

Major Sections of the Bible

4000BC

2000BC

4BC

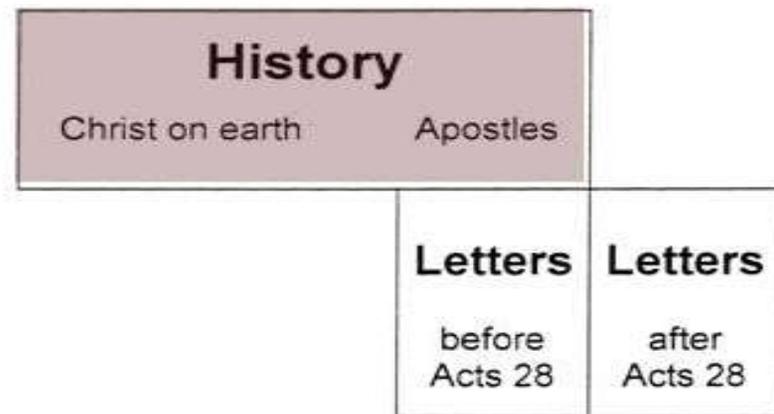
29AD

60AD

68AD

Old Testament

New Testament



← Israel (2000BC – 60AD) →

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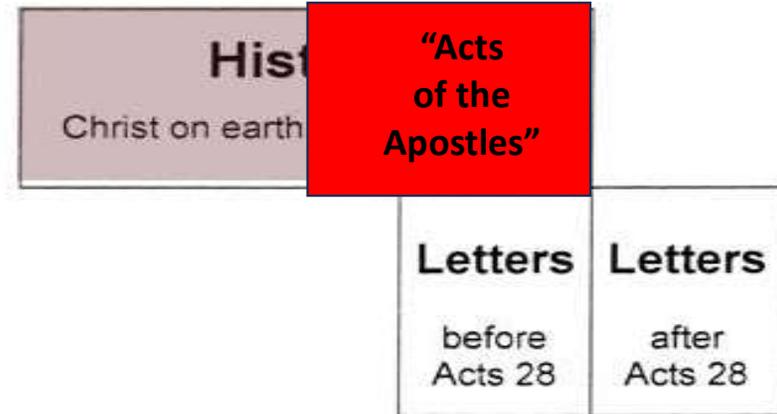
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A simple summary of Acts

❖ Acts is descriptive and not prescriptive; i.e.

- it describes what went on in those 30 or so years following our Lord's death, resurrection and ascension.
- It does not prescribe what should be happening in Christianity today.

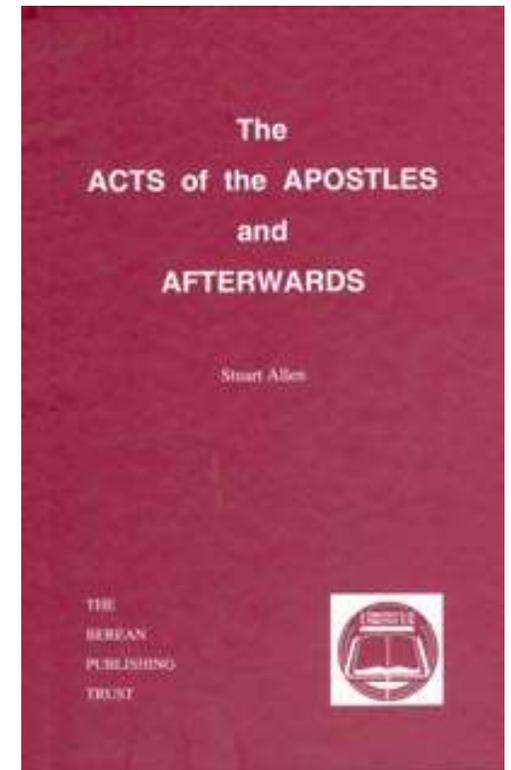
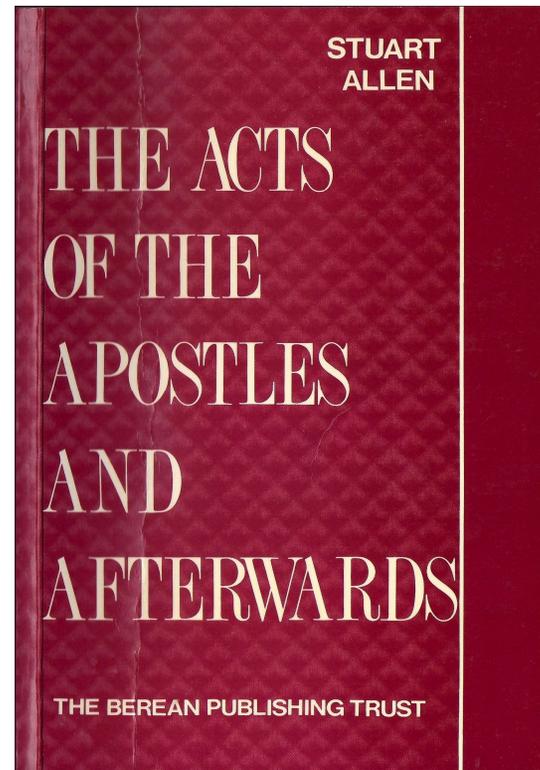
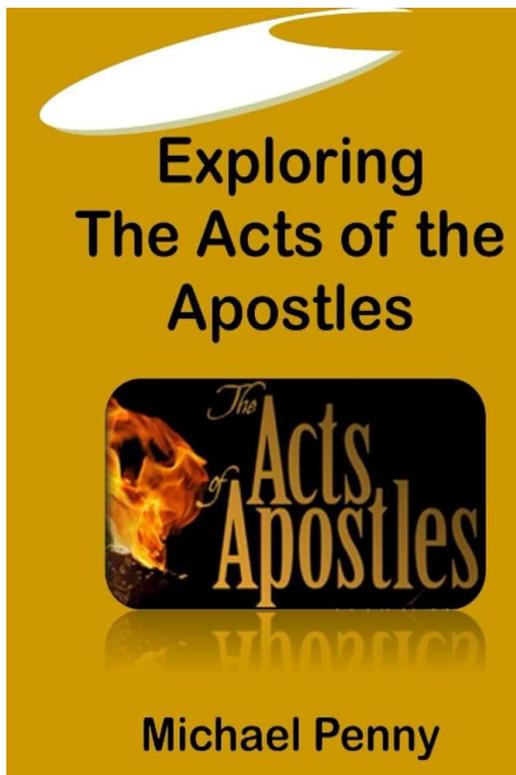
❖ Acts is dominated by:

