

A hand in a white glove is shown holding a glowing, spherical object with a yellow and orange gradient. The background is a bright, hazy white. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

**The Kingdom,
The Power,
and The
Glory**

Kingdom, Power and Glory

A SURVEY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Fourth Edition

by Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo
and Marcia A. Munger

AN INDEPENDENT-STUDY TEXTBOOK

Developed in cooperation with Global University staff



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What is new in this printing:

- Unit evaluation answer keys are now located at the back of this textbook for self-evaluation. Unit evaluations are no longer submitted for credit.
- Students must apply and enroll at <http://sed.globaltraining.com> and complete the online final examination to receive credit.
- Students may also e-mail sed@globaluniversity.edu to find an office in their country for enrollment.

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Fourth edition 2006.

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PN 04.15.01

ISBN 978-0-7617-1148-3

www.globaluniversity.edu
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Printed in the United States of America by Gospel Publishing House,
Springfield, Missouri.

Table of Contents

THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE SERIES	4
COURSE INTRODUCTION.	5
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	15

UNIT ONE: *JESUS' LIFE AND MINISTRY*

1 The New Testament and Its World	18
2 Jesus and the Gospels	48
3 Matthew and Mark.	72
4 Luke and John	96

UNIT TWO: *THE CHURCH'S GROWTH*

5 The Church Is Established	126
6 The Church Reaches Out.	152
7 The Church Continues to Grow.	172

UNIT THREE: *THE CHURCH—PROBLEMS AND HOPE*

8 The Church Finds Solutions.	198
9 The Church in Conflict and Anticipation	220
10 We Rely on the New Testament	248

STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE.	271
GLOSSARY.	274
ANSWERS TO SELF-TESTS	282
UNIT EVALUATIONS.	293
UNIT EVALUATION ANSWER KEY	307
FINAL EXAM INSTRUCTIONS	311

THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE SERIES



This Independent-Study Textbook is one of 18 courses (subjects) that make up the GU Christian Service Program. The symbol at the left is a guide for the order of study in the series, which is divided into three units of six courses each. *Kingdom, Power, and Glory* is Course 2 in Unit I.

The units are structured to guide you in systematically going through the entire series. However, you may study this course by itself or study any course in the entire series in any sequence.

Study materials in the Christian Service Program are designed in a self-teaching format for Christian workers. This program will provide a student with the necessary Bible knowledge and skills for practical Christian service. These courses have been especially prepared for Christian workers in all nations and cultures.

ATTENTION

Please read the preliminary instructions for this course very carefully. By following the instructions, you should be able to achieve your goals for the course, and you should not have difficulty preparing for your unit evaluations

COURSE INTRODUCTION

God's New Covenant With Humanity

In this course, you will study the New Testament, the new agreement God made with humanity through Jesus Christ. The New Testament tells how God saved us from eternal destruction and how we can be brought into His kingdom through Christ and experience His power daily. And it describes the glorious return of our Savior and our wonderful destiny in Him.

The first unit gives an overview of all the books of the New Testament and the time during which they were written. It presents the books that tell about Jesus' earthly life and ministry. You will study each of the four Gospel accounts of His unique message and His mighty miracles. Also, you will learn about the land where He lived and the men who wrote about Him.

The second unit examines the books that describe the beginning of the church and its expansion throughout the Roman Empire. In this unit, you will follow the apostles and the believers as they proclaimed the good news of salvation to Jews and Greeks, slaves and masters, honest seekers and skeptics. You will study the letters that were written to the various congregations that sprang up and learn about these congregations' joys and problems. You will see how the church was formed and sustained by the power of God.

The third unit presents the books that were written as the church continued to expand. In this unit, you will learn how it faced persecution by those who hated it and false teaching by those who denied its Lord. You will consider the guidelines that were set down for its leaders and study the glorious vision these books have of the future. In this unit, you will also discover how the New Testament has been passed on to us. You will learn the

reasons why we can rely on it completely as we seek to know God and serve Him today.

As you study all these things, you will realize that the New Testament is God's message to you. The facts you learn will help you understand its truths and teach them to others. God bless you as you study!

The Time between the Testaments

Perhaps you have already studied the Old Testament. If so, you will remember that its historical account closes with the Jews rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem. But when the New Testament opens, Jerusalem is under Roman control. What happened in the land of Palestine during the time between the Old and the New Testaments, the "intertestamental" period?

In 586 BC, the last group of Jews was taken away from Jerusalem into captivity under the Babylonians. While these Jews were in captivity, the Persians conquered the Babylonians. The Persians allowed the Jews to go back to Jerusalem, and a small number of them returned. This ended their seventy-year period of exile. The Jews who returned to Jerusalem rebuilt the temple and settled in the land. However, many Jews did not return to Palestine. Some remained in Babylon. The rest were eventually scattered among the nations. In history, this has been called the *diaspora*, a term related to the word *dispersion*, which means "a spreading or scattering."

Next, the Persians were defeated by young Alexander the Great, whose armies conquered vast territories including Syria, Palestine, and Egypt. Alexander's political empire did not long survive his early death at the age of 33. The Greek culture he introduced, though, had a lasting influence on Palestine and the entire ancient world.

After Alexander died in 323 BC, Palestine was controlled by a series of other foreign powers. Antiochus IV (175–164 BC), a ruler of the Seleucid Empire, tried to force the Jews to accept the Greek culture. He forbade their traditional worship and desecrated their temple. In 167 BC, the Jews revolted against

his evil decrees. A few years later, they regained control of Jerusalem and cleansed the temple. Their war for independence continued until 142 BC. This time is known as the Maccabean period, named after Judas Maccabeas (the “hammerer”), the hard-hitting military leader of the Jewish forces.

The period of Jewish independence lasted from 142 BC until 63 BC, when Jerusalem was taken over by the Roman general Pompey. During this time, the Hasmonean rulers continued to struggle against foreign domination. They also fought among themselves. The Hasmonean rulers were descendants of Simon Maccabeas, one of the brothers of Judas. (Judas was killed in 161 BC.) In the meantime, the power of Rome, a major force in the area from about 200 BC onward, continued to grow stronger. The last Hasmonean ruler was killed in 37 BC by Herod the Great, whom Rome appointed ruler of the Jews. Herod was in power at the time of Christ’s birth.

As you begin your study of the New Testament, it will be helpful for you to keep these facts about the intertestamental period in mind. The events that happened during this period influenced the Jewish religion and shaped the world into which Jesus was born.

Course Description

Kingdom, Power, and Glory will help the Christian worker gain an overall knowledge of the content of the New Testament. It emphasizes the historical setting, characteristics, and teachings of the New Testament. It will help the Christian worker understand the New Testament, gain confidence in its reliability, and become better equipped to share its truths with others.

Course Objectives

When you finish this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the historical background, author, and message of each book of the New Testament.
2. Identify important places associated with the background of the New Testament, the life of Jesus, and the expansion of the early church.
3. Explain why we can rely on the New Testament as the trustworthy and accurate record of the life of Jesus and the teachings of the apostles.
4. Accept the New Testament as God's message to you and share its truths more fully with others.

Textbooks

You will use *Kingdom, Power, and Glory* by Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo and Marcia A. Munger as both the textbook and study guide for the course. The Bible is the only other requirement.

Before You Begin

For Official Credit and a Certificate

Students who are officially enrolled with Global University through the International office in Springfield, MO, USA and have paid the appropriate fees may earn an end of series **Christian Service Diploma** by completing all the course requirements including the final examination for each course. A diploma may be requested from the Registrar's office. Students studying through a center or group should contact their instructor or director for information concerning a diploma.

- Students may officially enroll in the School for Evangelism and Discipleship (SED) courses online at <http://sed.globalutrainig.com> or by contacting student services.
- To study and obtain a certificate in one of our offices worldwide please fill out the form located at http://www.globaluniversity.edu/request_info.cfm to determine if there is a study group in your country or area.

This material may be studied for personal enrichment without official enrollment, which does NOT award a transcript or certificate from resources such as www.globalreach.org or by purchasing the book from Global University (<http://www.globaluniversity.edu/PDF/orderSED.pdf>). However, we do ask those who take advantage of these resources to consider making a donation to the Global University Evangelism Fund or Project Timothy. Please visit www.globaluniversity.edu and click on "giving."

Ways to Study this Course

This course has been written so that you can study it by yourself. We like to say "the teacher is in the book." However, you may also study this course in various types of group settings. If you study this course by yourself, all of your work can be completed by following the instructions in this study guide.

If you are studying in a study group, be sure to follow any additional directions your instructor may give.

Your church or group may partner with Global University to open a study group. Visit us online at www.globaluniversity.edu or contact the study group coordinator at Global University for more information.

How to Use this Book

How much time you actually need to study each lesson depends in part on your knowledge of the subject and the strength of your study skills before you begin the course. The time you spend also depends on the extent to which you follow directions and develop skills necessary for independent study. Plan your study schedule so that you spend enough time to reach the objectives stated by the author of the course and your personal objectives as well.

