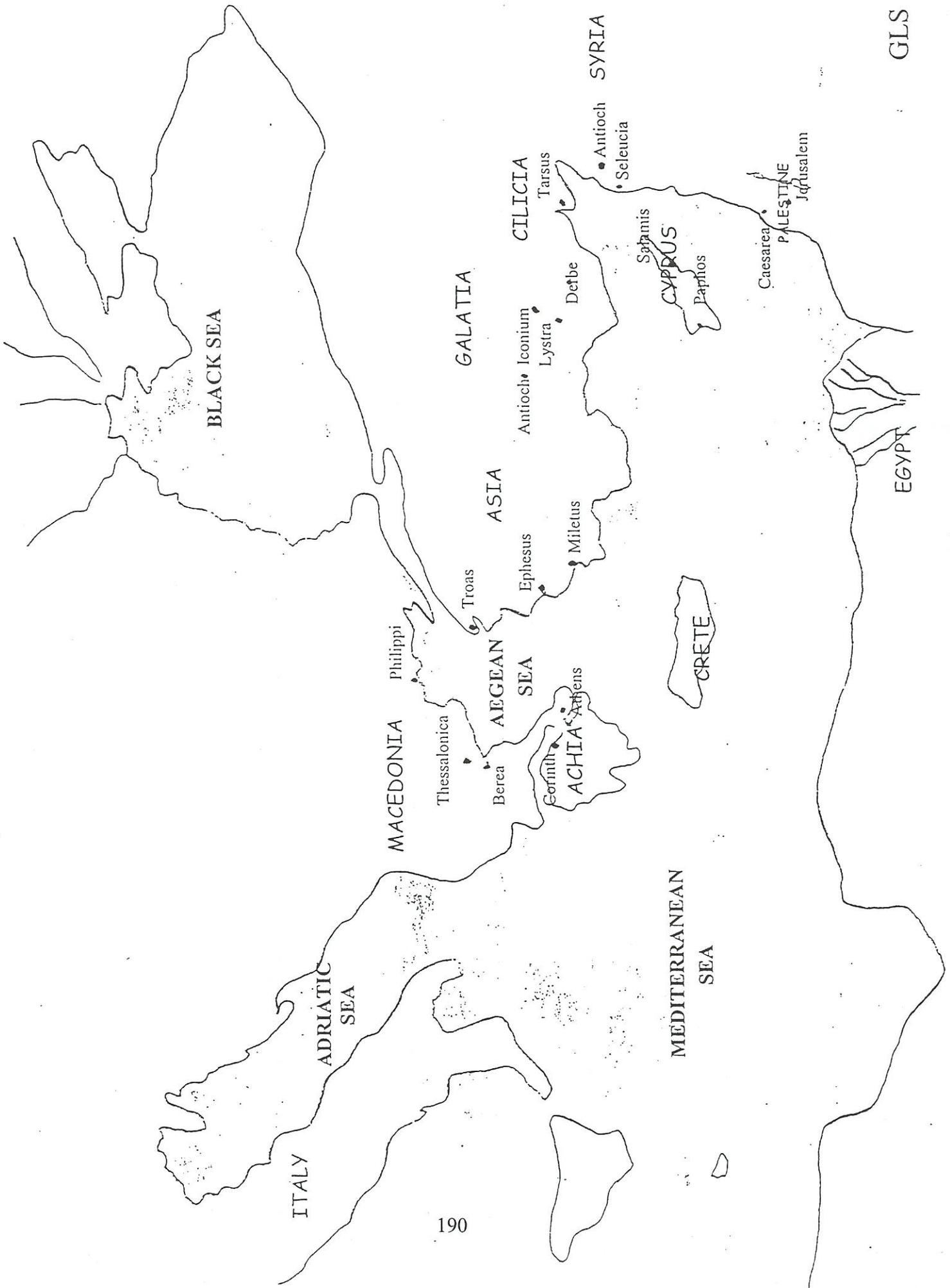


Bible Survey

Lesson 14 – Acts (Part 2)

10. The Chapters to Remember

- 1 Ascension
- 2 Pentecost
- 8 Scattering of the Church (Philip and the Ethiopian)
- 9 Saul's conversion
- 13 Beginning of 1st missionary journey
- 15 Jerusalem Council
- 16 Philippi (2nd missionary journey)
- 17 Thessalonica
- 18 Corinth (3rd missionary journey)
- 19 Ephesus
- 28 Imprisonment in Rome



