



Week #1

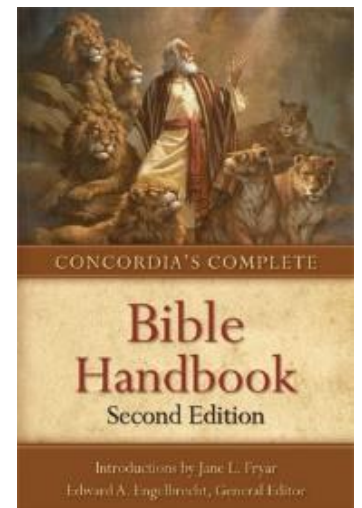
Video

Overview Using *Concordia's Complete Bible Handbook*

p. 354

Life in the Early Christian Church / The Worship Service

- How does this description relate to “church” as we understand it today?



pp. 354-355

The Church in Rome / Persecution in the Early Church

- How does this relate to your experience as a Christian today?

pp. 355, 357

Prisons

- How does this description of prisons help you see what it means that Jesus called on the church to care for prisoners?

Matthew 25:37-40, in a parable told by Jesus:

³⁷“Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?’ ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”

pp. 360-361

Paul's Missionary Journeys

- Review the travels, map, and how they relate to the book of Acts.
- Also review where & when Paul's letters were written.
How does that timeline relate to the order of the letters in the New Testament?

pp. 367-368

True God, Not Myth

- What is an important takeaway, reminder, or new insight for you from this description of the religious climate in the days of Acts?
- How do you think this relates to the religious climate in your context?
- Today in the United States, we often are concerned about how we can possibly make an exclusive claim of salvation in Jesus in the midst of a land of the "freedom of religion." From this description of the religious climate in Paul's day, do you think they have to be concerned about the same questions? Why or why?