

Study Guide for Material Covered Since the Midterm Exam

The following study guide will give you a general idea of the type of questions that you can expect on the Final Exam. This guide is not intended to include every question that may be on the exam, so please remember that anything from the assigned readings and the class lecture material is fair game for the exam. **The first part of the Final Exam will include identification of terms along with multiple choice and short answer questions.** These questions will come from the material that we have covered since the Midterm Exam. This section will not be limited to lectures and class discussions, so be sure that you have completed all the Assigned Readings on the Syllabus. **The second part of the Final Exam will consist of one short essay question and one long essay question.** There will be at least two options for the short essay from which you will choose one question to answer. There will also be at least two options for the long essay from which you will choose one question to answer. Although the questions will focus heavily on the material covered since the Mid-term Exam, both the short and the long essays will expect you to be able to integrate theories and concepts from the first part of the semester into your answers.

As you study for the exam, the following lists of terms and subjects will be helpful. Be able to describe and explain the major issues involved in the term.

1. General History (as a genre)
2. Apostle
3. Thematic Method
4. Relative Chronology
5. Absolute Chronology
6. House Church
7. Priscilla and Aquila
8. Edict of Claudius
9. Parousia
10. Delayed Parousia
11. Pauline Corpus
12. Undisputed Pauline Epistles
13. Deutero-Pauline Epistles
14. Pastoral Epistles
15. General or Catholic Epistles
16. Pseudepigrapha
17. Occasional Nature of Paul's Letters
18. Gnosis
19. Christological Hymn
20. Christian Self-Definition
21. Social-Historical Method
22. Eschatology
23. Apocalypticism
24. Apocalypse
25. Universal church
26. Prescript

27. Amicus Domini/Friend of the Master
28. Slavery in the Roman World
29. Justification by Faith
30. Superapostles
31. Annihilation
32. Disembodied Existence
33. Bodily Resurrection
34. Painful Letter
35. Conciliatory Letter
36. Nag Hammadi
37. Pseudepigraphy
38. Pseudonymous vs. homonymous
39. Household Rules or Codes
40. Judicial Model
41. Participationist Model
42. Meaning of “faith” in Undisputed Paulines, Deutero-Paulines, & Pastorals
43. Two Ways
44. Third Corinthians
45. Exalted Christology
46. Edict of Decius
47. Antichrist
48. Gematria
49. Melito’s Passover Sermon
50. Man of Lawlessness
51. “False Prophet” as used in Revelation
52. Pliny the Younger
53. apostolic succession
54. Homily
55. Paleography
56. Autograph
57. Papyrus
58. Vellum/Parchment
59. Textual Criticism
60. Canon
61. Apocrypha
62. Muratorian Fragment
63. Thirty-Ninth Festal Epistle of Athanasius

Be able to discuss the following topics in detail:

1. Why is it important or unimportant to understand the books of the New Testament within their historical contexts and to make use of social-scientific studies?
2. Be able to discuss the genre, setting, approximate date, authorship, and theological content of the canonical texts described in Ehrman’s chapters 9, 19-23, 25-28.
3. Be able to discuss how the non-canonical texts discussed in Ehrman’s chapters 25-28 relate to his discussion of the canonical texts mentioned in these chapters.

4. Be able to discuss pseudonymity in the ancient world.
5. What were the characteristics of typical letters in the Greco-Roman world? Did Paul's undisputed letters follow the typical style of Greco-Roman letters?
6. How many letters should we consider as genuine letters of Paul? Why?
7. How do the Undisputed Paulines fit into Pauline chronology? What types of external evidence do we have to help us determine an absolute chronology for Paul's letters?
8. How do we explain the different pictures of Paul in the Undisputed Letters and Acts? What do we know of Paul's pre-Christian life from his undisputed letters? From Acts?
9. Be able to discuss the particular church problems that were addressed in the various letters of the Pauline Corpus. Be able to discuss theories regarding the location of the recipients and the make-up (ethnic, religious, social) of the congregations.
10. What is Gnosticism? Which canonical texts may argue against a proto-Gnostic worldview?
11. Be able to discuss theories regarding the number and relationship of the Corinthian letters.
12. What was Paul's position on the Jewish Law? Which undisputed Pauline epistles help us understand Paul's position? How does Paul's position differ from the author of James?
13. What criteria are involved in evaluating Pauline or non-Pauline authorship? Be able to discuss these criteria as they relate to the individual Deutero-Pauline letters.
14. Assuming that the Deutero-Paulines were written by early interpreters of Paul, compare and contrast the portraits of Paul that are presented in the undisputed letters, Acts, and the Deutero-Paulines.
15. Be able to compare and contrast church structure in the Undisputed Pauline Epistles, Deutero-Paulines, Pastorals, Letters of Ignatius, & *1 Clement*.
16. Be able to compare and contrast the interaction of the house churches with pagan society as indicated in the Undisputed Paulines with the interaction of the church with pagan society as indicated in the Deutero-Paulines.
17. Be able to discuss the various conflicts that existed within the Christian communities as represented by the canonical and non-canonical literature that we have studied.
18. Be able to discuss the various conflicts that existed between the Christian communities and Judaism as represented by the canonical and non-canonical literature that we have studied.
19. What was the legal status of Christians according to the Roman government? How do the canonical and non-canonical literature that we have studied reflect periods of conflict with the Romans? How did the official status of Christians change between the very beginnings of the Christian movement and 250 C.E.?
20. What does Ehrman mean by "proto-orthodoxy"? What, if anything, supports his theory of the role of the proto-orthodox in the development of the Christian church and its authoritative canon? What might be counter-arguments against his theory?
21. Which texts intimate that anti-Judaism may have developed out of the attempt of some Christians to define themselves in relationship to and against Judaism?
22. What are the sources that help textual critics in their attempt to establish the reading of the original text of the New Testament books?
23. What are the criteria that textual critics use?
24. Be able to describe the process of and criteria for canonization.
25. Discuss apocalypticism and the texts that include an apocalyptic worldview.