**“Epistle”** – A formal word for “**letter**”

**13 Letters** or ***“epistles”*** are attributed to Paul

Q: Why?

A: Each letter names Paul as author in the very first verse

Paul was born in **Tarsus (Eastern Turkey)**

He studied under a well-known teacher (Rabbi) named **Gamaliel**

**~~Paul~~ Saul the Persecutor** (Acts 7:54-8:1)

**Paul the Apostle** (9:1-22)

**Paul the Prisoner**

He spent time in jails in Jerusalem, Caesarea, Rome

**Paul the Martyr**

Paul was executed in Rome around 67 AD. According to ancient sources such as Clement, Dionysius, Eusebius and Tertullian, Paul was executed by beheading, ordered by Nero.

**Paul the Founder**

He founded churches in:

* Galatia (Turkey/Asia Minor)
* Ephesus (Turkey/Asia Minor)
* Corinth (Greece)
* Philippi (Macedonia [Greece])
* Thessalonica (Macedonia [Greece])

**13 Epistles**

The Seven Definite Letters of Paul

1. Romans
2. 1 Corinthians
3. 2 Corinthians
4. Galatians
5. Philippians
6. 1 Thessalonians
7. Philemon

The Six Letters of “Paul”

1. 1 Timothy
2. 2 Timothy
3. Titus
4. Ephesians
5. Colossians
6. 2 Thessalonians

Q: How were the letters in Bible ordered:

A: Based on who they are addressed to.

The **first 9** are addressed to churches (longest to shortest).

**Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians**

EXCEPTION: Ephesians longer than Galatians

Then **last 4** are addressed to individuals (longest to shortest).

**1&2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon**