



## How to Read Epistles... and Understand Them

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### 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 “Epideictic 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.