

TIMELINE OF PAUL'S JOURNEYS AND LETTERS IN ACTS

10 Reasons Galatians 2 is not Acts 15 (Jerusalem Council)

- Paul's own words about his 2nd visit vs Acts 15 shows it is his 3rd visit (this is very important in light of Galatians 1:20 "In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!").
- Paul says he went up by revelation. Acts 15:2 records they were sent to Jerusalem by those in Antioch over the circumcision issue.
- Paul says he shared the gospel he teaches privately with those who seemed to be leaders. Acts 15 mentions the discussion was with the whole church, apostles, elders, and an "assembly".
- In Galatians 2:12, Paul calls the people the "circumcision party" which matches up exactly with Acts 11:2 and not Acts 15:1 (some men).
- Paul calls the people who challenged his gospel "false brothers" in Galatians 2:4 and in Titus 1:10 he calls them "deceivers". Luke just calls them "some men".
- Paul says they added nothing to his message in Galatians 2:6. In Acts 15:2, James said they should write to them and "added" four things they should do.
- Galatians 2:7 says work was split up – Paul to Gentiles and Peter to Jews. Acts 15 has no mention of work being split up.
- If Silas went back with Paul after the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:22) and if Galatians was written after the Jerusalem Council – wouldn't Paul have mentioned his new partner at least once in Galatians?
- How much more of a "hypocrite" would Peter be if he went back to Antioch and "separated himself" from the Gentiles AFTER the Jerusalem Council?
- Paul could have used the Jerusalem Council's decision to strengthen his argument in Galatians (ESV Study Bible calls this the "deafening silence" argument).

Trip to Rome and Ship Wreck (Acts 27:1-44)



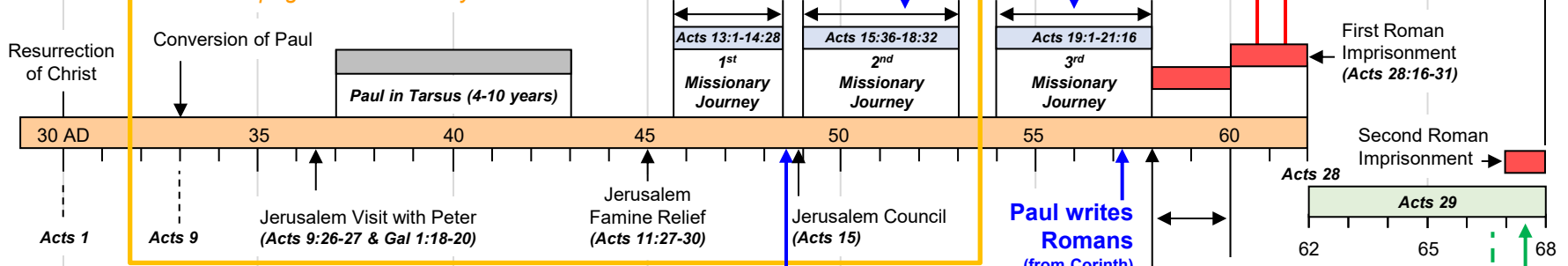
Paul writes Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians & Philemon (from Rome) Acts 28:16-31

Death of Paul in Rome

Paul writes 1 & 2 Thessalonians (from Corinth) Acts 18:1-17

Paul writes 1 & 2 Corinthians (from Philippi, Berea or Thessalonica) Acts 19:21-22 & Acts 20:2-6

See next page for Paul's early life



General Letters	Approx. Date	Missionary Trip	Written From	Carrier	When Letter Was Written	Location in Acts
Galatians	49 AD	After 1st Journey	Antioch	Unknown	Just before Jerusalem Council	Acts 15:2
1 Thessalonians	52-53 AD	During 2nd Trip	Corinth	Timothy & Silas (1 Thess 1:1)	18 month stay in Corinth during 2nd missionary journey	Acts 18:1-17
2 Thessalonians	52-53 AD	During 2nd Trip	Corinth	Timothy & Silas (2 Thess 1:1)	18 month stay in Corinth during 2nd missionary journey	Acts 18:1-17
1 Corinthians	56 AD	During 3rd Trip	Ephesus	Timothy (1 Cor 4:17)	During 3 year stay in Ephesus during 3rd missionary journey	Acts 19:21-22
2 Corinthians	57 AD	During 3rd Trip	Philippi, Berea, or Thessalonica	Titus (2 Cor 8:16-17)	After leaving Ephesus during 3rd missionary journey	Acts 20:2-6
Romans	57 AD	During 3rd Trip	Corinth	Phoebe (Romans 16:1)	3 month stay in Corinth during 3rd missionary journey	Acts 20:2-6

