

CONTENTS



PART ONE: *The Background of the New Testament Period*

1. THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND OF PALESTINIAN JUDAISM	17
I. SURVEY OF THE POLITICAL HISTORY OF PALESTINE FROM ALEXANDER THE GREAT TO THE FALL OF JERUSALEM (A.D. 70)	17
II. THE ROMAN PROVINCIAL SYSTEM	30
III. THE LANGUAGES CURRENT IN PALESTINE	32
2. THE CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND OF PALESTINIAN JUDAISM	34
I. SURVEY OF INTERTESTAMENTAL JEWISH LITERATURE	34
II. SECTS, PARTIES, AND CLASSES WITHIN PALESTINIAN JUDAISM	39
III. SCRIBES AND RABBIS: THEIR DUTIES AND METHODS OF TEACHING	47
IV. THE TEMPLE AND ITS RITUAL	53
V. THE SYNAGOGUE AND ITS WORSHIP	56
3. THE PHILOSOPHICAL AND RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND OF GRECO-ROMAN PAGANISM	61
I. SCHOOLS OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE GRECO-ROMAN WORLD	62
II. MYSTERY RELIGIONS IN THE GRECO-ROMAN WORLD	66

PART TWO: *Aspects of the Life and Teaching of Jesus Christ*

4. THE SOURCES FOR OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LIFE AND TEACHING OF JESUS CHRIST	73
I. NON-CHRISTIAN SOURCES—JEWISH AND PAGAN	73
II. CHRISTIAN SOURCES—CANONICAL AND APOCRYPHAL	78
5. A SUMMARY OF THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST	102
I. THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST	102
II. THE EARLY YEARS OF JESUS' LIFE	106
III. THE BAPTISM AND TEMPTATION OF JESUS CHRIST	108
IV. THE PUBLIC MINISTRY OF JESUS CHRIST	113
APPENDIX: MIRACLES IN THE GOSPELS	132
6. ASPECTS OF THE TEACHING OF JESUS CHRIST	136
I. THE FORM OF JESUS' TEACHING	136
II. BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE TEACHING OF JESUS CHRIST	144
APPENDIX: THE ORIGINALITY OF JESUS' ETHICAL TEACHING	165

PART THREE: *The Apostolic Age*

7. THE SOURCES AND THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE APOSTOLIC AGE	169
I. THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES	170
II. THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE APOSTOLIC AGE	178
8. PRIMITIVE JEWISH CHRISTIANITY	181
I. PENTECOST AND THE EARLIEST EVANGELISM	181
II. THE CHURCH'S CONFLICT WITH JUDAISM AND THE MARTYRDOM OF STEPHEN	185
9. THE EXPANSION OF CHRISTIANITY THROUGH THE WORK OF THE APOSTLE PAUL	192
I. PAUL'S EARLY TRAINING AND CONVERSION	192
II. PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY	196

III. THE APOSTOLIC COUNCIL AT JERUSALEM	199
IV. PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY	201
V. PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY	206
VI. PAUL'S ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT	210
 10. PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS	 215
I. PAUL'S LETTERS IN GENERAL	215
II. SUMMARIES OF PAUL'S LETTERS	218
APPENDIX: LEADING IDEAS IN PAUL'S THEOLOGY	241
 11. THE GENERAL LETTERS AND THE BOOK OF REVELATION	 247
I. THE GENERAL LETTERS	247
II. THE BOOK OF REVELATION	266
 APPENDIX I: THE FORMATION OF THE CANON OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.....	 273
 APPENDIX II: THE TRANSMISSION AND TRANS- LATION OF THE BIBLE.....	 277
 SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	 295
 BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	 297
 INDEX OF PRINCIPAL NEW TESTAMENT REFERENCES.....	 301
 GENERAL INDEX.....	 305
 MAPS	
PALESTINE—A.D. 30.....	72
THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD AT THE TIME OF PAUL.....	168