

Encountering the New Testament¹ Backgrounds

I. The Four Hundred "Silent Years" Prior To The New Testament

- A. The Persian Empire crumbled.
- B. The Greek Empire came and went
- C. The Romans came to power.

II. The Setting for the New Testament

A. The Political Setting

- 1. The Jewish Political Setting
- 2. The Greco-Roman Political Setting

B. The Social Setting

- 1. The Jewish Social Setting
- 2. The Greco-Roman Social Setting

C. The Religious Setting

- 1. The Jewish Religious Setting
- 2. The Greco-Roman Religious Setting

III. An Overview of the Life of Christ

- A. The Birth and Childhood of Jesus
- B. Preparation for Ministry
- C. The Galilean Ministry
- D. Last Days in Jerusalem
- E. The Passion of the Messiah
- F. The Resurrection of the Messiah

¹ This series is based on Pastor Shawn's personal study of Scripture, and materials presented in part from *Encountering The New Testament*, Walter Elwell, Baker Academic Publishing, 2013; *The Baker Illustrated Bible Handbook*, J. Hays, J. Scott Duvall, Baker Books, 2011.