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ALL WRITING IS INSPIRED BY GOD AND BENEFICIAL (Book) (See also Watch Tower Publications) appreciation by the teacher: w89 8/1 32 content: jv 103 purpose: if 11-12, 351 release: jv 103 review (1990): km 9/90 3 All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial 1. How does the Bible identify its Author and what kind of knowledge do the scriptures provide? ALL Scripture is inspired by God. These words to 2 Timothy 3:16 identify God, whose name is Jehovah, as the author and inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. How delicious the inspired scriptures are! What an amazing background of true knowledge they provide! Indeed, they are the same knowledge of God that has been sought and treasured by lovers of righteousness in all ages. —Prov. 2:5. 2. How did Moses, David, and Solomon evaluate divine wisdom? 2 One of these seekers of knowledge was Moses, the visible leader and organizer of the nation of God of Israel, who said that divine instruction was as refreshing as dew, as gentle rains upon the grass, and as abundant rains upon the vegetation. Then there was David, a valiant fighter and sustainer of the name of the Lord, who prayed, Instruct me, O Lord, on thy way. I'm going to walk to your truth. There was peaceful Solomon, builder of one of the most glorious structures ever placed on this earth, the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, who valued divine wisdom with these words: Having it as a gain is better than having silver as a gain and having it as a product than gold itself. It's more precious than corals, and all the other delights of yours can't be the same as it. Deut. 32:2; Psalm 86:11; Prov. 3:14, 15. 3. What value do Jesus and God Himself place in the divine Word? 3 Jesus, the Son of God, put the highest value in the word of God, declaring: Thy word is true. To his followers he said, If they remain in my word, they really are my disciples, and they will know the truth, and the truth will deliver them. (John 17:17; 8:31, 32) In fact, powerful is this word Jesus received from his Father. It's the word of God. After his death and resurrection and his ascension to the Lord's own right hand in heaven, Jesus made an additional revelation of his Father's word, including a delicious description of God's blessings for mankind in the land of Paradise. After that, God instructed the Apostle John: Write, because these words are faithful and true. All inspired words in the scriptures are faithful and true, bringing immeasurable benefits to those who lend them. —Rev. 21:5. 4. What are inspired scriptures beneficial for? 4 How are these benefits presented? The full expression of the Apostle Paul at 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 provides the answer: All Scripture is to teach, to rebuke, to straighten things out, to discipline in may the man of God be fully competent, fully equipped for all good deeds. Inspired scriptures, then, are beneficial in teaching the right doctrine and correct behavior, straightening things in our minds and lives, and rebuking and discipeding so that we can walk humbly in truth and righteousness. As we submit to the teaching of God's Word, we can become God's co-workers. (1 Co. 3:9) Today there is no greater privilege on earth than being busy in God's work as the 'fully competent and fully equipped man of God'. FIRM FUNDATION FOR FAITH 5. What is faith and how can it only be obtained? 5 For one to be a companion of labor with God, faith is needed. Faith should not be confused with the diluted credulity that is so prevalent today. Many people think that any kind of belief—sectarian, evolutionary, or philosophical—is enough. However, the man of God must continue to support the pattern of healthy words. with the faith and love that are in connection with Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 1:13) Their faith must be real and alive, because faith is the assured expectation of the expected things, the evident demonstration of realities even though they are not seen. It must be based on a firm belief in God and his rewards for those he likes. (Heb. 11:1, 6) This faith should be obtained only by diligently studying the Word of God, the Bible. It is founded on deep love for the Bible and for the God of the Bible, Jehovah, and for His Son, Jesus Christ. There is only one living faith, just as there is only one Lord, Jesus Christ, and one God and Father of all, Jehovah. —Eph. 4:5, 6. 6. True faith is of what quality? 6 We need to know what the Word of God is and where it came from, as well as its authority and purpose, and its power for righteousness. To appreciate his glorious message, or spirit, was also the driving force behind the pen of these men. In addition, we will come to love the Bible and its Author so earnestly that nothing can quell that faith and love. It is the scriptures, which include the sayings of Jesus Christ, that build a firm foundation for faith. True faith will be the kind that will endure the trial and bitter trial, persecutions, and materialistic advances and philosophies of a Godless society. He will triumph gloriously into God's new world of righteousness. This is the conquest that has conquered the world, our faith. —1 John 5:4. 