- **the Jews** who were being offered a second chance to accept Jesus as the Son of God and their Messiah,
- and **the Gentiles** of that time were brought in in an attempt to help and stimulate them to do just that.

*Extract from
"Exploring the Acts of
the Apostles" by
Michael Penny (p.217)*

Acts of the Apostles – an overview

Recommended commentaries on “The Acts of the Apostles”



The New Testament

Events:

Christ's earthly ministry

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

The Apostles' ministry

Acts

*Israelite priority
over Gentiles*

*Israel
set aside*

Paul's Post-Acts ministry

*Nationality
now irrelevant*

4BC

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Letters:

Acts Period Epistles

Letters to Jewish Christians

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter
1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude
Revelation

Letters to Jewish and Gentile Christians

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians

Post-Acts Epistles

Letters to all Christians

Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

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The Books of the New Testament

Christ on Earth

approx
4B.C.- 29 A.D

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

Acts Period

approx
29 A.D - 62 A.D

Romans
1 & 2 Corinthians
Galatians
1 & 2 Thessalonians
Hebrews
James
1 & 2 Peter
1,2 & 3 John
Jude
Revelation
(Acts)

After Acts

approx
62 A.D. - 68 A.D.

Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 & 2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

Timeline of Acts & Beyond

Acts chapters:

1-8

9

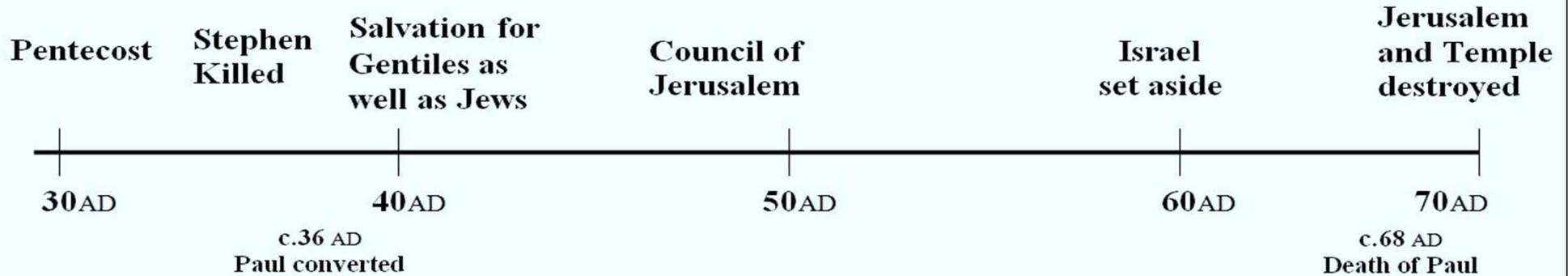
10,11

12-14

15

16-26

27,28



Early Letters by Paul
Romans; 1 & 2 Corinthians; Galatians
1 & 2 Thessalonians; Hebrews.

Letters by Others
James; 1 & 2 Peter; 1, 2 & 3 John;
Jude; Revelation.

