

1. I want to review some of that learned and then begin new material at point six on page two.

ACTS TIMELINE

All dates are approximate

Ascension & Pentecost A.D. 30 (Tiberius)
Stephen Killed A. D. 34-35 (Tiberius)
Great Persecution A.D. 35-36 (Tiberius)
Saul Conversion A. D. 38-40 (Caligula)
Cornelius Conversion A. D. 39-40 (Caligula)
Herod Agrippa I dies A. D. 44 (Claudius)
Paul's 1st Journey A. D. 47-48 (Claudius)
Jerusalem Council A. D. 48-50 (Claudius)
Paul's 2nd Journey Begins A. D. 51 (Claudius)
Paul's 3rd Journey A. D. 52-53 (Claudius)
Paul to Ephesus A. D. 53 (Claudius)
Paul to Greece A. D. 56 (Nero)
Paul Arrested in Jerusalem A. D. 58 (Nero)
Paul Imprisoned A. D. 58-60 (Nero)
Voyage to Rome A. D. 60-61
Paul in Rome A. D. 61-63 (Nero)
Paul Released A. D. 63 (Nero)
Paul Travels A. D. 63-65 (Nero)
Paul Martyred A. D. 67-68 (Nero)
Jerusalem Destroyed A. D. 70 (Vespasian)

A.D. 30 A.D. 40 A.D. 50 A.D. 60 A.D. 70

2. Post Conversion Experiences

3. An outline of the period would include at least the following points:

- Preaching in Damascus,
- Journey into Arabia,
- Return to Damascus and the flight to Jerusalem,
- The first meeting with Peter and James in Jerusalem,
- Return to Syria and Cilicia (Tarsus).

4. When we last met, I had just completed a review of the first missionary journey.

5. Let's review a map of that first journey.



6. We are now ready to study the second journey:

6.1 It was intended to be a revisit of "every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord," according to Paul's statement to Barnabas.

Acts 15:36 Sometime later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the brothers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."

Acts 15:37 Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them,

Acts 15:38 but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.

Acts 15:39 They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.

Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,

Acts 15:40 but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.

Acts 15:41 They went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.



6.2 Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek. The brothers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him.

7. Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

Acts 16:1 Paul and his team came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek.

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8. As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem: namely salvation is a product of faith alone in Christ alone.

9. So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

10. Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, but were kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. See the map on page two for the location of Bithynia.

11. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Holy Spirit would not allow them to travel north into Mysia.

12. So they passed by Mysia and traveled south-west to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."



12.1 After Paul had seen the vision, he got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called him to preach the gospel to them.

13. From Troas Paul and his team put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis.

13.1 This is a very significant event: it is the first time “organized New Testament Christianity” reaches out to Europe.

13.2 From there they traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia where they stayed for several days. Upon arrival Paul found no synagogue.

13.3 On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to several women who had gathered there. This encounter could very well be the genesis of the famous church at Philippi.

Acts 16:12 From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.
Acts 16:13 On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

The Second Missionary Journey



1. The journey begins after an argument between Paul and Barnabas over John Mark. Barnabas takes Mark and travels to Cyprus. Paul takes Silas on what the Scripture calls a second journey.

Acts 15:41 And they went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

2. At Lystra Timothy joins the party

Acts 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:

Acts 16:2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

Acts 16:3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

3. In Phrygia near Bithynia the Spirit of God redirects the direction of the second missionary journey. Europe appears on the horizon.

Acts 16:6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Bithnia,

Acts 16:9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

4. Paul and his team find no Jewish synagogue in the area but they do find several Jewish ladies worshipping there. The city is famous for its gold mine. The ladies most likely were few but avid worshippers probably near either the Strymon or Nestos rivers.

Acts 16:13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

5. At Philippi we find the story of the jailer and his family being converted. Acts 16:12-34

Acts 16:12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days ...

Acts 16:30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

6. The team travels south where the Thessalonian Church is founded.

Acts 17:1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue.

7. The events at Thessalonica can be found in Acts 17:1-9 where we find a record of a riot caused by certain Jews who were jealous of Paul and his success. This is also where Jason is hassled by these same Jews.

Acts 17:5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

Acts 17:6 ... they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, these that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

Acts 17:7 ... these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.

Acts 17:8 And this troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things.

8. Paul and Silas were sent away by night to the city of Berea: Paul and his team entered the synagogue of the Jews. At Berea Paul was very successful and because of his success Jewish “reversionists” showed up to cause trouble and Paul was secreted away by sea to Athens.

9. Silas and Timothy remained at Berea for a short time and then made their journey to Athens by land.

Acts 17:10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

Acts 17:11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Acts 17:12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honorable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

Acts 17:13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and stirred up the people

10. Paul continues traveling south to Athens where he delivered his famous sermon on Mars Hill. Acts 17:16-34

Acts 17:16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols.

Acts 17:17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

Acts 17:18 A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to dispute with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.

Acts 17:19 Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?"

10.1 The Areopagus was a government institution that met on a prominent hill located in the city of Athens. This body functioned as a court under the democracy of the 4th century Athens, and it had a very high reputation. It had a very high reputation and was thought to be the ultimate judiciary.

Acts 17:20 You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we want to know what they mean."

Acts 17:21 (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

Acts 17:22 Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious.

Acts 17:23 For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: "To an unknown God ..."

10.2 Paul continued his scholarly discussion which he would later regret. Paul continued:

“Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.”

Acts 17:24 "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands.

Acts 17:25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.

Acts 17:26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.

Acts 17:27 God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

Acts 17:28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

Acts 17:29 "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone -- an image made by man's design and skill.

Acts 17:30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

Acts 17:31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

Acts 17:32 When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject."

Acts 17:33 At that, Paul left the Council.

10.3 Paul's dissertation had mixed results but it would certainly seem these intellectuals mostly dismissed Paul's arguments leading him to leave Athens and make his way to Corinth.

Acts 17:34 A few men became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

11. A Corinthian vision led Paul to a significant change of mind; and a Church is founded. A church which would later on more than one occasion lead a quasi-rebellion against Paul and his team.

11.1 It would seem only Titus could successfully teach the church at Corinth.

11.2 When Paul arrives, he is astounded to find the worship of false gods. There are major shrines dedicated to Aphrodite, Apollo and Poseidon.



11.3 Paul decides to leave, however, God’s vision declares “I have many believers in this city. “Do your job!”

11.4 Many travelers would come to party while their baggage was loaded and shipped across the Isthmus of Corinth. Corinth is a very interesting city because of the Corinthian Canal. Let me give you six points about the Corinthian Canal:

11.4.1 The Isthmus of Corinth made for many visitors.

11.4.2 People came to the city to disembark on the west side of the Isthmus at Lechaem and to re-embark on the east side of the Isthmus at Cenchreae.

11.4.3 By doing this they could avoid the dangerous 200 mile trip around Cape Malea.

11.4.4 Alexander the Great and Nero tried to build a canal but failed.

11.4.5 In 1882 a French company finished the canal which is today 70 feet wide and 26 feet deep.

11.4.6 The canal today connects the Gulf of Corinth on the west with the Gulf of Saronic on the east.

12. Corinthian Canal



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