Each lesson includes an introduction, an outline and objectives to guide your study, learning activities, key words, application study questions throughout the lesson, and self-tests at the end of each lesson. Answers to application questions are provided at the end of each lesson, and answers for self-tests at the end of the book, so you may review your learning progress.

Suggestions for Studying

1. Set aside quiet and regular times for your study. It will be easier to concentrate if study is part of your daily habits.
2. Pray as you begin each study session. With an open Bible, the Holy Spirit, and this course, you are in the classroom of the Holy Spirit. Ask the Lord to help you understand the lesson and apply it to your life.
3. Read the lesson introduction, the lesson outline and goals. The lesson outline and objectives will give you an overview of the subject, help you focus your attention on the most important points as you study, and tell you what you should learn.
4. Begin to carefully read the lesson. Look up Bible references and take any notes that may be helpful. The Bible verses reinforce important points in the lesson.

5. Answer the application study questions in the spaces provided. Most of the questions in the lesson can be answered in spaces provided in this textbook. Longer answers should be written in a notebook or journal. As you write your answers, be sure to record the number and title of the lesson. **Do not look ahead at the answers** until you have written your answer. If you give your own answers, you will remember what you study much better. *After* you have answered the application questions, check your answers with those given at the end of the lesson. Then review those you did not answer correctly. The answers are not given in the usual numerical order so that you will not accidentally see the answer to the next question. These application questions are very important. They will help you remember the main ideas presented in the lesson and apply the principles you have learned.
6. At the end of each lesson, complete the self-test, then check your answers using the answer key in the back of the book.
7. At the end of each unit, answer the unit evaluation questions, then check your answers using the answer key provided. Review difficult questions.
8. Take your time and study at a comfortable pace.

How to Answer Study Questions

There are different kinds of study questions and self-test questions in this textbook. Below are samples of several types and how to answer them. Specific instructions will be given for other types of questions that may occur.

Multiple-Choice

A multiple-choice question asks you to choose an answer from the ones that are given.

EXAMPLE

- 1 The Bible has a total of
- a) 100 books.
 - b) 66 books.**
 - c) 27 books.

The correct answer is **b) 66 books**. You would make a circle around **b)** as shown above.

(For some multiple-choice items, more than one answer will be correct. In that case, you would circle the letter in front of each correct answer.)

True-False

A true-false question or item asks you to choose which of several statements are true.

EXAMPLE

- 2 Which statements below are true?
- a) The Bible has a total of 120 books.
 - b) The Bible is a message for believers today.**
 - c) All of the Bible authors wrote in the Hebrew language.
 - d) The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.**

Statements **b)** and **d)** are true. You would make a circle around these two letters to show your choices, as you see above.

Matching

A matching question or item asks you to match things that go together, such as names with descriptions, or Bible books with their authors.

EXAMPLE

- 3 Write the number for the leader's name in front of each phrase that describes something he did.

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1 | a) Received the Law at Mt. Sinai | 1) Moses |
| 2 | b) Led the Israelites across the Jordan | 2) Joshua |
| 2 | c) Marched around Jericho | |
| 1 | d) Lived in Pharaoh's court | |

Phrases **a)** and **d)** refer to Moses, and phrases **b)** and **c)** refer to Joshua. You would write 1 beside **a)** and **d)**, and 2 beside **b)** and **c)**, as you see above.

Unit Evaluations and Final Examination

At the end of this course, you will find the unit evaluations. Unit evaluations are NO LONGER counted as part of your course grade. However, unit evaluation scores indicate how well you learned the material and how well you may do on the final examination. After completing each unit evaluation, check your answers with the answers provided at the end of this textbook. You can then review the information in your course text and Bible concerning questions that were difficult for you. Reviewing the objectives, application questions and answers, self-tests, and unit exams will help you to prepare for the final examination. If you are not studying officially with a Global University office or study group you will still benefit by completing the unit evaluations.

The instructions for taking the final examination are available online using your student login and password. The final examination is only required for officially enrolled students (<http://sed.globalutrainig.com>). Students studying through a national office or local study group should contact their instructor or director for information concerning unit evaluations and the final examination.

Additional Helps

For more information concerning our course content, purchases, and the SED Study Group Manual, please visit http://www.globaluniversity.edu/studygroups_forms.cfm.

Also visit us at www.globalreach.org for additional resources.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

This course was written by Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo and Marcia A. Munger.

Jean-Baptiste Sawadogo was a graduate of the College Protestant of the Assemblies of God in Burkina Faso. He studied at the International Bible Training Institute in England and pursued graduate work at the University of Ougadougou. He was an instructor at the Assembly of God Bible School in Nagabagré, Burkina Faso.

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