Later Letters by Paul
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians
1 & 2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

Government in NT Times

37BC	4BC	29AD	70AD				
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Roman Emperors:

Augustus 27BC-14AD	Tiberius 14-37	Caligula 37-41	Claudius 41-54	Nero 54-68	Vespasian 69-79 <i>Galba</i> <i>Otho</i> <i>Vitellius</i>	Titus 79-81	Domitian 81-96
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Palestine Procurators:

Pilate 26-36	(Herod) <i>Fadus</i> Agrippa I 41-44	Felix 52-59	Festus 59-62	Albinus <i>Florus</i> <i>Cumanus</i>
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Palestine Kings:

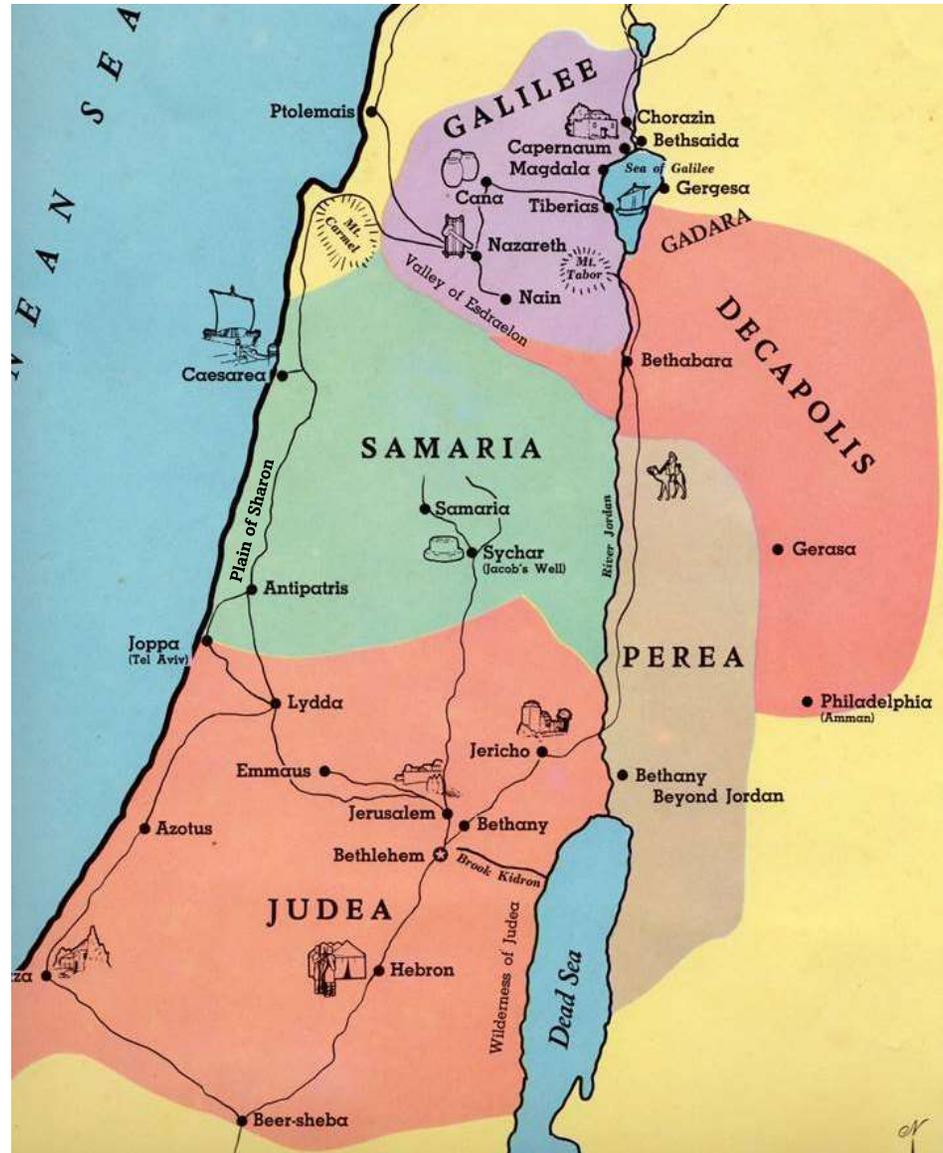
Herod "The Great" 37-4BC	Philip (Iturea) 4BC-34AD	Herod Antipas (Galilee, Perea) 4BC-38AD	Herod Agrippa I 41-44	Herod Agrippa II 50-93
	Archelaus (Judea, Samaria, Idumea) 4BC-6AD			

37BC	4BC	29AD	70AD	
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NT Events:

Christ Born	The Cross	Acts of the Apostles	Destruction of Jerusalem
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Palestine in New Testament times

