



The Pastoral Epistles

1 & 2 Timothy

and Titus

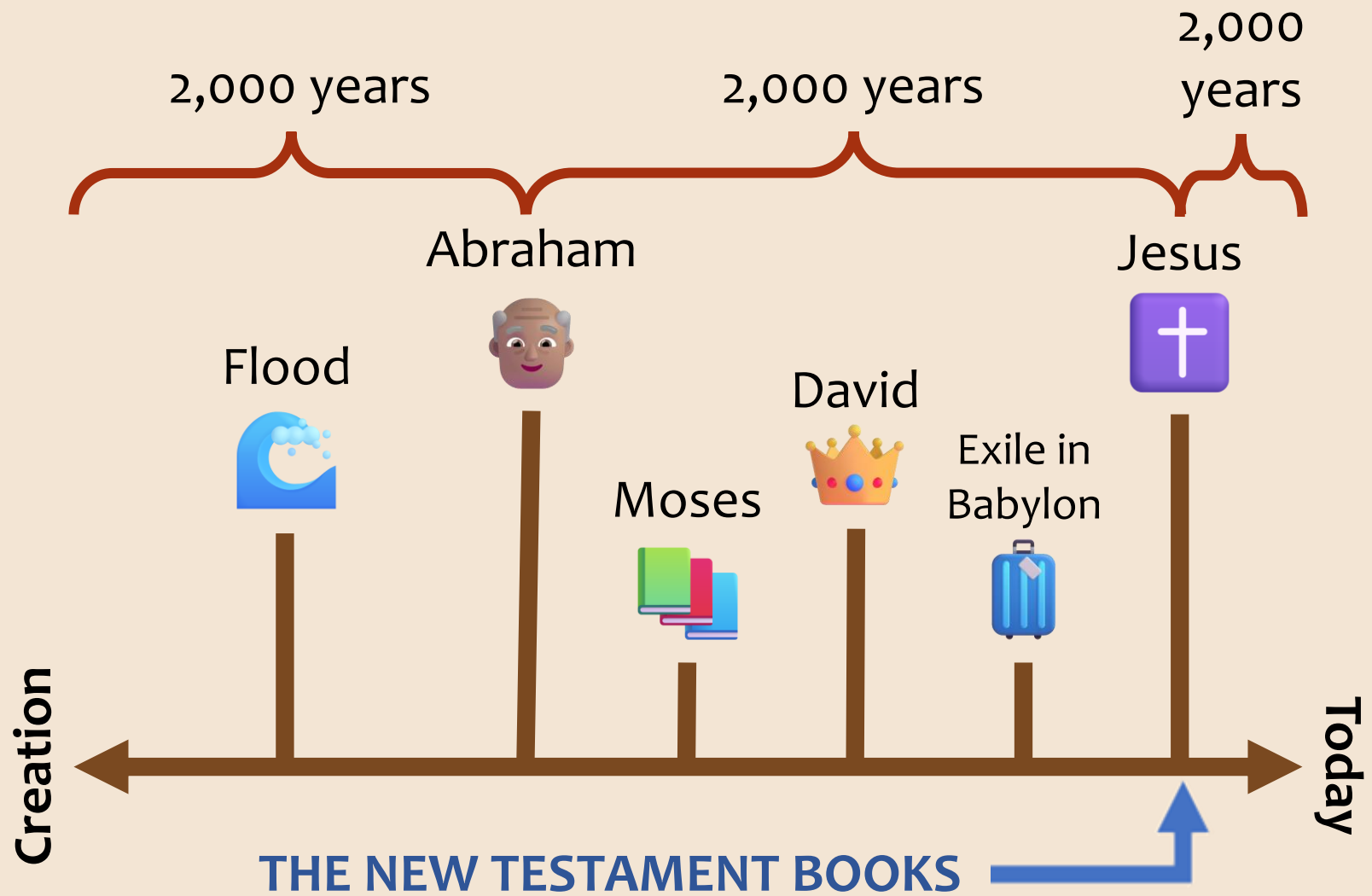
The Pastoral Epistles:

