



The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings

Bart Ehrman

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Featuring vibrant full color throughout, this new edition of Bart Ehrman's highly successful introduction approaches the New Testament from a consistently historical and comparative perspective, emphasizing the rich diversity of the earliest Christian literature. Rather than shying away from the critical problems presented by these books, Ehrman addresses the historical and literary challenges they pose, showing why scholars continue to argue over such significant issues as how the books of the New Testament came into being, when they were written (and by whom), what they mean, how they relate to contemporary Christian and non-Christian literature, and how they came to be collected into the canon of scripture that we now call the New Testament. Distinctive to this study is its unique focus on the historical, literary, and religious milieu of the Greco-Roman world, including early Judaism. As part of its historical orientation, the book also discusses works by other Christian writers who were roughly contemporary with the New Testament, such as the *Gospel of Thomas*, the *Apocalypse of Peter*, and the letters of Ignatius. The text is enhanced by maps, timelines, an extensive text box program, and more than one hundred photos. An accompanying **Instructor's Manual** contains chapter summaries, discussion questions, and a test bank. An updated **Website Study Guide** provides chapter summaries, glossary terms, and self-quizzes for students.

New to this edition:

- * Coverage of new discoveries--including the *Gospel of Judas Iscariot*--and of recent advances in scholarship
- * A revised discussion of the history of Palestine and Judaism, which now appears much earlier in the book (Chapter 3), thereby providing students with more background on the development of early Christianity at the outset of their studies
- * A new photo essay on important Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, ten new text boxes, a revised epilogue, and updated suggestions for further reading
- * An expanded glossary featuring more than 200 key terms, which are also listed at the end of each chapter in which they appear
- * Key terms appear in **boldface type** the first time they are used in each chapter
- * Vivid full color throughout
- * **A FREE 6-month subscription to Oxford Biblical Studies Online (www.oxfordbiblicalstudies.com)--a \$180 value--with the purchase of every new copy of this text!**

Ideal for undergraduate and seminary classes in the New Testament, Biblical Studies, and Christian Origins, *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings*, Fourth Edition, encourages students to carefully consider the historical issues surrounding these writings.

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