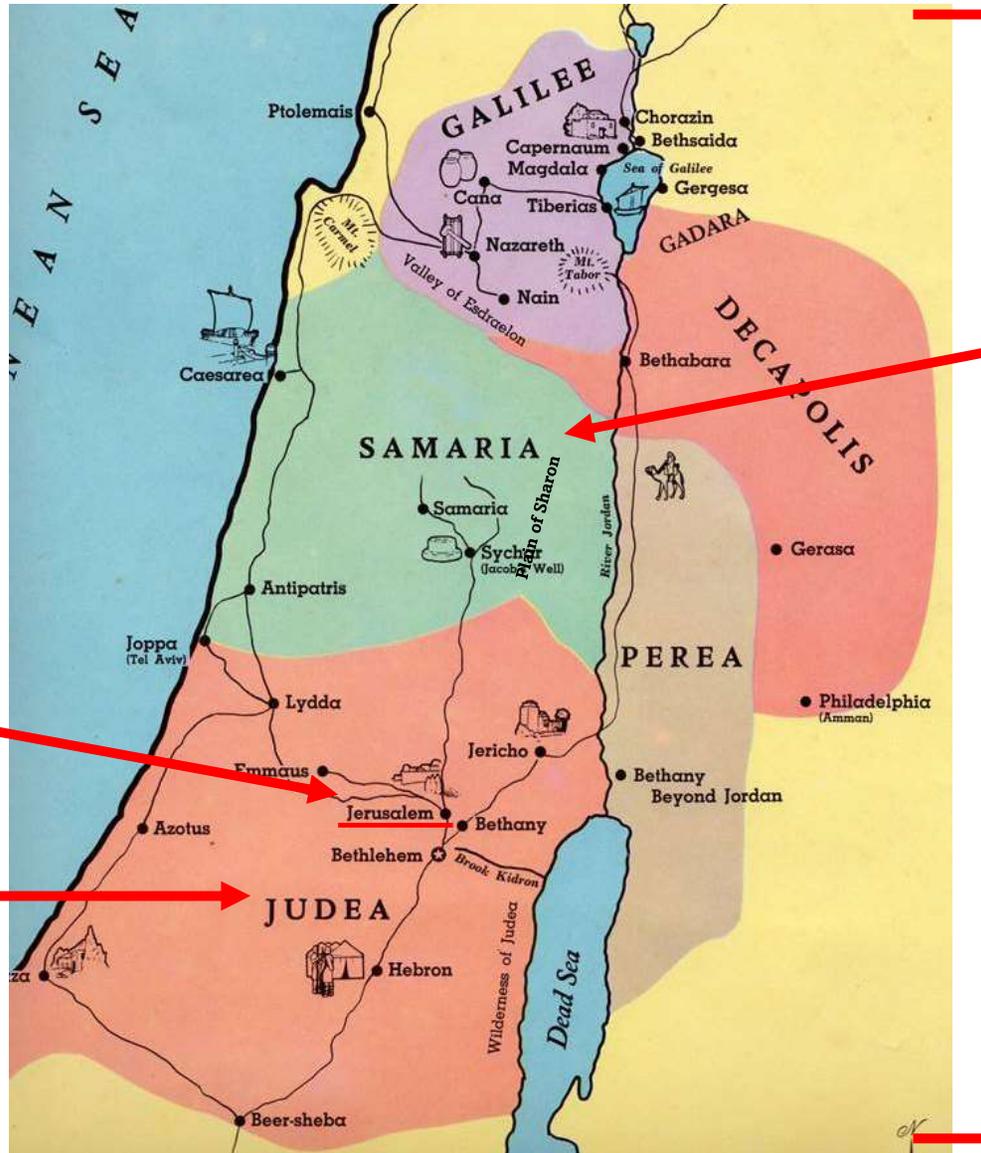


Acts 1:8

**you shall be
witnesses to Me**

in Jerusalem

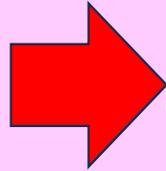
and in all Judea



and Samaria

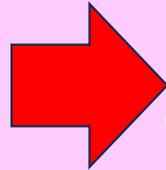
**and to the end of
the land [or earth –
Greek = *gè*, which may
mean either land or
earth, depending on
context].**

The Book of Acts - two main sections



Acts 1 to 9 – concerning Jews only

- Message - that Jesus is the Christ
- Preached to Jews exclusively
- Peter is main figure
- Outward signs verifying God's approval of those Jews who believed the message



Acts 10 to 28 – concerning Jews, then Gentiles

- Message of salvation through Christ
- Preached to Jews first, but also to Gentiles now
- Paul is main figure
- Outward signs verifying God's approval of those who believed the message – both Jew and Gentile
(Jews still prior in God's dealings. Gentiles were accepted to provoke Israel to jealousy)