7. What rewards come with the discovery of biblical wisdom? 7 To gain and hold fast to faith, we must apply ourselves to build love and appreciation for the Word of God, the inspired scriptures. The scriptures are God's incomparable gift to humanity, a store store of spiritual treasures whose depth of wisdom is unstoppable and whose power to enlighten and stimulate righteousness surpasses that of all others never written. As we deepen knowledge of the Word of God, we will be taken to exclaim with the Apostle Paul: O the depth of God's riches, wisdom, and knowledge! To know the inspired scriptures and their Author is to enter the path of eternal joy and kindness. —Rom. 11:33; Page 16:11. JEHOVAH—A COMMUNICATING GOD 8. (a) Why should we be grateful that jehovah is a communicating God? b) How does it contrast with the demon gods? 8 As he spoke of the glory of the name of the Lord, David exclaimed, Thou art great, and thou art doing marvelous things; you're God, you're alone. (Ps. 86:10) The Lord has done many wonderful things for mankind on earth, and among them is the communication of His Word to them. Yes, Jehovah is a communicating God, a God who expresses himself lovingly for the benefit of his creatures. How grateful we must be that our Creator is not a distant potentate, shrouded in mysteries and unanswered to the needs of lovers of justice on earth! As He will also do in the new world to come, the Lord now resides even now with those who exercise faith and love for him, in the relationship of a kind Father who communicates good things to his inquisitive children. (Rev. 21:3) Our heavenly Father is not like the demon gods, who must be represented by fearsome foolish idols. Metal and stone gods have no paternal relationship with their bewildered worshippers. They can't communicate anything of benefit to them. Truly, those who make them will become like them. —Psalm 135:15-19; 1 Co. 8:4-6. 9. What kind of communication has come from God in the previous kingdoms? 9 The Lord is the merciful and merciful God, slow to anger, and abundant in loving and true goodness. (e.g. 34:6) From the abundance of his loving kindness, he has communicated an abundance of truth to humanity. All of this is good counsel for the guidance of humanity and includes prophecy to lighten our paths to future blessings. Because all the things that were written before were written for our instruction, that through our resistance and through the comfort of the scriptures we might have hope. (Rom. 15:4) From the kingdoms above, from heaven itself, a reliable communication has come to instruct humanity, which is in the kingdoms below. —John 8:23. 10. In what languages has the Lord made communication and why? 10 The Lord hath never communicated in an unknown language, but always in the language of mankind, the living tongue of his faithful witnesses. (Acts 2:5-11) To Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the Hebrew prophets, the Lord spoke in the first language of mankind, now known as Hebrew. Hebrew continued to be used for as long as it could be understood, even until the time of Saul of Tarsus, whom the Risen Jesus spoke to in that (Acts 26:14) When the Aramaic language of the Chaldeans became entrened among the Israelites in exile, exile, communications then came from God in Aramaic, because people understood that language. (Ezra 4:8–6:18; 7:12-26; Dan. 2:4b–7:28) Later, when Greek was the international language and the primary language of his witnesses, the Lord's communications were made and preserved in that language. The sayings preserved in the Bible are the communication of the Lord, always spoken in a living language for the benefit of humble men and lovers of truth on earth. 11. Why can it be said that the Lord is the ancient of every language? 11 The Lord is the Creator of the mind and organs of speech, including the tongue, mouth, and throat, which form all the complexities of the sounds of speech for each of the many systems of language. Therefore, it can be said that jehovah is the ancient of every language. His authority on the language of humanity was demonstrated by his miracle performed in the Tower of Babel. (e.g. 4:11; Gen. 11:6-9; 10:5; 1 Co. 13:1) No language is strange to the Lord. Not only did he give man the original Hebrew language, but because of this creation of the mind and organs of speech, he also provided the basis for Aramaic and Greek and for all the about 3,000 languages that humanity now speaks. THE LANGUAGE OF TRUTH 12, 13. a) How has the Lord made your communications easy to understand? (b) Give examples. 