

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>ix</i>
<i>List of Textboxes</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>xiii</i>

Part One: Who Was Paul and What Did He Do?

Introduction: Why Study Paul?	3
Positive and Negative Evaluations of Paul	3
Why Study Paul?	6
How to Use This Book	8
1. How Can We Study Paul?	11
Historical Study	11
Political Study	13
Social-Scientific Study	13
Rhetorical Study	15
Literary Study	15
Feminist Study	17
Theological Study	17
2. What Sources Can We Use to Study Paul?	21
Letters of Paul	21
The Book of Acts	27

Noncanonical Sources	31
Sources: A Proposal	31
3. Where and When Did Paul Live and Work?	35
The Problems of Outlining a “Life” of Paul	35
Where Did Paul Live and Work?	39
How Did Paul Travel?	46
4. What Kind of Person Was Paul?	51
A Judean	51
A Greco-Roman	58
A Christ-Believer	81
5. What Did Paul Do?	91
What Was the Heart of Paul’s Social Network?	91
How Did Paul Begin Congregations?	98
How Did Paul Nurture Congregations?	102

Part Two: What Did Paul Write?

6. 1 Thessalonians: The End Is Near—but Not Yet	127
Paraenesis	127
Conclusion to the Letter	129
Historical Situation	130
4:13-18	132
5:1-11	135
Chapters 1-3	138
Summary	140
7. Galatians: Free To Be Children of God	143
Why Is Paul So Upset? (1:1—2:21)	143
How Does Paul Prove His Thesis? (3:1—4:31)	147
Historical Situation	153
The Rhetorical Genre of Galatians	155
Paraenesis and the Letter’s Conclusion (5:1—6:18)	155
Summary	157
8. 1 Corinthians: Life in the Body	161
How Are New Believers to Live?	161
Founding of the Congregation	162
Why Corinth?	162
Composition of the Congregation	164
Why Write Now?	166
What Issues Does Paul Need to Address?	167
How Does Paul Approach Them?	169
From Where and When Did Paul Write?	170

Final Introductory Questions	170
Chapters 1–4	171
Chapters 5–7	173
8:1—11:1	176
11:2–34	178
Chapters 12–14	180
Chapter 15	183
Chapter 16	185
Summary	186
9. 2 Corinthians: Treasure in Clay Jars	189
Where Do We See God’s Power?	189
Seams	190
Proposed Solutions	194
Time and Place	200
Genre	201
Crises and Opponents	201
Reading through 2 Corinthians, Fragment by Fragment	204
1:1—2:13	205
2:14—6:13	208
Interpolation in 6:14—7:1	212
7:2–16	212
8:1–24	213
9:1–15	214
10:1—13:13	215
13:1–13	219
Effect and Summary	220
10. Romans: God Justifies the Ungodly	223
Not Ashamed of the Gospel	223
Introducing Paul and His Gospel	224
Why Did Paul Write to the Romans?	229
What Genre(s) Did Paul Use?	234
Where and When Did Paul Write?	235
1:18—3:20	236
3:21—5:21	238
6:1—8:39	241
9:1—11:36	244
12:1—15:13	246
15:13—16:23 [25–27]	248
Summary	250
11. Philippians: Citizenship in Heaven	255
A New Home	255
The City of Philippi	255
Founding of the Congregation	256

Reasons for Writing	256
How Many Letters Do We Have?	257
What Does Paul Want from the Philippians? The Question of Genre	260
Where and When Did Paul Write?	260
Opponents	263
1:1-26	264
1:27-30	266
2:1-30	266
3:1—4:1	271
4:2-23	272
Summary	275
12. Philemon: Life in the Christ Believing Family	277
How Did People Live in the Family?	277
The Story behind the Letter	277
Genre	279
Location and Date	280
Verses 1-7	281
Verses 8-16	283
Verses 17-25	284
Summary	288
13. How Did People Develop What Paul Wrote?	289
The Eschatological Paul (2 Thessalonians)	290
The Universal Paul (Colossians, Ephesians)	292
The Ecclesiastical Paul (Acts, 1–2 Timothy, Titus, Ignatius of Antioch)	295
The Radical Paul (Marcion)	299
The Spiritualized Paul (Gnosticism)	301
The Ascetic Paul (<i>The Acts of Paul and Thecla</i>)	303
The Apostate Paul (The Pseudo-Clementines)	305
Conclusion	306
<i>Glossary</i>	311
<i>Abbreviations</i>	319
<i>Notes</i>	323
<i>Index</i>	373