

Name:

Date:

Period:

The Apostle Paul: A Review

Directions: Use your notes and your Bible to fill in the blanks below.

1. When scholars study the New Testament in an effort to understand the life of _____, they begin with the assumption, though not always true, that the _____ a source is, or the _____ it is to the events it describes, the more _____ it is likely to be.
2. The problem with this assumption is that most of the information we know about the life of _____ comes from the _____, but the _____ author in the NT is actually _____, who has very little to say about the earthly ministry of _____ in his letters.
3. Scholars propose two reasons for this. First, it appears that _____ never knew _____ prior to his _____, and only became a Christian some time after this event.
4. Second, his letters are written to people he had already taught about _____, and so they assume the reader is already familiar with this information.
5. This problem is also complicated by the fact that these letters are _____ literature, meaning that they were written for a specific _____, _____, and _____, nearly 2000 years ago.
6. Furthermore, technically speaking, _____ probably did not actually "write" any of the letters attributed to him. Instead, he probably used an _____, which is a _____ trained as a letter writer. His letters also often mention co- _____ such as _____ and _____, who may also have contributed to the letters' content.
7. Of the _____ books in the NT, _____ are letters. Of these, _____ have been at some time attributed to _____, although _____ never mentions him by name in the body of the letter. Of the remaining _____, scholars believe that _____ were probably written by _____ and _____ were written by his followers.
8. The letters thought to have been written by _____ are:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. _____
 - g. _____
9. The letters written by his followers, also called the _____ letters (meaning " _____"), are:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. _____

These letters are also considered to be " _____," a name meaning "false writing" and given to texts from this time period written by someone other than the author claimed in the writing itself.

10. Three of the letters are known as the _____ epistles, because they were written to leaders in the early church. They are:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
11. Four of the letters are known as the _____ epistles, because they appear to have been written when _____ was in _____. They are:
- _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
12. We have two main sources of information about the life of Paul, the _____, and a narrative account of his missionary activity in _____ of the _____. From these, we can gather that he was probably born in _____, around _____ AD; that he was from the tribe of _____ (which explains his Jewish name, _____); that he was a member of the Jewish sect known as the _____; that for a time he _____ Christians because he believed they were guilty of _____; that he was present at the _____ of _____, the first Christian _____; that he sometimes worked as a _____ while spreading the gospel; and that he was fluent in at least three languages: _____, _____, and _____.
13. Paul completed at least _____ missionary journeys, and, according to the letter to the _____, he was on his way to that city in order to raise money for another journey to _____.
14. In the conclusion of the letter to _____, Paul sends greetings not only from himself but also from _____ and _____, both of whom are thought by scholars to be the same men traditionally credited with writing the gospels that bear their names. This is especially important in the case of _____, because he is also considered the author of _____ of the _____, which lends credence to the possibility that the author of that book did in fact know Paul personally.
15. According to Early Church legends, Paul probably died around _____ AD, in the city of _____ during the persecution of _____ conducted by the emperor _____. He was most likely executed by _____ because of his status as a _____ citizen. The apostle _____ is also thought to have been martyred there at the same time.
16. Paul is probably most important both because of his belief that Jesus' _____, which he interpreted as fulfilling the role of the "Suffering _____" in _____, had opened the possibility for _____ to be included in salvation history without the need to follow the _____, and for his profound role as the Christian church's first and most significant _____, or "defender" of the faith. In fact, he is so significant to the development of early Christian thought that some scholars have argued that it is him rather than _____ that ought to be considered the founder of _____, although Paul himself would almost certainly have disagreed.