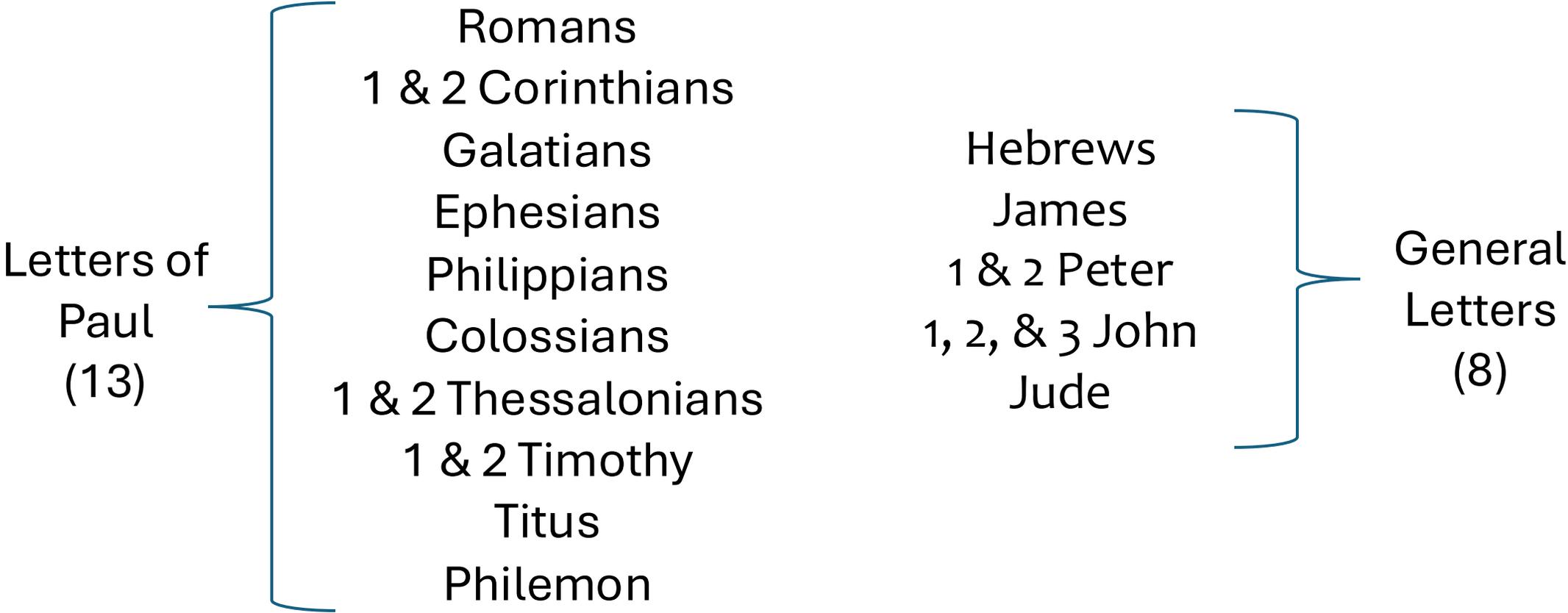


THE BOOK



Distant Voices: Timeless Truths

The Letters of the New Testament



The New Testament Letters

The letters (epistles) help to answer the question, “*How do I make Jesus real in my life?*”



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The letters (epistles) help to answer the question, “*How do I make Jesus real in my life?*”

They help **orient** us to **life** in a new **kingdom**!



¹ This letter is from Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.

I am writing to God's chosen people who are living as foreigners in the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia.

² God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy. As a result, you have obeyed him and have been cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ. May God give you more and more grace and peace. ³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, ⁴ and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.

1 Peter 1:1-7 NLT



⁵ And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. ⁶ So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

1 Peter 1:1-7 NLT



The New Testament Letters

Faith, and life in the kingdom, guards us from the following.
The 6 Cultural Crises of our Day



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1. The Crisis of *Greed*



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1. The Crisis of ***Greed***

For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil.
And some people, craving money, have wandered
from the true faith and pierced themselves with
many sorrows. (1 Timothy 6:10 NLT)



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2. The Crisis of *Identity*



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2. The Crisis of *Identity*

²⁰ My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

(Galatians 2:20 NLT)



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3. The Crisis of *Meaning*



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3. The Crisis of *Meaning*

¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2:10 NLT)



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4. The Crisis of *Uncertainty*



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4. The Crisis of *Uncertainty*

So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! ³⁶ Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised. (Heb. 10:35-36 NLT)



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5. The Crisis of *Character*



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5. The Crisis of *Character*

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. ⁴ And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. ⁵ And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love. (Rom. 5:3-5 NLT)



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6. The Crisis of *Hope*



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The 6 Cultural Crises of our Day

6. The Crisis of *Hope*

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Rom. 15:13 NLT)



The Kingdom of God is ***never*** in ***crisis***



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