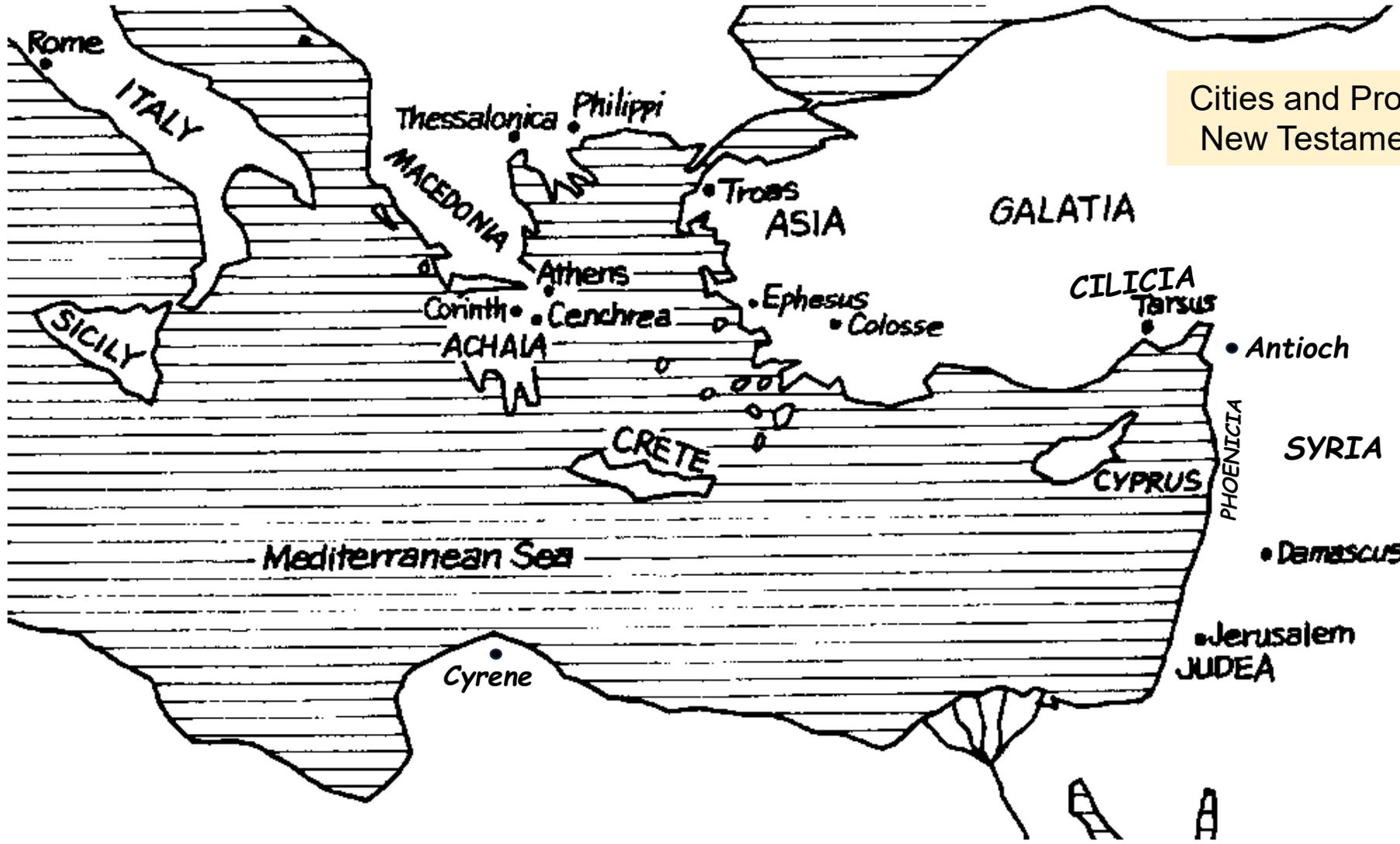
Acts main sections

Concerning
Jews only

Concerning
Jews, then
Gentiles

- Introduction (1:1-3)
- Christ's final instructions and ascension (1:4-14)
- The choosing of the twelfth apostle (1:15-26)
- Jewish feast of Pentecost, and events in Jerusalem (2:1-8:1)
- Jewish believers increase throughout Judea and Samaria (8:2-38)
- Conversion of Saul/Paul, and subsequent events (9:1-31)
- Further increase in Jewish believers throughout Judea (9:32-43)

- Gentiles accepted without becoming proselytes (10:1-11:18)
- Antioch becomes an prominent Christian centre (11:19-30)
- James killed, Peter's imprisonment, Herod's death (12:1-24)
- Paul's first journey of preaching, teaching and encouragement (12:25-14:27)
- The Council of Jerusalem (15:1-35)
- Paul's second journey of preaching, teaching and encouragement (15:36 – 18:22)
- Paul's third journey of preaching, teaching and encouragement (18:23-21:16)
- Paul's last days of freedom in Jerusalem (21:17-29)
- Paul's arrest/imprisonment (21:17-28:31) - in Jerusalem; in Caesarea; the journey by ship to Rome; house arrest in Rome.



