Supplemental Works

There are many other ancient Christian writings that can add to your understanding of Jesus. Christian writings of the first centuries are encyclopedic in breadth, but here are a few to sample:

- The Didache: "for yours is the power and the glory forever," circa 85
- The Letters of Ignatius: En route to being fed to lions in the arena, circa110
- The Letters of Clement: Letters to the Corinthians, 30 years after Paul
- The writings of Justin Martyr: Explains Christianity to the Roman Emperor, circa 150
- The Prayer of Mannaseh: Penitential prayer of a captive king
- 3 Maacabees: Persecution of the Jews in Alexandria
- 4 Maccabees: In praise of reason over passion
- 1 Esdras: King Josiah, The Three Youths, Zerubbabel
- The Letter of Jeremiah: Instructs the Jews heading into exile not to worship false gods

Commentary

Bible Study Tools

Many find it helpful to use notes and commentary to supplement their reading. A hundred generations of Christians have pondered these words and it can be valuable to see how certain passages have been viewed through the ages. Here are introductory options from the three Christian traditions.

- The Bible Speaks Today Series (P)
- The Ignatius Study Bible (C)
- Orthodox Study Bible (O)

O - Orthodox | C - Catholic | P - Protestant