12 Regardless of the system of human language used by the Lord, in all cases it has been communicated in the language of truth, not in religious mysticisms. It's a simple, easy-to-understand language. (Zeph. 3:9) Earthly man can easily understand three-dimensional matters, i.e. objects that have height, amplitude, and length and are established in the current of time. Therefore, the Lord has represented invisible things by using typical representations that man's mind can understand. As an example, there was the tabernacle designed by God and erected by Moses in the wilderness. Under the inspiration Paul used his three-dimensional symbols to explain the glorious realities that are from heaven itself. —Heb. 8:5; 9:9. 13 Another example: The Lord, who is spirit, does not literally sit in a chair like the throne in heaven. However, for us mere men, united by visible realities, God expresses himself using such a visible symbol to convey understanding. When a celestial judicial process begins, it is like when a king on earth begins the procedure by taking his seat on a throne. —Dan. 7:9-14. EASILY TRANSLATED 14, 15. Why is the Bible, in contrast to human philosophical writings, easily translated into other languages? Illustrate. 14 Since the Bible has been written in these terms from love to ground, easily understandable, it is possible to translate its symbols and actions clearly and most modern languages. The original power and strength of truth are preserved in all translations. Simple words of every day, such as horse, war, crown, crown, husband, wife and children, communicate precise thinking clearly in all languages. This contrasts with human philosophical writings, which often do not lend themselves to accurate translation. Their complicated expressions and air terminology often cannot be accurately transmitted in another language. 15 The power of expression of the Bible is far superior. Even when God communicated messages of judgment to non-believers, He did not use philosophical language, but everyday symbols. This is shown in Daniel 4:10-12. Here the kingdom of the self-glorifying pagan king was described in some detail under the symbol of a tree, and then, through actions involving this tree, future events were accurately predicted. All of this is clearly transmitted in translations into other languages. The Lord has made loving communications in this way so that true knowledge may be abundant. How wonderful this has helped in understanding prophecy at this time of the end! —Dan. 12:4. COMMUNICATION LINE 16. How can the Lord's communication channel be outlined? 16 Someone may ask: What has been the means of communication? This may well be illustrated by a modern example. Communication lines have (1) the dialer, or originator, of the message; (2) transmitter; (3) the means by which the message passes; (4) the receiver; and (5) the listener. In telephone communications we have (1) the telephone user who originates the communication; 2) The telephone transmitter, which converts the message into electrical impulses; (3) telephone lines that bring electrical impulses to the destination; (4) the receiver converting the message from pulses to sounds; and (5) the listener. Similarly in heaven (1) Jehovah God originates his statements; (2) then his official Word, or Spokesperson—now known as Jesus Christ—often conveys the message; (3) The holy spirit of God, the active force used as a means of communication, leads him to the earth; (4) God's prophet on earth receives the message; and (5) then publishes it for the benefit of God's people. Just as sometimes today a messenger can be sent to deliver an important message, so the Lord sometimes chose to use spiritual messengers, or angels, to bring some communications from heaven to his servants on earth. —Gal. 3:19; Heb. 2:2. INSPIRATION PROCESS 17. What Greek word translates inspired from God and how does its meaning help us understand the process of inspiration? 17 The inspired expression of God is translated from the Greek the-o'pneu-stos, which means the breathed God. (See 2 Timothy 3:16, first footnote.) It is God's own spirit, his active strength, which has 'breathed' upon faithful men, causing them to collect and write the Holy Scriptures. This process is known Inspiration. The prophets and other faithful servants of the Lord who became the object of inspiration had their minds carried through this active force. This means that they received messages, including images of purpose, from God and that they were firmly fixed on the circuits of their minds. For the prophecy was never brought by the will of man, but men spoke of God as they were carried by the holy spirit. —2 Pet. 1:21; John 20:21, 22. 18. How deeply impressed did messages inspired by their human receptors impress? 