

Literary Genres in the Bible

- Law
- History
- Poetry/Wisdom
- Prophets

- Gospel
- Letters/Epistles
- Apocalyptic (Prophecy)

The New Testament letters typically follow this structure:

1. Opening Salutation
 - a. The writer(s)' name(s)
 - b. The recipient(s) name(s)
 - c. Greeting
2. Prayer, Blessing or Thanksgiving
3. The Body of the Letter (what the sender wants to say that occasioned the letter)
 - a. Initial Exhortation
 - b. Thesis Statement
 - c. Theological Discussion
 - d. Practical/Ethical Admonitions
4. The Closing of the Letter
 - a. Practical matters
 - b. Individual Final Greetings
 - c. Farewell