BLACK SEA

ITALY

ADRIATIC SEA

MACEDONIA

Philippi

Thessalonica

Berea

Corinth

Athens

AEGEAN SEA

Troas

Ephesus

Miletus

ASIA

Antioch

Iconium

Lysira

Detbe

GALATIA

CILICIA

Tarsus

Antioch

Seleucia

Salamis

CYPRUS

Paphos

Caesarea

PALESTINE

Jerusalem

CRETE

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

EGYPT

GLS



SUGGESTED CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF PAUL

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|
| 2 BC | His birth | |
| AD 10 | Beginning of his education | |
| AD 30 | Death of Christ | |
| AD 33 | His conversion to Christianity | |
| | From Damascus to Arabia | Acts 9:11, 23; Gal. 1:17 |
| | From Arabia back to Damascus | Acts 9:22-23 |
| AD 35 | Damascus to Jerusalem | Galatians 1:19-20 |
| | | Acts 9:26,29 |
| | Jerusalem to Caesarea | Acts 9:30 |
| | Tarsus | Acts 9:30-31; Gal. 1:21-24 |
| AD 46-47 | Antioch (for a period of 1 year) | Acts 11:22-26 |
| | It was during this time that he visited Jerusalem. See Acts 11:27-30; Gal. 2:10. | |
| AD 47-49 | 1st Missionary Journey | Acts 13-14 |
| AD 49 | Antioch in Syria | Acts 14:26-28 |
| | <i>The Epistle to the Galatians written from Antioch</i> | |
| AD 49 | The Council of Jerusalem | Acts 15 |
| AD 50-53 | 2nd Missionary Journey | Acts 15:36-18:22 |
| | <i>1st and 2nd Thessalonians written from Corinth</i> | |
| | <i>(AD 51-52)</i> | Acts 18:1-17 |
| AD 53-57 | 3rd Missionary Journey | Acts 18:23-23:30 |
| | <i>1 Corinthians written from Ephesus (AD55)</i> | Acts 18:24-19:41 |
| | <i>2 Corinthians written from Macedonia (57)</i> | Acts 20:1-3 |
| | <i>Romans written from Corinth (AD 57)</i> | Acts 20:2,3 |
| AD 57 | Paul arrested in Jerusalem | Acts 21:18-23:22 |
| AD 57-59 | Paul's Imprisonment in Caesarea | Acts 23:23-26:32 |
| AD 59 | Paul sails to Rome | Acts 27 |
| AD 60-62 | Paul's Roman Imprisonment | Acts 28 |
| | <i>Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians</i> | |
| | <i>And Philemon written during this time</i> | |
| AD 63-65 | Paul released from Prison | |
| | <i>1 Timothy and Titus written during this time</i> | |
| AD 66-67 | Paul's Second Roman Imprisonment | |
| | <i>2 Timothy written during this time</i> | |
| | Paul Martyred | |

Things to Know

1. The theme of Acts
2. The threefold outline of Acts with chapters and events that cause the move from one area to the other.
3. Material under #6.
4. Material under #9
5. Know the purpose of the Jerusalem Council (ch. 15).
They went to Jerusalem to settle a disagreement over the need for Gentiles to keep the law.
6. Know why the decision of the council is important.
It shows that salvation is by faith alone. To have required that these Gentiles keep the law would have been faith plus works, which of course is not salvation by faith alone.
7. Know at least 3 references that show we are not saved by works (Rom. 3:20,28; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil 3:9; Titus 3:5).
8. Know the three chapters in Acts that mention speaking in tongues (2,10,19).
9. Know why Acts 20:7 is significant
It shows that the early church met on the first day of the week.
10. Know the major areas of the map and cities on the map of Paul's missionary journeys.

The Development of the New Testament

James

We don't know exactly when the book of *James* was written. It could have been as early as AD 35, just a few years after the beginning of the church and not long after the scattering of the church in Acts 8. It may have been written later, but probably no later than AD 44-46, making it the earliest of the New Testament letters. James wrote to believers that had been scattered abroad to admonish them and to encourage them in the midst of the trials they were facing.

Galatians

Galatians was Paul's first letter. It was written not long after he returned from his first missionary journey to the churches in Southern Galatia (AD 49). Judaizers had confused these new believers by insisting that in addition to placing their faith in Christ they also needed to keep the law. Paul wrote to deal with this false teaching and to admonish them to *stand fast in the liberty by which Christ had set them free*.

Matthew

Matthew was written about the same time as *Galatians*.

1 and 2 Thessalonians

Paul visited Thessalonica and established a church there on his 2nd missionary journey. Persecution forced him to leave after spending a very short time there. *1 Thessalonians* was written from Corinth after Timothy arrived and told Paul that the believers were holding up well in the midst of the persecution they were facing.

2 Thessalonians was written soon after the first letter to deal with some confusion about the Day of the Lord.

Both letters were written about AD 51-52 AD, about 20 years after Pentecost. Although thousands of people had become followers of Christ during those 20 years, they did not have the New Testament as we know it. Only *James*, *Galatians*, *Matthew* and *1 and 2 Thessalonians* were written by this time.

1 and 2 Corinthians and Romans

Paul visited Corinth and established a church there on his second missionary journey (about AD 53). *1 Corinthians* was written when Paul was ministering in Ephesus on his third missionary journey (about AD 55) to deal with problems in this young church.