Paul writes Galatians (from Antioch) Acts 15:2

Paul writes Romans (from Corinth) Acts 20:2-6

Jerusalem & Caesarean Imprisonment (Acts 21:37-26:32)

Acts 28
Acts 29
62 65 68

Paul writes 2 Timothy (likely from Rome)

Paul writes 1 Timothy (possibly from Nicopolis)

Paul writes Titus (possibly from Corinth or Nicopolis)

Paul Arrested in Jerusalem (Acts 21:17-36)



Prison Epistles	Approx. Date	Missionary Trip	Written From	Carrier	When Letter Was Written	Location in Acts
Ephesians	60-62 AD	After 3rd Trip	Rome	Tychicus (Eph 6:21-22)	Imprisonment in Rome	Acts 28:16-31
Philippians	60-62 AD	After 3rd Trip	Rome	Epaphroditus (Phil 2:25, 4:18)	Imprisonment in Rome	Acts 28:16-31
Colossians	60-62 AD	After 3rd Trip	Rome	Tychicus & Onesimus (Col 4:7-9)	Imprisonment in Rome	Acts 28:16-31
Philemon	60-62 AD	After 3rd Trip	Rome	Tychicus & Onesimus? (Phm 10-21)	Imprisonment in Rome	Acts 28:16-31

Pastoral Epistles	Approx. Date	Missionary Trip	Written From	Carrier	When Letter Was Written	Location in Acts
1 Timothy	63-64 AD	After Roman Imprisonment	Nicopolis	Unknown	After being released from prison in Rome (1 Timothy 1:3)	--
Titus	63-64 AD	After Roman Imprisonment	Corinth or Nicopolis	Zenas & Apollos (Titus 3:12)	After being released from prison in Rome (Titus 1:5, 3:12)	--
2 Timothy	67-68 AD	After Roman Imprisonment	Rome	Possibly Tychicus (2 Tim 4:12)	During second Roman imprisonment shortly before his death (2 Timothy 1:8, 4:10-11)	--

PAUL'S TRAVELS IN ACTS 9-15 AND GALATIANS 1-2

But they were seeking to kill him. And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. – Acts 9:29-30 & Gal 1:21-23

“I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven.” – 2 Cor 12:2



2 Ananias baptizes Paul. – Acts 9:15-16



At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands. – 2 Cor 11:32 & Acts 9:23-25



1 ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting’. – Acts 9:1-5

And I know that this man was caught up to paradise – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows – and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. – 2 Cor 12:3-4



Paul's Revelation

9 So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. – Acts 11:25-26



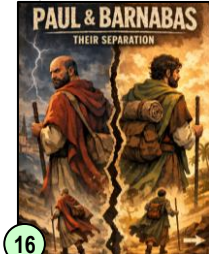
12 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem .. bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark ... ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ – Acts 12:25-13:2



13 And John left them and returned to Jerusalem. – Acts 13:13



16 Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. – Acts 15:37-39

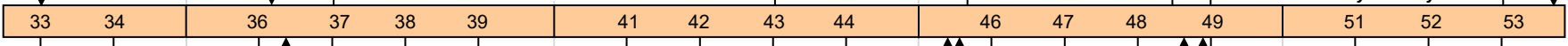


Paul in Tarsus (4-10 years)

1st Missionary Journey (Acts 13:1-14:28)

2nd Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36-18:32)

Start of 3rd Missionary Journey – Acts 18:18-20



3 But I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. – Gal 1:15-17



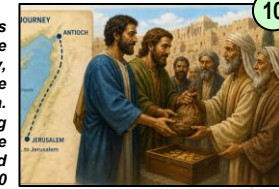
5 Jerusalem Visit #1 they were all afraid of Paul for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles

And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. – Acts 9:26-27

“Then after three years I went to Jerusalem to see Peter.” – Gal 1:18

“Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem. – Gal 2:1-2

10 So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul. – Acts 11:29-30



Jerusalem Famine Relief (Acts 11:27-30)

14 Paul writes Galatians

And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them. – Acts 15:2



15 Jerusalem Visit #3

Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:1-35)

But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved” ... Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. – Acts 15:1-2

11 I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately) ... before James, Cephas, and John ... they added nothing to me ... they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me. – Gal 2:1-10

