

Module 2 Key Ideas and Objectives

Key Ideas

1. God controls the destiny of nations and empires.
2. God redeems all of mankind through Jesus, the Messiah for all peoples.
3. Jesus saw Himself as the Messiah and Savior of mankind.
4. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ are historical, unique, and central to history.
5. A decision to follow Jesus requires a transformation of heart and worldview rather than a change to a new culture.
6. Jesus left His Holy Spirit, giving Spiritual gifts to His believers and empowering them for the expected spiritual warfare.
7. Assess the process whereby the Apostles decided that God was including the Gentiles in the New Covenant.
8. The New Testament Canon is a reliable witness.
9. God builds His church throughout culture and history, working through imperfect believers guided by His Spirit.
10. God has a unique role for the church to play in history, which includes severe persecution and eventual victory.
11. The gospel transcends cultures and takes on different forms in different cultural basins and contexts.
12. At the end of history, God reigns on heaven and earth.

Content Objectives

By the end of Module 2, you should be able to:

1. Understand the rise of Greek prominence, the Greek philosophical worldview, and the historical and cultural context of Judaism in the intertestamental period.
2. Describe the cultural and historical background of the life and ministry of Jesus.
3. Evaluate various views on the meaning of history and how they impact the civilizations who ascribe to them.
4. Assess the life and teachings of Jesus and its calling for worldwide mission as seen in the Gospels and Acts.
5. Evaluate the historicity of the resurrection of Jesus and compare to the resurrection myths of other religions.
6. Assess the role of the Holy Spirit in the building of the church, in the life of the believer, and the place for spiritual gifts.
7. Define the worldwide mission task, and describe Paul's role in this mission through his letters and the book of Acts.

8. Explain the process of the formation and translation of the Septuagint and the canonization of the New Testament.
9. Evaluate the major positive and negative contributions of Greek and Roman civilizations and their impact on the Church.
10. Appraise the break between Judaism and the early church and compare the divergence of emphases they develop.
11. Describe the growth and spread of the church in Jerusalem, to the East and the West, from the time of Christ, to AD 200.
12. Distinguish between conversion, worldview change, and rebirth, with a study of the meaning and results of salvation on morality and behavior.
13. Identify and distinguish between doctrinal, theological, and cultural issues of the early church.
14. Explain the process of canonization of the New Testament.
15. Assess the effects of persecution upon the early churches in Rome, Persia, and the East.
16. Evaluate the effects of Constantine's conversion on Rome and the Church.
17. Evaluate the role and treatment of women both in the Greek and Roman world and with the church.
18. Assess the role of the two structures of the church throughout history for mission work.
19. Assess culture and its relation to mission in the time of the early church, and in modern times.
20. Integrate the developments of the major civilizations of the world during the period of 400 BC to AD 400 and the development of the corresponding religions.
21. Assess the various eschatology views and the view of the early church towards end times.