1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus

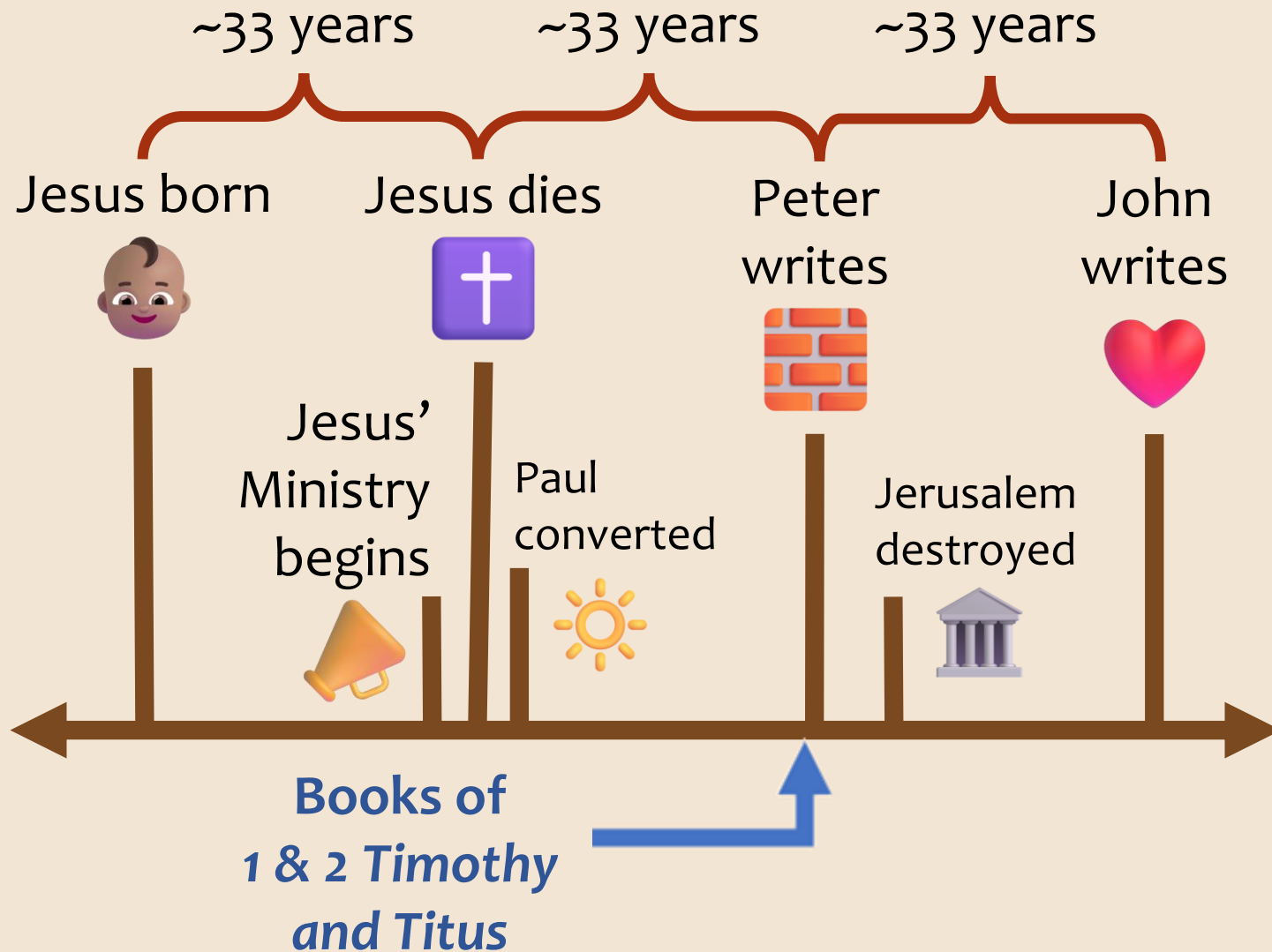
- These three books have been called the “Pastoral Epistles” for centuries
 - The *intended* meaning is that they contain instructions about **choosing** leaders for a church, and what leading **looks** like.
 - Today, the name tends to imply that these men – Timothy and Titus – **are** themselves the pastors. **This is unfounded.**
- Pastors are elders – *older* men appointed to the *role* of elder.
 - We have no reason to believe Timothy and Titus held that office; Timothy is identified as *young* (**1 Timothy 4:12**)
 - Almost all people you meet think that a “pastor” is simply the preacher, but this is not how the Bible uses the word.



Bible timeline



Bible timeline



Summary

1 & 2 Timothy and Titus

Instructions to two men that Paul had sent to help churches get situated.

They get advice on:

- What to teach others
- How to be good examples
- Making sure they take care of their own needs
 - Health (1 Tim. 5:23)
 - Study on your own (1 Tim. 4:15)
 - Be bold (2 Tim. 1:7-8, Titus 2:15)
 - Endure suffering (2 Tim. 4:5)



Why 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus are special

They are indeed “pastoral”
– they are guides on leading and caring for a church, and appointing those men that will do so.

- Also, it is noteworthy that these are young* men that are tasked with “mentoring” older men and women

* “Young” is explained on next slide



Main characters

- **Paul**

- Apostle
- Near the end of his life (**2 Timothy 4:7**)

- **Timothy**

- Young (**1 Timothy 4:12**)
- Evangelist (**2 Timothy 4:5**)

- **Titus**

- *Probably* young
 - **Titus 2:1-8** implies that he will be a role model for young men
 - Paul calls Titus his metaphorical “child” in **Titus 1:4**
- Maybe an evangelist; he has a similar charge as Timothy

Outline of 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus

- **1 Timothy:** *“how one ought to behave in the household of God”* 1 Timothy 3:15 (ESV)
 - Men should lead (**chapter 2**)
 - Qualifications for elders and deacons (**chapter 3**)
 - Widows in need (**chapter 5**)
 - Watch for false teachers (**chapters 1, 4, 6**)
- **Titus:** *“the things which are proper for sound doctrine”* Titus 2:1 (NKJV)
 - Elders should teach it (**1:9**)
 - People should live it (**chapter 2**)
- **2 Timothy:** *“entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also”* 2 Tim. 2:2 (NASB)
 - You have what you need (**chapter 1; 3:14-17**)
 - I will die very soon (**4:6-8**)

Theology and doctrine

What are elders in the New Testament?

