

Tree of Paul's Life

I. Family

1. Father, a Pharisee

1.1 Paul, a Pharisee

Acts 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, "I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question".

2. A Roman Citizen

Acts 22:25 And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned?

Acts 22:26 When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman.

Acts 22:27 Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea.

Acts 22:28 And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free born.

3. Mother, unknown

4. Sister, apparently lived in Jerusalem

Acts 23:16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul.

5. His sister's son aided Paul - See Acts 23:16 above.

II. Childhood

6. From the tribe of Benjamin

Phi 3:5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

7. Born in Tarsus Cilicia

Acts 22:3 I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

III. Education

8. Learned tent making

Acts 18:2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

Acts 18:3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tent makers.

9. Studied with Gamaliel

Acts 22:3 ..., yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

IV. Young manhood

10. Was an arch-persecutor of Christians

Acts 22:4 And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.

Acts 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

Acts 9:2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

Acts 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

11. Was present at the stoning of Stephen

Acts 7:58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

Acts 7:59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

12. He tried to keep the law

Acts 26:4 My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews;...

Acts 26:5 Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straightest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

V. His conversion

13. Near Damascus

Acts 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

14. He saw a great light

Acts 22:6 And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me.

15. Saul was blinded

Acts 9:8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

16. Christ's rebuke

Acts 22:8 And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest.

17. Saul's reply

Acts 9:8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

Acts 22:10 And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.

18. Led to Damascus

Acts 22:11 And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

19. He fasted and prayed

Acts 9:9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

Acts 9:10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

Acts 9:11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

20. Ananias is sent to Paul

Acts 9:11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

Acts 9:12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

21. Paul is baptized

Acts 9:18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

VI. After conversion

22. He preached in Damascus

Acts 9:20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

23. He goes to Arabia - Gal 1:16-17

24. Returns to Damascus

Gal 1:17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

25. Visits Jerusalem

Gal 1:18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days.

26. Paul is suspicioned by the Church

Acts 9:26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

27. He is befriended by Barnabas

Acts 9:27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

28. The Jews persecute him

Acts 9:29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

29. A vision commands his departure

Acts 22:17 And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance;

Acts 22:18 And saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me.

Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

30. He goes to Tarsus

Acts 9:30 Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

31. Barnabas brings Paul to Antioch

Acts 11:25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

Acts 11:26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch ...

32. Paul works at Antioch

Acts 11:26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

32.1 Agabus predicts a drought for Galilee, an offering is taken and Paul and Barnabas make a quick trip to Jerusalem with the money and then they return to Antioch. (Acts 11:28-30)

Acts 12:25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

VII. First Missionary Journey

33. Work in Cyprus

33.1 Salamis

Acts 13:5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

33.2 Paphos

Acts 13:11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. (The story of the

events relating to Paphos can be found in Acts 13:8-13. This is where Paul witnesses to Sergius Paulus and is confronted by Elymas the sorcerer. Paul demonstrates his power by striking the sorcerer blind. Deputy Sergius is impressed and converted).

34. Mark deserts at Perga

Acts 13:13 Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.

35. Paul preaches at Antioch Pisidia - Acts 13:13-41

For Example:

Acts 13:15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on ...

Acts 13:42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

Acts 13:43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God ...

Acts 13:50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honorable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

36. At Iconium

Acts 13:51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.

37. At Lystra where Paul is stoned to death

Acts 14:19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. (The events in Derby can be found in Acts 14:6-19. It is here the man crippled from birth was healed and Paul and Barnabas are thought to be Jupiter and Mercury. The Jews were bellicose and jealous so they plotted to kill Paul. It appears they succeeded and he is resuscitated. (See Acts 14:20 and compare with 2Cor 12:1-10).

38. Derby - the last city visited on this journey.

Acts 14:20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

39. The return trip

Acts 14:21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch. (More information can be found about the trip in Acts 14:21-28)

40. It is here that apparently the confrontation with Peter and those who came from James and John occurs over certain false teaching.

40.1 As a result there is need for Paul to go to Jerusalem again to address the error with James and the other leaders of the "evil" Church at Jerusalem.

Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

Acts 15:2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

40.2 These verses must be studied in conjunction with Galatians Chapter 2. For Example: (Gal 2:2-12, 21 and 22)

Gal 2:2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain ...

Gal 2:4 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage ...

Gal 2:9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision ...

Gal 2:11 For you see when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.

Gal 2:12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.

VIII. Second Missionary Journey - This journey begins with a confrontation between Paul and Barnabas over John Mark. Barnabas takes Mark and Paul takes Silas on their separate journeys. See Acts 15:36-40

41. In Syria and Cilicia

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

42. 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.

43. In Phrygia and Galatia

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

44. The vision at Troas

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.

45. At Philippi Paul meets and is assisted by a lady named Lydia; it is here a jailer is converted and a very positive church is "chartered."

Actss 16:11-40

For Example:

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.

46. The Thessalonian Church is founded

Acts 17:1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: (The events at Thessalonica can be found in Acts 17:1-9 where a record of a riot caused by certain Jews who were jealous of Paul and his success. This is also where Jason is caused great harm 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 And when they found them not, 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 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.

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

47. Berean students

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. (At Berea Paul was very successful and because of his success Jewish reversionist showed up to cause trouble and Paul was secreted away by sea to Athens. Silas and Timothy remained at Berea for a short time and then made their journey to Athens by land).

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 honourable 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

48. Athens - The sermon on Mars Hill, Acts 17:16-34

48.1 Paul is successful. Several people are saved although he is mocked by others.

For Example:

Acts 17:32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter ...

Acts 17:34 Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

49. The Corinthian Vision - a Church is founded, Acts 18:1-18.

49.1 Paul meets Aquila and Priscilla

For Example:

Acts 18:1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;

Acts 18:2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

49.2 Paul is at first put-off by the sin, evil and idolatry so pervasive in Corinth; will however be successful.

Acts 18:8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

49.3 Paul is prepared for controversy being encouraged by a vision.

Acts 18:9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:

Acts 18:10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.

49.4 The Jews accuse Paul and the chief priest of the Synagogue, Sosthenes, a recent convert to Christianity, before Gallio and Gallio throws the case out. The angry Jews beat Sosthenes (see 1Co 1:1); Paul is spared. Paul remains there for a significant period of time before leaving Corinth.

50. Paul goes to Ephesus - a brief visit

Acts 18:19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there: but he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews.

Acts 18:20 When they desired him to tarry longer time with them, he consented not; (Paul makes his way toward Jerusalem thinking this is God's will. He sails from Ephesus to Caesarea and then returns to his home Church at Antioch).

51. The return to Antioch.

Acts 18:22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and saluted the church, he went down to Antioch.

51.1 This statement gives evidence that he made a trip to Jerusalem for a brief visit before returning to Antioch and his Third Missionary Journey.

IX. The third missionary journey

52. Visits Galatia and Phrygia.

Acts 18:23 And after he had spent some time there, he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.

52.1 Priscilla and Aquila meet Apollos, Apollos teaches the Church at Ephesus and moves on to Corinth, Acts 18:24-19:1.

53. Paul teaches at Ephesus for two and one-half years, Acts chapter 19.

53.1 Paul arrives and encounters the Disciples of John the Baptist. He teaches them and they receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in the NT Pentecostal format.

Acts 19:1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

Acts 19:2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost ...

Acts 19:5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

53.2 Paul works in the Jewish Synagogues in Ephesus before moving to the Medical School called Tyrannus where he meets with some success. He also performs many miracles; significant is the attack on the seven sons of Sceba. As a result of Paul's ministry, many believe on the Lord Jesus. Acts 19:8-20.

53.3 Paul experiences a riot at Ephesus, Acts 19:23-41.

53.4 Paul escapes the uproar and departs to Macedonia.

Acts 20:1 And after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto him the disciples, and embraced them, and departed for to go into Macedonia.

54. In Macedonia and Greece

Acts 20:2 And when he had gone over those parts, and had given them much exhortation, he came into Greece,
Acts 20:3 And there abode three months. And when the Jews laid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he purposed to return through Macedonia.

