The data of Paul's letters and of the Acts are not identical. The letters, however, are the primary sources for the author's life and the Luke's story in the Acts is only a secondary source, so that in cases of factual dispute preference should be given to the letters. These three letters suppose a mission of Paul to the East after his captivity in Rome. Their Pauline authorship involves several problems, and they are normally considered post-Pauline and pseudepigraphical. In this study they will not be discussed. 2. The Historiography of Acts. Christian writers have too often considered the Book of the Acts in the void, assuming that it should be read in the same way as modern historical writing. There is, however, a perfectly good literary context in which it must be placed. When all the Pauline Letters as a corpus were first known is difficult to determine. The style of Paul's letters is an admixture of Greek and Jewish form, combining Paul's personal concern with his official status as Apostle. After his own name, Paul names the addressees or congregation being addressed and adds grace and peace. This is often followed by thanksgivings and intercession that are significantly adapted to the content and purpose of the letter. Doctrinal material usually precedes advice or exhortation (parenesis), and the letters conclude with personal news or admonition and a blessing.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Paul's letters were proba...