Cities and Provinces in New Testament times

Rome

ITALY

SICILY

Thessalonica

Philippi

MACEDONIA

Troas

ASIA

GALATIA

Athens

Corinth

Cenchrea

ACHAIA

Ephesus

Colosse

CRETE

CILICIA

Tarsus

Antioch

SYRIA

PHOENICIA

Damascus

CYPRUS

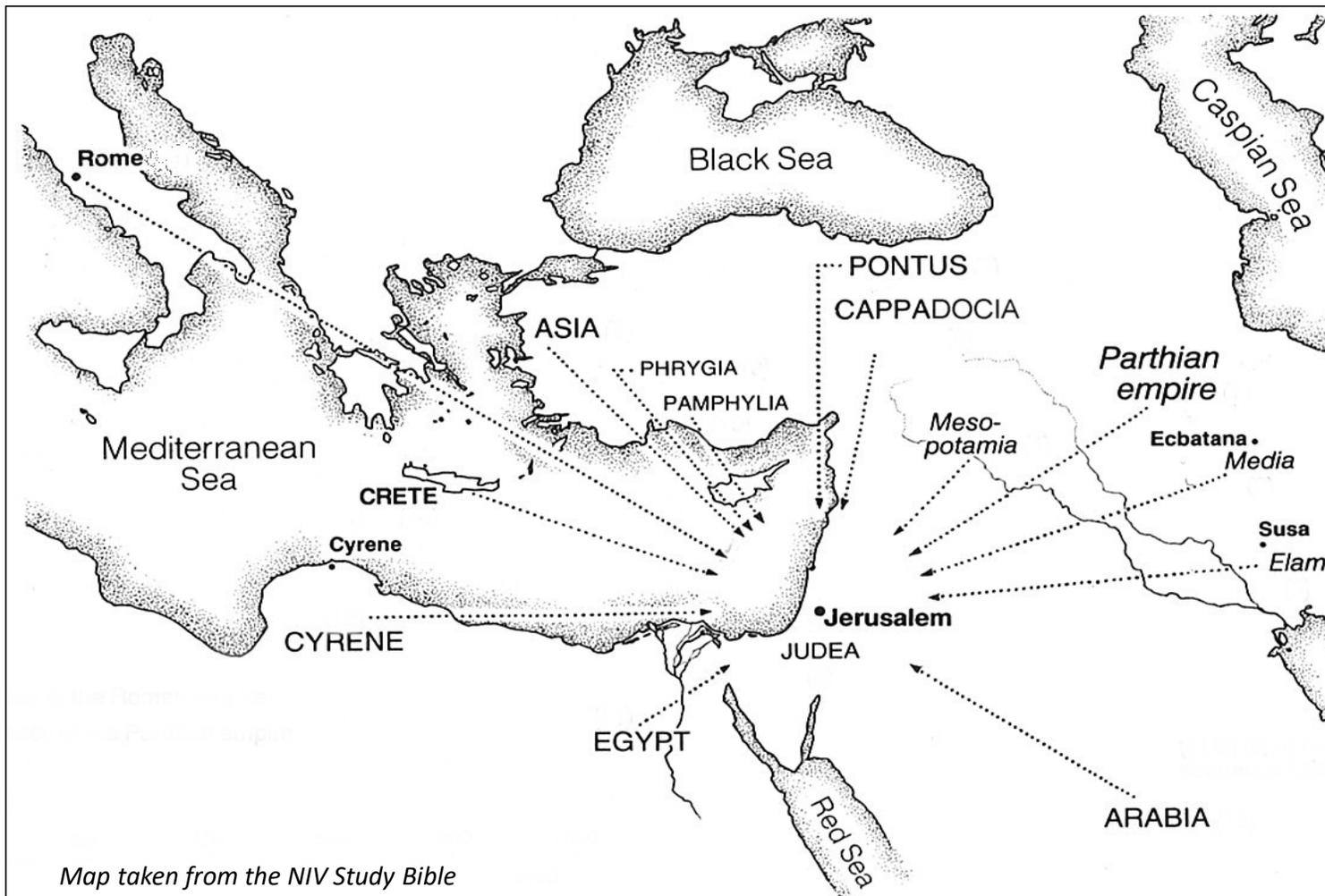
Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem

JUDEA

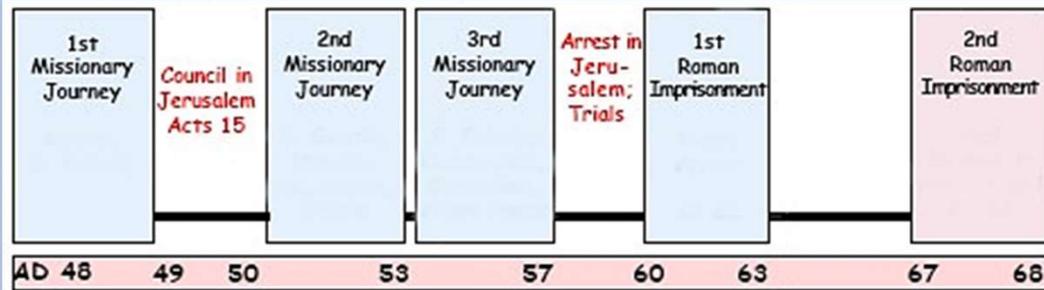
Cyrene

Nations mentioned in Acts 2:9-11



Jews travelled from these cities and nations to Jerusalem to commemorate the annual Jewish festival of **Pentecost**, also known as "The Feast of Weeks" (Leviticus 23:15-22) and referred to as the "harvest festival" (Exodus 23:16).

Paul's life (in summary):



Paul's Life (detailed):

OUTLINE LIFE OF PAUL

by Frank J. Godwin - extract from "A Harmony of the Life of St. Paul" 1990.

I. Paul's Early Life to His First Missionary Journey.

Conversion, 36 A. D.

In Damascus and Arabia, 37-39 A. D.

Escape from Damascus. First Visit to Jerusalem, 39 A. D.

In Tarsus and the Regions of Syria and Cilicia, 39-43 A. D., 4 or 5 years.

A year in Antioch with Barnabas, 44 A. D.

Second Journey to Jerusalem with Alms, 45 A. D.

II. First Missionary Journey, 45-47 A. D., 2 years.

In Antioch "a long time," 48-49 A. D., 2 years

III. Third Visit to Jerusalem. The Council, 50 A. D.

IV. Second Missionary Journey, 51-54 A. D., 3 years

1 Thessalonians written at Corinth, 52 A. D.

2 Thessalonians written at Corinth, 53 A. D.

Fourth Visit to Jerusalem

V. Third Missionary Journey, 54-58 A. D., 4 years

1 Corinthians written at Ephesus, Spring of 57 A. D.

2 Corinthians written in Macedonia, Autumn of 57 A. D.

Galatians written at Corinth, Winter of 57 A. D.

Romans written at Corinth, Spring of 58 A. D.