55. Troas Sermon Acts 20:6-12

55.1 The trip

Acts 20:6 And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.

55.2 The Sermon verses 8-12 (Paul preaches, a young man sleeps and falls out of the window. Paul resuscitates the young man.)

56. Farewell charge to the Ephesian Elders. Acts 20:13-38.

56.1 The trip Acts 20:13-16 (Paul is determined to go to Jerusalem in spite of the Holy Spirit's direction to the contrary.)

56.2 The farewell Acts 20:17-35 (Paul expresses his resolution and acknowledgement that the Holy Spirit has warned him concerning the trip). Notice:

Acts 20:22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there:

Acts 20:23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

56.2.1 This reversionistic Apostle could care less about what God the Holy Spirit wants:

Acts 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

57. At Tyre Acts 21:16

57.1 The trip

Acts 21:3 Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden.

57.2 Another warning

Acts 21:4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.

58. Caesarea Acts 21:7-14

58.1 Paul is warned again

Acts 21:10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus.

Acts 21:11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.

58.2 Paul again refuses the warning.

Acts 21:13 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

X. In Jerusalem

59. Received by the Church Acts 21:15-17

For Example:

Acts 21:17 And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

59.1 Paul succumbs to pressure- he takes a vow under the Law. Acts 21:28-26

60. Seized by the Jews Acts 21:27-30

60.1 The Jews are outraged that Paul had preached and even fellowshiped with the Gentiles.

60.2 Paul is rescued by the Roman soldiers. Acts 21:31-40

61. His first defense Acts 22:1-23 (Paul witnesses by telling of his conversion. All seems well until he mentions the name gentile and then the Jews go berserk).

Acts 22:21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.
Acts 22:22 And they gave him audience unto this word, and then lifted up their voices, and said, Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live.

62. Seized by the Romans Acts 22:24-29 (The Roman soldiers save Paul's life, taking him into custody. Paul declares himself a Roman citizen and the Chief Captain becomes concerned that he has bound a Roman without examination and just cause).

63. His defense before the Jewish Counsel Acts 22:30-23:10 (Paul is brought before the Sanhedrin. Ananias the Chief Priest appears without his customary robes; Paul does not recognize him and mistakenly uses disparaging expletives. After being told he has reviled the High Priest, Paul apologizes and divides the Sanhedrin by bringing up the question of the resurrection).

64. The night vision.

Acts 23:11 And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

65. The Jewish plot. Acts 23:12-22

Acts 23:12 And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.

66. Taken to Caesarea Acts 23:23-24:9

66.1 Paul is taken by armed guard to Felix at Caesarea Acts 23:23-26

66.2 Felix reads the indictment sent by Claudius Lysias and remands Paul to Herod's judgment hall to await his accusers. Felix sends for Ananias. Acts 23:27-35

66.3 Paul is accused by Ananias's chief prosecutor Tertullus who accuses Paul of disturbing the quietude profaning the Temple and inciting sedition among the Jews throughout the entire world. Acts 24:1-9

XI. In Caesarea

67. His defense before Felix Acts 24:10-26

67.1 Paul begins by denying the charges and makes well the point that he had only been in Jerusalem twelve days and most of that time in incarceration; he further makes the point there was not sufficient time to have done all concerning which he was charged. He admits raising the question of the resurrection. Acts 24:10-21.

67.2 Paul witnesses to Felix and Drusilla Acts 24:22-26

68. Two years imprisonment

Acts 24:27 But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room: and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

69. The appeal to Caesar Acts 25:1-27

69.1 Festus goes to Jerusalem where he parties for ten days with the Jewish leadership and agrees to a second trial. Acts 25:1-6

69.2 Festus could find no offense against Paul but wanted to please the Jews therefore, he orders that Paul return to Jerusalem to be judged before the Sanhedrin. Acts 25:10-12.

69.3 Paul refuses and demands he be sent to Caesar. Acts 25:10-12.

69.4 Festus and King Agrippa rehearse their case. Agrippa prepares to hear Paul. Acts 25:13-27

70. The defense before King Agrippa Acts 26:1-27:13.

70.1 Paul reviews his personal history and his experience on the road to Damascus making the claims of Christ clear. Acts 26:1-23.

