



How to Read Epistles... and Understand Them

What is an Epistle?

Remembering why we wrote what we wrote when we wrote it...

Different Types of Letters –

- ⇒ The “Contract Letter” – this was a letter which detailed an agreement between two parties
- ⇒ The “Friendship Letter” – a letter from one friend to another which contains language such as “longing to see you”
- ⇒ The “Epidictic Letter” – A letter of praise or blame to an individual or a group.
- ⇒ The “Protreptic Letter” – a letter which actually presents an argument meant to sway the opinion of the reader toward the writer’s perspective.
- ⇒ The “Paraenetic Letter” – a letter containing moral and ethical teaching.
- ⇒ The “Letter of Recommendation” – a letter carried by one being recommended by the third party.

A lot of the time in Scripture, we will encounter a blending of these different styles, thus making them “Blended Letters.”

Read 1 Corinthians 11.2-16:

Now, do you see anything we are doing wrong today based upon this passage?

How can we know why what was originally written?

Coming Attractions

Next week we will be getting an overview of Romans as a whole book, so make sure to bring a Bible with you. It’s gonna be great.