VI. Fifth Visit to Jerusalem. Paul seized in the Temple, 58 A. D.

VII. Imprisonment at Caesarea, 58-60 A. D., 2 years

VIII. Journey to Rome, 60 (Autumn)-61 (Spring) A. D.

IX. First Roman Captivity, 61-63 A. D., 2 years

Philemon written 61 or 62 A. D.

Colossians written 61 or 62 A. D.

Ephesians written 61 or 62 A. D.

Philippians written 63 A. D.

X. Between the First and Second Roman Captivities, 63-67 A. D., 4 or 5 years

1 Timothy written in Macedonia, 67 A. D.

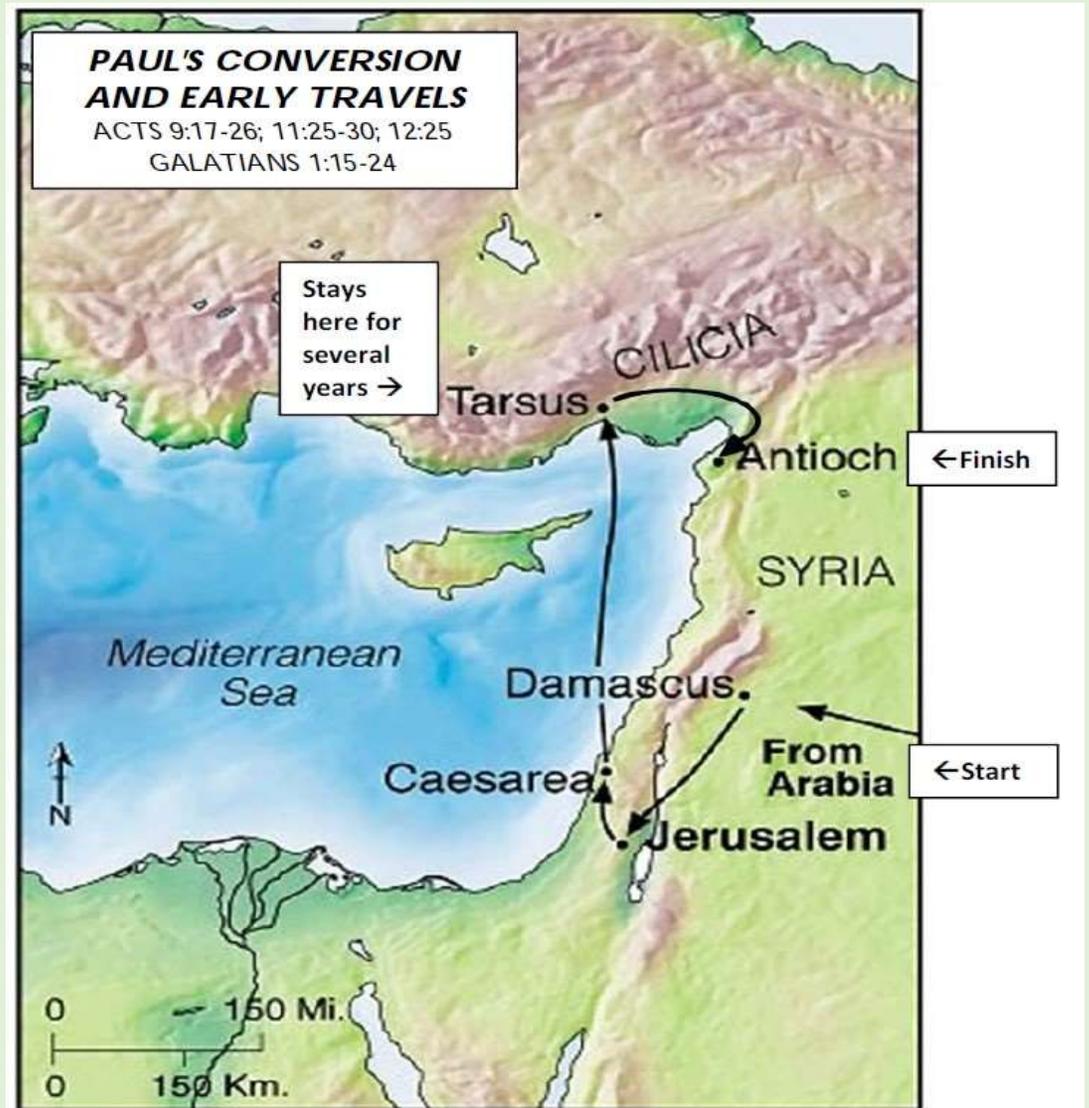
Titus written at Ephesus, 67 A. D.