18 While these men of God were awake and fully conscious, or as they slept in a dream, their spirit firmly implanted the message emanating from the divine origin of the line of communication. Upon receiving the message, the prophet had a responsibility to transmit it in the form of a word to others. When Moses and other faithful prophets return in the Resurrection, they will no doubt be able to confirm the accuracy of the preserved records of their writings, for their approaches recreated minds will likely still keep the original communications clearly in memory. Similarly, the Apostle Peter was so deeply impressed by the vision of transfiguration that he could vividly write about his magnificence more than 30 years later. —Matthew 17:1-9; 2 Pet. 1:16-21. THE AUTHOR AND HIS FINGER 19. What is God's finger, as the scriptures demonstrate? 19 Human authors have used their fingers to write, in ancient times by means of a pen or stylus, and in modern times by means of a pen, typewriter or computer. It is said that what has been produced through these fingers has been written by the mind of its owner. Did you know God has a finger? This is so, because Jesus spoke of the spirit of God as His finger. When Jesus healed a man possessed by demons to regain his power of speech and sight, religious enemies blasphemed the means by which Jesus had healed man. According to Matthew, Jesus said to them, If it is through the spirit of God that I cast out the demons, the kingdom of God has truly surpassed you. (Matthew 12:22, 28) Luke adds to our understanding by quoting Jesus as saying on a similar occasion: If it is through the finger of God that I cast out the demons, the kingdom of God has truly surpassed you. (Luke 11:20) On an earlier occasion, the magical priests of Egypt were forced to admit that the plagues in Egypt were an exhibition of the lord's higher power, recognizing: It is the finger of God! —Ex. 8:18, 19. 20. How has God's finger operated and with what outcome? 20 In harmony with these uses of the word finger, it can be seen that the finger of God has great power, and that this designation applies well to his spirit as he used it in Writing the Bible. So the scriptures inform us that through God's finger, he wrote the Commandments on the two stone boards. (e.g. 31:18; Deut. 9:10) When God used men to write the various books of the Holy Bible, his symbolic finger, or spirit, was also the driving force behind the pen of these men. God's holy spirit is not seen, but it has been active in a wonderful way, with the visible and tangible result that humanity has received the precious gift of God's Word of truth, His Bible. There is no doubt that the Author of the Bible is Jehovah God, the heavenly Communicator. THE INSPIRED COLLECTION STARTS 21. a) How did scripture writing begin? b) How did the Lord provide for his preservation? 21 As has been seen, the Lord proceeded to give Moses two tables of testimony, tables of stone written on the finger of God. (e.g. 31:18) This writing comprised the Ten Commandments, and it is of interest that this document officially presents the divine name, Jehovah, eight times. In the same year, 1513 B.C.E., the Lord commanded Moses to begin making permanent records. Thus began the writing of the Holy Scriptures. (Ex. 17:14; 34:27) God also commanded Moses to build the ark of testimony, or the ark of the covenant, a chest of beautiful labor in which the Israelites were to preserve this most precious communication. (Ex. 25:10-22; 1 Ki. 8:6, 9) The design of the Ark, and of the tabernacle that housed it, was supplied by the Lord; and the main craftsman and builder, Bezalel, was filled with the spirit of God in wisdom, understanding and knowledge and in all kinds of craftsmanship in order to complete his work according to the divine model. —Ex. 35:30-35. 22. (a) Who is the author of the inspired scriptures and how long did the scripture take? b) Who were the Coguionists of the Bible and what is known about them? 22 As he made known his purposes, God spoke many times and many ways for a long period of time. (Heb. 1:1) The penmens who wrote his Word did so from 1513 A.C.E. to about 98 C.E., or for about 1,610 years. The only author, Jehovah God, used about 40 of these scribes, or human secretaries. All of these co-zionists were Hebrews and therefore the members of the nation trusted God's sacred pronouncements. (Rom. 3:2) Eight of them were Christian Jews who knew Jesus personally or through his apostles. Inspired scriptures written before his time had testified of the coming of the Messiah, or Christ. (1 Pet. 1:10, 11) Although called from many areas of life, these earthly biblical writers, from Moses to the Apostle John, all shared in defending the sovereignty of Jehovah God and proclaiming their purposes on earth. They wrote in the name of the Lord and by the power of his spirit. —Jer. 2:2, 4; Ezekiel 6:3; Sam. 23:2; Acts 1:16; At 1:10. 23. What previous records did some biblical writers use, and and Did they become inspired scriptures? 