2 Corinthians was written a couple of years later (about AD 57) from Macedonia. Nearly all of this letter is devoted to a defense of his apostleship.

Romans is much different than Paul's earlier letters. While the letters to the Galatians, Thessalonians and Corinthians deal with problems, *Romans* is a book of doctrine. Paul lays out a detailed explanation of man's need of

righteousness and God's answer to that problem in sending His Son to provide for that need.

Prison Epistles

Paul was arrested as a result of a disturbance in Jerusalem when he visited there after his third missionary journey. Though he hadn't violated any Roman laws, he was held in custody for 4 years. During that time he wrote letters to the Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon and Philippians. These letters were written about 30 years after the beginning of the Church at Pentecost (AD 60-62). Luke wrote his gospel and **Acts** about the same time. Only 14 of the 27 books of the New Testament had been written thirty years after the beginning of the Church.

Colossians was written to deal with false teaching that threatened the church. The nature of the heresy was a mixture of Judaism and Gnosticism.

The first three chapters of **Ephesians** talk about the believer's position in Christ. The last three chapters are practical admonitions, encouraging them to live up to this high calling.

Philemon is a letter to a slave owner, admonishing him to receive a runaway slave that had become a believer.

Paul wrote **Philippians** during this time to thank them for a gift they had sent him and to admonish them concerning a problem of disunity in the church.

1 Timothy, Titus and 1 Peter

1 Timothy was written about AD 63 – about 33 years after Pentecost to instruct him on things regarding church order. It seems strange that Paul would just now be instructing Timothy about some of the basic things that are found in this letter. Perhaps he is just reemphasizing things that he had already shared with him.

Not long after writing to Timothy, Paul wrote a similar letter to **Titus** who was working with churches on the island of Crete.

1 Peter may have been written about the same time as **1 Timothy** and **Titus**. He wrote this letter to encourage believers to be courageous and pure and to remain faithful to Christ in the midst of the sufferings they were experiencing.

2 Timothy, 2 Peter, Hebrews, Mark and Jude

2 Timothy was the last of Paul's letters. It was written from prison in Rome about AD 67 not long before he was executed. It is a personal letter of encouragement to Timothy.

2 Peter is similar to **2 Timothy** in that both Paul and Peter were writing their last letters from Rome before their executions. As Peter recognized that he might not have much longer to teach these believers, he challenged them to remember what he had taught them. He also warned them to be on their guard against false teachers

We can't say for certain when **Hebrews** was written, but we do know that the Temple was still standing because sacrifices were being offered. It was probably written some time during the middle to late 60's. This letter was written

to Jewish believers to encourage them not to turn back to Judaism, but to stay true to their faith in Christ and “go on to maturity.”

Mark and *Jude* were also written not long after 2 Timothy and 2 Peter.

The Writings of John

The Gospel of John was written 40 years after *Matthew* and 15 years after *Mark*. It may be that John had read the other gospels and was purposely writing to share things that were not included in those writings. He writes much about the need to believe (trust in, rely on) the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. He states in chapter 20 that he specifically chose to share the miracles that he includes that his readers might *believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing (they) might have life in His name.*

1 John was written to believers about 65 years after the crucifixion. John wrote to build up these believers in the faith and to warn them about false teachers. He challenges some of his readers about the validity of their salvation. At the same time, he wants those who have genuinely believed in Christ to have assurance of their salvation (5:11-13)

2 John was written about a problem in the church. He warns about having fellowship with those who do not abide in the doctrine of Christ.

3 John warns about refusing to have fellowship with one who is a true believer.

Revelation is a book of prophecy describing end-time events (Rapture, Tribulation, 2nd Coming of Christ, Millennium, etc.). Much of this book (chapters 6-19) describes a time of great tribulation that will occur immediately after the rapture of the Church and will last for 7 years. It also tells us about an end-time false religious system that will empower the antichrist and his political empire in the last days.

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------|----------|
| James | AD 35-46 ? | 2 Timothy | AD 67 |
| Galatians | AD 49 | 2 Peter | AD 67 |
| Matthew | AD 49 | Hebrews | AD 65-69 |
| 1 Thessalonians | AD 51-52 | Mark | AD 68 |
| 2 Thessalonians | AD 51-52 | Jude | AD 68 |
| 1 Corinthians | AD 55 | John | AD 90 |
| 2 Corinthians | AD 57 | 1 John | AD 95 |
| Romans | AD 58 | 2 John | AD 95 |
| Colossians | AD 60-62 | 3 John | AD 95 |
| Ephesians | AD 60-62 | Revelation | AD 95 |
| Philemon | AD 60-62 | | |
| Philippians | AD 60-62 | | |
| Luke | AD 62 | | |
| Acts | AD 62 | | |
| 1 Timothy | AD 63 | | |
| Titus | AD 63 | | |
| 1 Peter | AD 63-65 | | |