- Older men – *this is obvious but important*
- Appointed – **Titus 1:5**
- Same role as “overseers” – **Acts 20:28; Titus 1:7**
(compare **1 Peter 2:25**)
 - Or “bishop” – different English words for the same Greek word *episkopos*
- Qualified – **1 Timothy 3:2-7; Titus 1:6-9**
- Same role as “shepherds” – **1 Peter 5:1-4; Acts 20:28**
 - Or “pastor” – different English words for *poimen*
 - (Also note the verb, *poimaino*, translated as “to shepherd” or “to feed”)
- Not the same role as an evangelist – **Ephesians 4:11**
 - But an elder *can* preach – **1 Timothy 5:17**

Recap of 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus

• Summary

- Instructions to two men that Paul had sent to help churches get situated

• Why it is special

- They are guides on leading and caring for a church, and appointing those men that will do so.

• Main characters

- Paul
- Timothy
- Titus

• Outline

- **1 Timothy:** “how one ought to behave in the household of God,” **1 Tim. 3:15** (ESV)
- **Titus:** “the things which are proper for sound doctrine,” **Titus 2:1** (NKJV)
- **2 Timothy:** “entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also,” **2 Tim. 2:2** (NASB)

• Theology and doctrine

- What are elders in the New Testament?
 - Overseer, bishop, shepherd, pastor

Moses is Overwhelmed

Exodus 18:12-27



Summary

Moses is Overwhelmed
Exodus 18:12-27

- Moses gets advice from his father-in-law: you need to delegate.



Why this story is special

- It's a model for the church today: one man cannot take care of everyone's needs.



Main characters

-  **Moses**
 - Leader of Israel
 - About 80 years old in this story
-  **Jethro**
 - Moses' father-in-law
 - Age unknown – he could be about the same age as Moses
 - “Priest of Midian” (**verse 1**)
 - Believes in Israel's God (**vs. 10-12**)
-  **Roughly 2 million Israelites**
 - Ask questions a lot
 - (600k adult men, plus women and children)

Outline of *Exodus* 18:12-27

1. **V. 12:** Jethro sacrifices to God, with Moses and Aaron and elders of Israel
 - This implies approval of Jethro's religious standing
2. **Vs. 13-18:** Jethro observes that Moses is over-worked
3. **Vs. 19-21:** Advice 1 – Remain as a high-level administrator
 - Tell them the laws
 - Handle supreme-court judgments (cf. v. 22)
 - Appoint lower-court judges
4. **Vs. 22-23:** Advice 2 – Let the lower judges handle the small things
5. **Vs. 24-27:** Moses took Jethro's advice

In case you missed it

The land of Midian

- Moses' father-in-law Jethro was "priest of Midian" (**Exodus 18:1**)
- In **Numbers 22-25**, Midian is complicit in Moab's sins (Balaam story)
- In **Numbers 31**, the LORD commands Moses to attack the Midianites
- In **Judges 6-8**, the Midianites oppress Israel and Gideon leads a fight against them

So was Moses' father-in-law a bad person?

- No, there is no reason to assume this, and the **Exodus 18** story shows otherwise
- Midian had at least five kings at once (**Numbers 31:8**) – you can't exactly say the whole region acted all the same
- The Kenites were descendants of Moses' father-in-law; they lived in Israel (**Judges 1:16**) and were showed kindness from Saul (**1 Sam. 15:6**); the Rechabites descend from them (**1 Chr. 2:55, Jer.35**)

Theology and doctrine

- Churches today tend to depend on the “one man pastor” which has all sorts of problems in that logic
 - The minister is not automatically “the pastor”
 - Pastors are elders, and church elders are never found alone
 - In a church with no elders, *the minister is not meant to do it all*
 - We need to train up future generations to continue the work – putting it all on one man is a recipe for disaster (“you can’t leave!”)

Recap of *Exodus 18:12-27*

• Summary

- Moses gets advice from his father-in-law: you need to delegate

• Why it is special

- It's a model for the church today: one man cannot take care of everyone's needs

• Main characters

- Moses
- Jethro
- Roughly 2 million Israelites

• Outline

1. **V. 12:** Jethro sacrifices to God, with Moses, Aaron and elders of Israel
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• In case you missed it

- The land of Midian

• Theology and doctrine

- The minister of a church is not automatically “the pastor”

Poem: Psalm 71

Remember me when I am old

- Asking God to remember me and deliver me, even into old age.
- Verse 18 sounds like Paul's end-of-life thoughts:
 - *“So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.” (ESV)*