23 Several of these writers include in their records collections of eyewitness documents by previous writers, not all of whom were inspired. Moses, for example, may have compiled his genealogical accounts, as Samuel might have done in writing the book of Judges. Jeremiah compiled the first and second kings, and Ezra wrote First and Second Chronicles, largely in this way. The holy spirit guided these compilers in determining which parts of ancient human documents should be incorporated, thus authenticating these compilations as reliable. From the time of their compilation onwards, these excerpts from ancient documents became part of the inspired scriptures. —Gen. 2:4; 5:1; 2 Ki. 1:18; 2 Cronus 16:11. 24, 25. (a) What period of history is covered in the Bible? b) Point out some interesting facts found on the chart on page 12. 24 In what order did the 66 Bible books come to us? What part of the endless current of time do they cover? After describing the creation of heaven and earth and the preparation of the earth as the home of man, the account of Genesis takes the beginnings of human history from the creation of the first man in 4026 a.C.E. Sacred writings chronicle important events until shortly after 443 B.C.E. Then, after a space of more than 400 years, they re-capture the account at 3 A.C.E., taking it to about 98 C.E. Thus, from a historical point of view, the scriptures span a period of 4,123 years. 25 The table on page 12 will help us understand the background of biblical writers and the sequence in which the biblical writings came to us. THE COMPLETE BOOK OF DIVINE TRUTH 26. How are the scriptures a complete book? 26 The Holy Scriptures, as a collection of Genesis to Revelation, form a complete book, a complete library, all inspired by the one Supreme Author. They should not be divided into two parts, so that a part has less value. The Hebrew scriptures and the Greek Christian scriptures are essential to each other. The latter complements the first to make the only complete book of divine truth. The 66 Biblical books, all together, form the only library of the Holy Scriptures. —Rom. 15:4. 27. Why are the Old Testament and New Testament expressions misnomers? 27 It is an error of tradition to divide the written Word of God into two sections, calling the first section, from Genesis to Malachi, the Old Testament, and the second section, from Matthew to Revelation, the New Testament. In 2 Corinthians 3:14 the popular version of King James speaks of reading the old testament, but here the Apostle does not refer to the Hebrew scriptures in their entirety. Nor does it mean that inspired Christian writings constitute a new testament [convention]. The apostle is of the covenant of the Law, which was recorded by Moses in the Pentateuch and which constitutes only a part of the pre-Christian scriptures. For this reason it says in the next verse, when Moses is read. The Greek word represented as a testament in the King James version has been evenly covenanted into many modern translations. —Gen. 2:4; 3:6, 14, New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures, Revised Standard Version, American Standard Version. 28. What is the security of biblical prophecies? 28 What has been recorded and preserved as the Holy Scriptures must not be manipulated. (Deut. 4:1, 2; 22:18, 19) The Apostle Paul writes on this point: However, even if we or an angel of heaven declare you as good news something beyond what we declare to you as good news, let it be cursed. (Gal. 1:8; see also John 10:35.) The whole word of prophecy of the Lord must be fulfilled in due course. So my word coming out of my mouth will turn out to be. He won't come back to me without results, but he certainly will in what I've reveled in, and he'll have some success in what I've sent him. Isa. 55:11. EXAMINING SCRIPTURES 29. In this book, each Bible book is examined in turn, what introductory information is provided? 29 In the following pages, the 66 books of the Holy Scriptures are examined. It describes the settings for each book, and provides information about the writer, the time of writing, and, in some cases, the period covered. There is also evidence to show that the book is authentic and rightly belongs as part of the inspired scriptures. This test can be found in the words of Jesus Christ or in the inspired writings of other servants of God. Very often the authenticity of the book is demonstrated by undeniable fulfillments of biblical prophecy or by internal evidence of the book itself, such as its harmony, honesty and candor. Supporting evidence can be taken from archaeological finds or reliable secular history. 30. How are the contents of each Bible book presented? 30 As the content of each book is described, the effort is to make the mighty message of the biblical writer stand out in such a way that it instills in the reader's heart a deep love for the inspired scriptures and its Author, Jehovah God, and thus increase appreciation for the living message of the Word of God with all its practicality , harmony and beauty. The contents of the book are set to paragraph subheadings. This is for convenience in study and does not mean that these are arbitrary subdivisions for Bible books. Each book is itself an entity, making a valuable contribution to understanding divine purposes. 