XI. The Second Roman Captivity, 68 A. D.

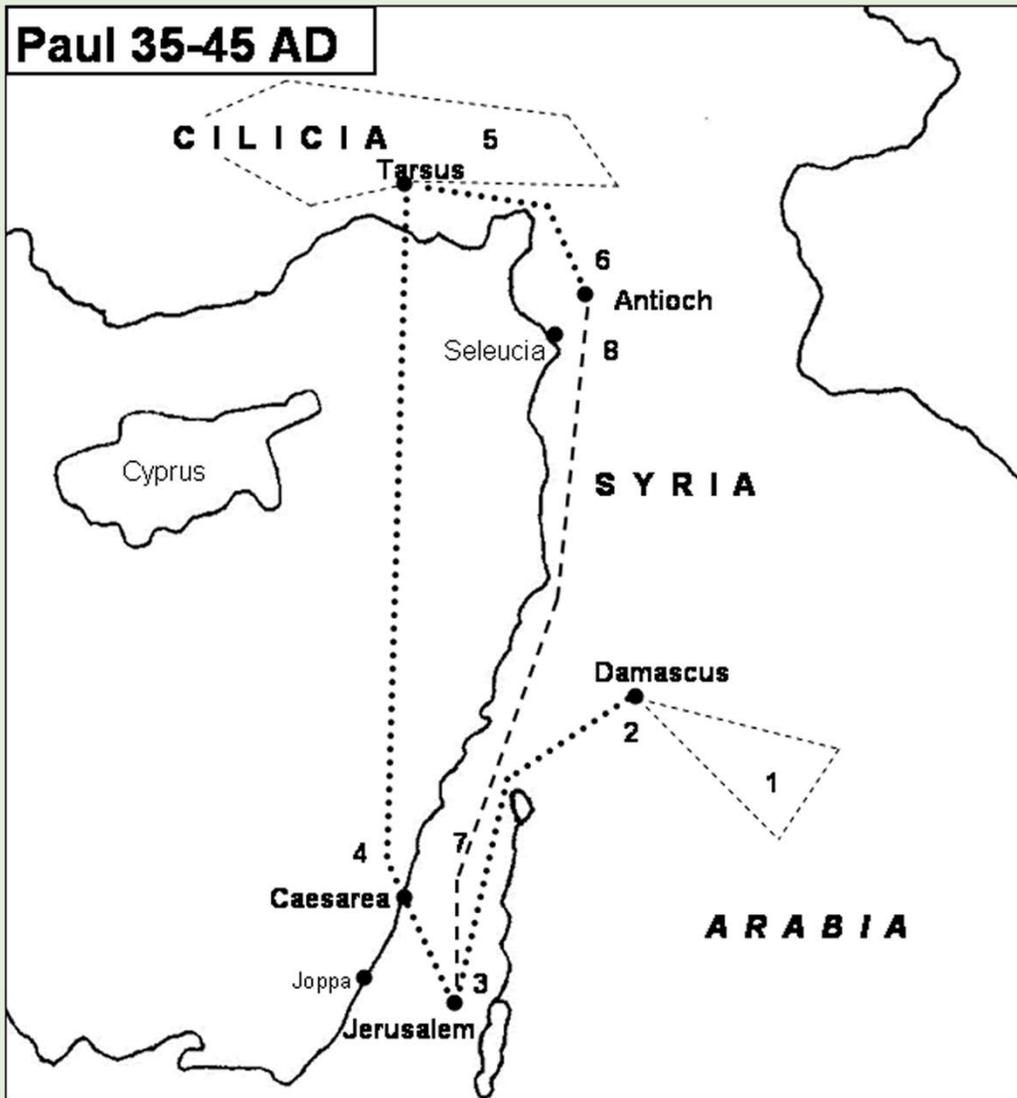
2 Timothy written at Rome, 68 A. D.

Paul's Death, 68 A. D.

**Paul's
conversion and
early travels –
summary**



Paul 35-45 AD



Paul's conversion and early travels – detailed

1. 35-38 AD, Paul is converted near Damascus & spends time in Arabia, the Nabatean kingdom that extends from Damascus to the Red Sea. (Gal. 1:17)
2. 38 AD, After a year or two, Paul returns to Damascus & preaches in synagogues. Paul escapes Damascus & leaves for Jerusalem.
3. 38 AD, Paul returns to Jerusalem after having been gone for 3 years. Paul spends fifteen days with Peter and meets James. (Gal. 1:18-19) Paul debates the Grecian Jews and his life is threatened (Acts 9:29)
4. 38 AD, Paul escapes Jerusalem and is taken to Caesarea to board a ship for his hometown of Tarsus in Cilicia. (Acts 9:30)
5. 38-43 AD, Paul preaches in Cilicia and Syria for five years. (Gal. 1:20-23)
6. 43 AD, Barnabus leaves Antioch to search for Paul in Tarsus in order to bring him back to teach in the church of Antioch.
7. 44 AD, After one year of preaching in Antioch (Acts 11:26), Paul goes with Barnabus to Jerusalem with an offering from the Antioch church for the believers suffering from the famine. (Acts 11:29-30) While they are there James is killed by Herod Agrippa I, Peter escapes from prison and Herod Agrippa I dies in Caesarea. (Acts 12)
8. 45 AD, Barnabas and Saul return from Jerusalem to Antioch. John Mark comes with them (Acts 12:25)

2

Paul's second journey of preaching, teaching and encouragement

Between the "first" and "second" journeys, Paul and Barnabas travel from Antioch to the Council of Jerusalem – Acts 15:1-4; and then return again to Antioch – Acts 15:30,35.

After the Council of Jerusalem, the "second" of the journeys begins.

THE SECOND JOURNEY OF PAUL ACTS 15:36-18:22



3

Paul's third journey of preaching, teaching and encouragement





