 56****VIII. Ephesians c. AD 60****IX. Colossians c. AD 60****X. Philippians c. AD 61****XI. 1 Timothy c. AD 64-65****A. 1 Timothy 4.1-3**

1. In the latter times some will depart (apostatize) from the faith (1)
 - a. The Lord Jesus also predicted this apostasy (Mt 13.21; 24.10–11; Mark 4.17; 13.22; Luke 8.13; cf. Acts 20.29; 2 Thess. 2.1–12; 2 Tim. 3.1–13; 2 Pet. 3.1–18)
 - b. Those promoting the apostasy are “deceitful spirits” [men who are false teachers]
 - c. Behind their false teaching are “doctrines of demons”
2. The means that produces the apostasy is the “hypocrisy of liars” (2)
 - a. These liars have consciences seared “as with a branding iron”
 - b. They refused the truth so long, they now call lies truth, which is hypocrisy
3. Specifically, Paul refers to ascetic aberrations as manifestations of false teaching (3)
 - a. Forbidding marriage
 - b. Abstaining from foods God created and intended for man’s blessing

4. Apostates today are attacking key doctrines which all conservative Christians have long accepted, for example:
 - a. The inspiration of the Bible
 - 1) Is it just a classic book?
 - 2) Is it just the part that strikes you inspired?
 - 3) Or is it verbally inspired in the original autographs?
 - b. The person of Christ
 - 1) Is He just a human being clothed with "myths"?
 - 2) Or is He the divine Son of God?
 - c. The vicarious atonement
 - 1) Did Christ shed His blood for our sins?
 - 2) Can men come to God in any other way?
 - d. The second coming of Christ
 - 1) Will man be able to legislate peace on earth without Christ?
 - 2) Or will Christ come again personally to reign over the earth?
- B. 1 Timothy 6.13-16
 1. Paul often exhorts Timothy in this letter, this is the strongest
 2. Here, Paul urges Timothy to keep his charge until the appearing of the Lord Jesus (13-14)
 - a. Notably, Paul doesn't say, "keep the commandment as long as you live"
 - b. Paul appears to anticipate a soon Rapture and appearing of the Lord
 3. Regardless of Paul's expectations, he declares that God will send Jesus back "at the proper time" (15)
 4. The Lord's description here is not merely the resurrected, but the exalted Christ, as he will appear later at the second coming (15-16, Rev 19.11-16)

XII. Titus c. AD 65

A. Titus 2.11-14

1. In the context, Paul urges believers to conduct themselves appropriately in this world
2. His reason: “the grace of God has appeared” (11-12)
 - a. Grace brings salvation
 - b. Grace instructs us to deny ungodliness and worldliness
 - c. Grace instructs us to live sensibly, righteously, and godly in this age
3. The Godly are also looking for the “blessed hope” (13)
 - a. This is the Rapture: 1 Cor 15.43; Phil 3.21; Col 1.27

1 Cor 15.43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

Phil 3.21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Col 1.27 to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

- b. The reference to “appearing of the glory” also refers to the Rapture, grammatically the two ideas are connected (this isn’t a reference to the second coming in glory)
4. Partial Rapturists argue from this verse that some will not be “watching,” and will thus miss the Rapture
 - a. Their exegesis is very strained
 - b. Nevertheless, the blessed hope gives good reason for holy living in the present age

XIII. 1 Peter c. AD 65

A. 1 Peter 1.3-7, 13

1. The resurrection of Christ gives us a living hope of an inheritance which is incorruptible, kept in heaven for us (3-4)
2. The Lord protects us through the trials of life for a salvation awaiting revelation at the last time (5)
 - a. This salvation is the completion of redemption
 - b. Our present bodies retain the decaying effects of Adam's sin and we retain our sin nature
 - c. When the last time arrives, complete salvation comes
3. Various trials now (6) are only the proof of our faith, to be seen through to the end (7)
 - a. The proof of our faith means praise and honor at the appearing (or revelation) of Jesus Christ
 - b. This probably refers to the Rapture, although the saints will show the glory and honor of salvation to the world when Jesus returns in his Second Coming
 - c. Constable thinks both events may be in view
4. Our focus in this age should be to live godly with our hope fixed on the coming grace (13)

B. 1 Peter 4.4-7, 17-18

1. Sinners think it strange that believers try to avoid sin (4)
2. However, remember that sinners will give account to Him in the end (5)
3. The Gospel came to those who are dead, so though they experience the penalty of death [Adam's curse], they may live in the spirit to God (6)
4. Therefore, in view of the end of all things, believers should continue in their faithful walk (7)

5. Judgment begins at the house of God (17)

- a. Believers experience suffering in this life (a judgement of a kind) (see v. 16)
- b. Unbelievers gain nothing from suffering in this life, and there is a final judgement to come

C. 1 Peter 5.4

1. The subject is the conduct of pastors as they serve in the church (1-3)
2. Those who serve faithfully are promised “the unfading crown of glory” the Chief Shepherd appears (4)
 - a. The language for this and other promised “crowns” seems metaphorical
 - b. Nevertheless, there is an expectation of honour (commendation) from the Lord for faithful service
 - c. Here, pastors are in view, but all Christians can expect commendation for faithfulness