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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Preface and Acknowledgments -- Map -- 1. Introduction: Why Study the New Testament -- 2. The Development of the Canon -- 3. The Greco- Roman World -- 4. Ancient Judaism -- 5. The New Testament as a Historical Source: A Comparison of Acts and Paul's Letters -- 6. The Gospel of Mark -- 7. The Gospel of Matthew -- 8. The Gospel of Thomas -- 9. The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, Part 1: Structure and Themes -- 10. The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, Part 2: Editing the Beginnings of Christianity -- 11. The Gospel of John -- 12. The Letters of John and the Spread of Christianity -- 13. The Historical Jesus -- 14. Paul as Missionary: 1 Thessalonians -- 15. Paul as Pastor: Philemon and 1 and 2 Corinthians -- 16. Paul as Jewish Theologian: Galatians and Romans -- 17. Colossians and Ephesians -- 18. Differing Christians: Christology, Faith, and Works -- 19. The Pro- household Paul: The Pastoral Epistles -- 20. The Anti- household Paul: The Acts of Paul and Thecla -- 21. Hebrews and Biblical Interpretation -- 22. Premodern Biblical Interpretation -- 23. Apocalypticism as Resistance -- 25. The Development of Ecclesiastical Institutions: Ignatius and the Didache -- Epilogue: Christianity after the New Testament Period -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Subject and Author Index -- Index of Scripture Citations

In this engaging introduction to the New Testament, Professor Dale B. Martin presents a historical study of the origins of Christianity by analyzing the literature of the earliest Christian movements. Focusing mainly on the New Testament, he also considers nonbiblical Christian writings of the era. Martin begins by making a powerful case for the study of the New Testament. He next sets the Greco-Roman world in historical context and explains the place of Judaism within it. In the discussion of each New Testament book that follows, the author addresses theological themes, then emphasizes the significance of the writings as ancient literature and as sources for historical study. Throughout the volume, Martin introduces various early Christian groups and highlights the surprising variations among their versions of Christianity.