31. (a) What information is to show why each book is beneficial? (b) What glorious theme remains the front along the discussions of the Bible books? 31 At the conclusion of each book, the discussion indicates why this part of the inspired scriptures is beneficial in teaching, rebuking, straightening things out, for discipeding in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16) The fulfillments of prophecy are considered, where they are indicated by the inspired testimony of later biblical writers. In each case, the book's contribution to developing the general theme of the Bible is shown. The Bible is not a myth. It contains the only living message for humanity. From the first book, Genesis, to the last book, Revelation, inspired scriptures testify of the purpose of the Creator of the universe, Jehovah God, to sanctify his name by the Kingdom ruled by his Offspring. There lies glorious hope for all lovers of righteousness. —Matthew 12:18, 21. 32. What information is provided to increase appreciation for the Bible? 32 After considering the 66 Bible books themselves, we dedicate some space to giving background information about the Bible. This includes studies on the geography of the Promised Land, the timing of Bible events, Bible translations, archaeological evidence and other evidence of support for the authenticity of the Bible, and proof of the biblical catalogue. Other tables and valuable information also appear in this section. All of this is designed to increase appreciation for the Bible as the most practical and beneficial book on earth today. 33. How could the Bible be described and what benefit is a study of it? 33 The divine Author has spoken much to mankind. He has shown great depth of love and parental interest in what he has done for his children on earth. What an extraordinary collection of inspired documents you have provided to us in the Holy Scriptures! Truly, these form an insurmountable treasure, an extensive library of divinely breathed information, far superior in wealth and in scope of the writings of mere men. Devotion to the study of the Word of God will not become tired for the flesh, but will bring eternal benefits to those who know the saying of the Lord [who] endures forever. Eccl. 12:12; 1 Pet. 1:24, 25. [Graphic on page 12] THE PENMENO INSPIRED BY THE BIBLE AND ITS WRITINGS (In Order of Date) Orders Writers Completed Written Written Occupations 1. Moses Scholar, 1473 B.C.E. Genesis; Exodus; pastor, Leviticus; I work; prophet, Numbers; Leader Deuteronomy; Psalm 90 (possibly also 91) 2. Joshua Leader v. 1450 B.C.E. Joshua 3. Samuel Levite, before the Judges; Ruth; prophet c. 1080 B.C.E.part of First Samuel 4. Gad Prophet v. 1040 B.C.E. Part of the First Samuel; Second Samuel (both with Nathan) 5. Nathan Prophet v. 1040 B.C.E. See above (with Gad) 6. David 1037 B.C.E. Many of the Psalms pastor, musician 7. Sons of some of the Korah Psalms 8. Asaph Singer Some Psalms 9. Heman Wise man Psalm 88 10. Ethan Wise man Psalm 89 11. King Solomon, c. 1000 B.C.E. Most Proverbs; The Song of Solomon; wise man Ecclesiastes; Psalm 127 12. Agur Proverbs chapter 30 13. Lemuel King Proverbs chapter 31 14. Jonah Prophet v. 844 B.C.E. Jonah 15. Joel Prophet v. 820 B.C.E.(?) Joel 16. Amos Herdsman, c. 804 B.C.E. Amos prophet 17. Osseas Prophet after 745 B.C.E. Osseas 18. Isaiah Prophet after 732 b.C.E. Isaiah 19. Miqueas Prophet before Miqueas 717 B.C.E. 20. Prince Zephanirah, before the prophet Zephaniah 648 b.C.E. 21. Prophet of Nahum before Nahum 632 B.C.E. 22. Prophet Habakkuk v. 628 B.C.E. (?) Habakkuk 23. Obadiah Prophet v. 607 B.C.E. Obadiah 24. Ezekiel Priest, c. 591 B.C.E. Ezekiel prophet 25. Priest Jeremiah, 580 B.C.E. First and Second Prophet Kings; Jeremiah; Lamentations 26. Daniel Prince, c. 536 B.C.E. Daniel ruler, prophet 27. Prophet Haggus 520 B.C.E. Hageo 28. The Prophet Zechariah 518 B.C.E. Zechariah 29. Mardoqueo Primer v. 475 B.C.E. Esther Minister 30. Ezra Priest, c. 460 B.C.E. First and Second Copyist, Chronicles; Ezra Administrator 31. Nehemiah Court after 443 B.C.E. Official Nehemiah, Governor 32. Prophet Malachi after 443 B.C.E. Malachi 33. Matthew Tax v. 41 C.E. Matthew Collector, Apostle 34. Luke Physician, c. 61 C.E. Luke; Missionary Facts 35. James Overseer before 62 C.E. James (brother of Jesus) 36. Mark Missionary c. 60-65 C.E. Mark 37. Peter Fisherman, c. 64 C.E. First and Second Apostle Peter 38. Paul Missionary, c. 65 C.E. First and Second Apostles, Thessalonians; Galatian tents; First and Second Corinthians; Romans; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossses; Philemeon; Hebrews; First and Second Timothy; Tito 39. Judas Disciple c. 65 C.E. Judas (brother of Jesus) 40. John Fisherman, c. 98 C.E. Revelation; John; Apostle First, Second and Third John John