



Lecture # 15 Part 2

Specific Claims for the Inspiration of the New Testament

THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITINGS ARE SPIRIT-DIRECTED

SPECIFIC CLAIMS THAT NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS ARE INSPIRED

Not only did Jesus promise divine guidance, and the New Testament as a whole claim to be the product of that guidance, but each individual New Testament book contains a claim to substantiate that position. A brief survey will suffice to support this point.

1 Thessalonians

In [1 Thessalonians 5:27](#), the author charges the church “to have this letter read to all the brethren” and in [1 Thessalonians 4:15](#) says, “For we say to you by the word of the Lord.”

[1 Thessalonians 5:27 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁷ I adjure you by the Lord to have this letter read to all the brethren.

[1 Thessalonians 4:15 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁵ For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

2 Thessalonians

This book adds to its God-given pronouncements a warning about a false letter “as if from” Paul ([2 Thessalonians 2:2](#)). It closes by saying, “If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that man and do not associate with him” ([2 Thessalonians 3:4](#)).

[2 Thessalonians 2:2 \(NASB\)](#)

² that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.

[2 Thessalonians 3:14 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁴ If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.

1 Timothy

Written by “Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God” ([1 Timothy 1:1](#)), this epistle speaks with authority, saying, “Prescribe and teach these things” ([1 Timothy 4:11](#)).



Lecture # 15 Part 2

1 Timothy 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, *who is* our hope,

1 Timothy 4:11 (NASB)

¹¹ Prescribe and teach these things.

2 Timothy

The author instructed his son in the faith to “retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me” (2 Timothy 1:13), and he charged Timothy “in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus” to “preach the word” (2 Timothy 4:1–2).

2 Timothy 1:13 (NASB)

¹³ Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 4:1-2 (NASB)

¹ I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

² preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Titus

Titus also claims to come from Paul “an apostle of Jesus Christ” (Titus 1:1), with the injunction to “let these things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority” (Titus 2:15). He then adds, “Concerning these things I want you to speak confidently” (Titus 3:8).

Titus 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness,

Titus 2:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Titus 3:8 (NASB)

⁸ This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.

Philemon

This brief book claims authority from the apostle Paul (v. 1), brings salutation “from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (v. 3), and asserts apostolic authority (v. 8).



Lecture # 15 Part 2

Philemon 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved *brother* and fellow worker,

Philemon 1:3 (NASB)

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon 1:8 (NASB)

⁸ Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you *to do* what is proper,

Hebrews

The author of Hebrews introduces his message as the voice of God through Christ “**in these last days**” ([Hebrews 1:2](#)) and concludes his epistle with authoritative exhortations ([Hebrews 13:22](#)).

Hebrews 1:2 (NASB)

² **in these last days** has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

Hebrews 13:22 (NASB)

²² But I urge you, brethren, “**bear**” **with this word of exhortation**, for I have written to you briefly.

Hebrews 13:22 (KJV)

²² And I beseech you, brethren, “**suffer**” the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words.

(**Suffer** or **bear** “*an-ekh'-om-ahee*” to *hold oneself up* against, i.e. (figurative) *put up* with :- bear with, endure, forbear, suffer)

James

James writes as a “**servant of God**” ([James 1:1](#)) and speaks with authority about doctrine (cf. chap. 2) and practice (chap. 3).

James 1:1 (NASB)

¹ James, **a bond-servant of God** and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

James 1:1 (KJV)

¹ James, **a servant of God** and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

1 Peter

This book is from “**an apostle of Jesus Christ**” ([1 Peter 1:1](#)) and claims to be an exhortation on “**the true grace of God**” ([1 Peter 5:12](#)).

1 Peter 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Peter, **an apostle of Jesus Christ**, To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen



Lecture # 15 Part 2

1 Peter 5:12 (NASB)

¹² Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard *him*), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!

2 Peter

Written by “a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 1:1), this epistle gives commandments from the Lord (2 Peter 3:2). The author claims to “**have the prophetic word made more sure**” (2 Peter 1:19) and gives a prophetic pronouncement about the future (2 Peter 3:10–13).

2 Peter 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:

2 Peter 3:2 (NASB)

² that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior *spoken* by your apostles.

2 Peter 1:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

2 Peter 3:10-13 (NASB)

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

¹¹ Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat!

¹³ But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

1 John

This book comes from an eyewitness (1 John 1:1) who is proclaiming Christ so that believers’ “**joy may be made complete**” (1 John 1:4) and that the reader may be assured of eternal life (1 John 5:12).

1 John 1:1 (NASB)

¹ What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—

1 John 1:4 (NASB)

⁴ These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.



Lecture # 15 Part 2

1 John 5:12 (NASB)

¹² **He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.**

2 John

In this book John purports to be writing a “**commandment**” (v.5), warns against deceivers (v.7), and claims to possess “**the teaching of Christ**” (v.9).

2 John 1:5 (NASB)

⁵ Now I ask you, lady, **not as though I were writing to you a new commandment**, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another.

2 John 1:7 (NASB)

⁷ **For many deceivers have gone out into the world**, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

2 John 1:9 (NASB)

⁹ Anyone who goes too far **and does not abide in the teaching of Christ**, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

3 John

This is written by one with apostolic authority (v. 9) who claims to have “**the truth itself**” (v. 12).

3 John 1:9 (NASB)

⁹ **I wrote something to the church**; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept what we say.

3 John 1:12 (NASB)

¹² Demetrius has received a *good* testimony from everyone, **and from the truth itself**; and we add our testimony, and you know that our testimony is true.