

## Class 1: Introduction and (Con)text

### Resources for further study

- *The New Interpreter's Study Bible*: New Revised Standard Version with the Apocrypha
- Bart Ehrman, *The Bible: A Historical and Literary Introduction*
- OR: *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings*
- *The Complete Gospel Parallels*, edited by Arthur Dewey and Robert Miller
- *The Jewish Annotated New Testament*, edited by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Brettler

**Brian McLaren:** STATEments --> States --> Hate // QUESTions --> Quests --> Conversations

**The Bible as a Library/Anthology:** 27 books, 15-16 authors, many different settings and intended audiences, from 50-120 CE.

### Timeline

2000	Abraham and Sarah	
1250	Exodus	(Egypt)
1000	David	(United Monarchy)
721/722	Destruction of N. Kingdom of Israel	(Assyria)
586	Exile	(Babylon)
539	Return from Exile	(Persians)
333	Alexander the Great and Hellenism	(Greece)
63	Romans take control of the Middle East	(Rome)
4 BCE	Birth of Jesus	
27-30? CE	Public Ministry of Jesus	
30?	Crucifixion of Jesus	
31-32??	Conversion of Paul	
34-64	Paul's Missionary activities	
49	1 Thessalonians	
49-62	Paul's Letters	
64	Death of Paul and Peter	
65-70	Gospel of Mark	
80-85	Gospels of Matthew and Luke	
80-110	Deutero-Paul, Pastorals, Gen. Epistles	
90	Gospel of John	
100	Didache	
100-130	Rise of Gnosticism	
110-120	Gospels of Thomas and Peter	
120-140	Shepherd of Hermas,	
130-150	Rise of Marcionites	