

PAUL'S LETTERS

ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY

Group One

Group One: written during the second missionary journey

1. 1 Thessalonians written in Corinth in A.D. 50
2. 2 Thessalonians written in Corinth in A.D. 50/51

These are sometimes called the *eschatological epistles*, because of the special interest in the second coming: "eschatology" (Greek, *eschastos*, "last") is the study of last things.

Group Two

Group Two: written during the third missionary journey

3. 1 Corinthians written in Ephesus in A.D. 56
4. 2 Corinthians written in Macedonia in A.D. 56
5. Galatians written in Macedonia or Achaia in A.D. 56
6. Romans written in Corinth in A.D. 56 or 57

These are sometimes called the *doctrinal epistles* as a group, or Paul's major or capital epistles. As a whole, they are the longest of Paul's letters. They give the most attention to doctrinal matters, especially Romans and Galatians. Actually, the Corinthian letters are more practical and personal, and so the doctrinal characterization is not absolute.

Group Three

Group Three: written during Paul's first Roman imprisonment

7. Colossians written in Rome in A.D. 61
8. Ephesians written in Rome in A.D. 61
9. Philemon written in Rome in A.D. 61
10. Philippians written in Rome in A.D. 62

These are generally called the *prison epistles*; they are also sometimes characterized as Christological because the doctrine of the person and work of Christ is prominent in them.

Group Four

Group Four: written during the time of Paul's release and second Roman imprisonment

11. 1 Timothy written in Macedonia in A.D. 64/65
12. Titus written in Macedonia in A.D. 64/65
13. 2 Timothy written in Rome in A.D. 66

These are called the *pastoral epistles*; they are sometimes characterized also as ecclesiastical, because of their emphasis on church administration.