For Example:

Acts 26:23 That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.

70.2 Paul appeals to King Agrippa's knowledge of the Prophets. Festus interrupts demeaning Paul however Agrippa is almost persuaded. Agrippa decides Paul has done nothing worthy of death and agrees with Paul and accedes to his appeal to Caesar. Acts 26:24-32

70.3 Paul is sent to Rome. Acts 27:1-13

XII. Voyage to Rome

71. The storm Acts 27:14-22

72. The Vision

Acts 27:23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

Acts 27:24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

Acts 27:25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

73. The shipwreck.

73.1 The ship is finally driven aground.

Acts 27:41 And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmovable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.

73.2 The sailors decide to kill the prisoners including Paul but the Centurion orders the ship abandoned and everyone escapes safely to land. Acts 27:42-44

74. On the Island of Mileta Acts 28:1-10

74.1 Paul is bitten by a poisonous snake and miraculously delivered, a man named Publius who lived on the Island is miraculously healed [Acts 28:8] as well as many others who suffered from various diseases. Paul is received with honor.

Acts 28:9 So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

Acts 28:10 Who also honored us with many honors; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary.

XIII. In Rome

75. Arrival at Rome Acts 28:11-16

75.1 The brethren meet Paul and the great Apostle thanks God and is encouraged.

Acts 28:15 And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii forum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage.

75.2 Paul arrives at Rome and is placed under house arrest.

Acts 28:16 And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.

76. Preaching in Rome Acts 28:17-31

76.1 Paul first witnesses to the Chief of the Jews and several of his key disciples. Some believed and others did not. Acts 28:17-24

Acts 28:24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

76.2 Paul remains under house arrest for approximately two more years. He continues to witness to both Jew and Gentile.

77. He wrote the four prison epistles in Rome: Philemon, Ephesians, Colossians and Philippians.

78. He is released from prison for some one to two years during which time he travels to Greece, Crete and Dalmatia and perhaps other places not documented.

78.1 He wrote the Book of Titus during this period and sometime after the writing of this book he will be reincarcerated by Nero in Rome where he is ultimately executed.

79. There is a great deal of disputation concerning whether Paul endured two Roman imprisonments or just one.

79.1 Our position recognizes two imprisonments with an hiatus between the two - the first in c. A.D 58-62 & the second in c. A.D. 65-68.

79.2 Reasons for our believing that there were two imprisonments are in part:

79.2.1 The leaving of Trophimus sick at Miletus (2Ti 4:20).

2Ti 4:20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick

79.2.2 This could not have occurred during Paul's first imprisonment for then Trophimus was not left (Acts 20:4; 21:29) so he must have been left during Paul's hiatus i. e. between the two imprisonments.

Acts 20:4 And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and **Trophimus** ...

Acts 21:29 (For they had seen before with him in the city Trophimus an Ephesian, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.)

79.2.3 To make this incident possible, there must have been a release from the first imprisonment and an interval of ministry and travel.

79.2.4 Further support for two imprisonments comes from the Pastoral epistles; this epistle trail indicates that Paul travelled on what many call a 4th missionary journey.

2Ti 4:16 At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.

2Ti 4:17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

79.2.5 Paul says in 2Ti 4:16 that no one is standing with him in this imprisonment but during the AD 58-62 imprisonment, many were standing with him. Additionally, and in further substantiation of two imprisonments, the question remains "when did Paul go to Crete with Titus?"

79.2.6 To further help us in unraveling this mystery, let's look at several facts from the epistle record:

Crete:

Tit 1:5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

Nicopolis Greece:

Tit 3:12 When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to come unto me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter.

Troas Greece:

2Ti 4:13 The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments.

79.2.7 He traveled to Miletus and Corinth and then was arrested a second time and executed.

2Ti 4:6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

2Ti 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

2Ti 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing...

2Ti 4:18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen ...

2Ti 4:20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.

80. Tradition places his death along the Ostian Way outside the city of Rome in approximately A.D. 68, toward the end of Nero's reign.

RTF