

Introduction

1. The book is a letter written by Paul to Timothy in c. A.D. 68. Paul wrote the letter during Neros' reign in what many call "Paul's 2nd imprisonment." At the end of the 2nd imprisonment Paul would be decapitated.

2. Though Paul suffered numerous "minor" imprisonments, most scholars agree there were two major ones. The book of Titus was written after Paul is released from his 2nd imprisonment as he traveled north through Greece on his way to Dalmatia (Dalmatia would be renamed Yugoslavia).

3. Paul was a well-traveled man who traveled via crude transportation modes. For example, he visited places like Spain, Germany, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey and Israel.

4. A travelogue of Paul's two major imprisonments:

4.1 To years in Caesarea and two years in Rome.

4.2 As best we can tell the first imprisonment in Caesarea began in c. 58 and ended when he was transported to Rome by boat in c. 60 A.D.



4.3 In Rome while awaiting trial Paul lived under what has been called a house arrest.

Acts 28:16 When we got to Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier to guard him.

4.4 During the 1st imprisonment in Rome, Paul wrote the books of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon.

4.5 Paul was released in c. 62. Under Rome's rules of criminal procedure accusers were given two years to present evidence of a "crime," however, no such accusations were presented therefore Paul was released.

4.6 After being released from Rome Paul traveled to Yugoslavia and then to Nicopolis in northern Greece. Nero has him again arrested and imprisoned in Rome where he would be martyred in c. 68.

5. Paul is alone at Rome except for Luke. 2Ti 4:11

2Ti 4:11 Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

6. The rest of the Pauline team are out evangelizing and teaching. Let me briefly disclose where the various team members are working. While Paul is in his second imprisonment:

6.1 Timothy is at Ephesus. 2Ti 1:2-3

2Ti 1:2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

2Ti 1:3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,

6.2 Titus is in Crete. Tit 1:4-5

Tit 1:4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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:

6.3 Trophimus is at Miletus sick and Erastus is at Corinth. 2Tim 4:20

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

6.4 Crescens is in Galatia. 2Tim 4:10

2Ti 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

6.5 Titus will later be sent to Dalmatia. 2Ti 4:10

2Ti 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

6.6 Tychicus is sent to Ephesus.

2Ti 4:12 And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

7. I want to provide a timeline of the Book of Acts in which we can see when and how the 1st and 2nd imprisonment relate to the Book of Acts.

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

8. As you can see from the Chart Paul served his first imprisonment c. 58 to c. 63. The timeline also indicates Paul's first imprisonment was divided. In our study of First Timothy you may recall Paul spent some two years in Caesarea Syria and some two years in Rome.

9. Let's begin our study of the book of Second Timothy.

Chapter One

1. Timothy is charged to guard the gift that has been given to him.

NIV

2Ti 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2Ti 1:2 To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

2Ti 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.

2Ti 1:4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy.

2Ti 1:5 I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

Comments:

1. Paul recalls how and when he met Timothy and the recommendation he received about Timothy.

Acts 16:1 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.

Acts 16:2 The brothers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him.

2. Paul after meeting and testing Timothy decides he would make a productive member of his team.

3. From “hind-sight” we know Paul’s confidence was well placed. Timothy would become a “delegated apostle.”

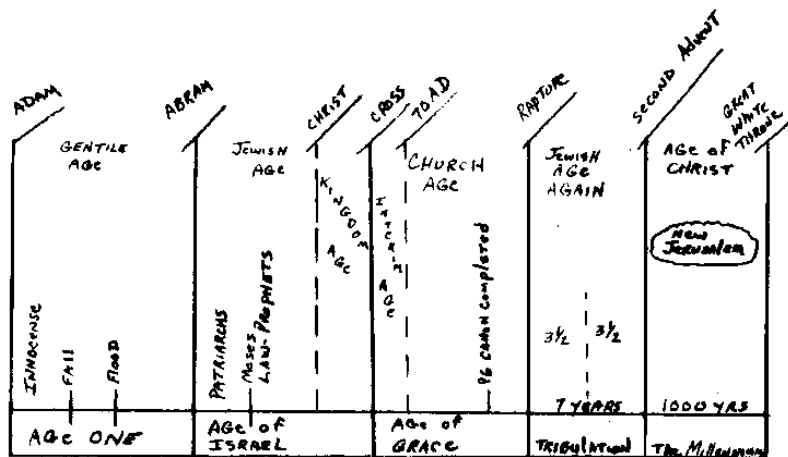
4. Let’s review what we know about apostles.

4.1 Apostles once possessed significant authority and power. We have no direct comparison today.

4.2 There are people today in certain denominations who claim to be apostles, but in point of fact there are no *de jure* apostles in this portion of the Church Age. The gift of apostleship is no longer available.

4.2.1 It was appropriate in the early part of the Church Age, in what I like to call the Interim Age, a sub-age of the Church Age.

4.2.2 The Interim Age is also called the Apostolic Age. The Interim Age was an age of transition from the Kingdom Age to the Church Age. It was during the Interim Age that the Canon was written. A chart will illustrate.



5. The word apostle comes from the Greek word **Apostolos**. Originally it meant the supreme commander of the Athenian fleet, though it came to mean a messenger. In Scripture, it means a supreme spiritual commander in the Apostolic Age.

6. This period is also called the Pre-Canon period of the Church Age. I like to think of this age as an Interim Age.

7. There was in the early part of the Church Age two kinds of apostles: there were the 12 original disciples minus Judas Iscariot plus Paul, called Apostles; and then there were other people who were Delegated Apostles. The Apostles were in most cases over one or more local churches.

7.1 Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles and thus responsible for the early Gentile churches.

7.2 Peter it would seem had authority over all the Judeo-Christian churches in Asia, later to be called Turkey.

7.3 In the case of James, the half-brother of Jesus, he was over the 200-plus local churches located in Jerusalem.

8. The delegated apostles included men like Barnabas, Apollos, Silas, Timothy and James, the half-brother of Jesus. The Apostles and Delegated Apostles were ordained of God to “jump-start” the Church Age.

9. The gift of apostleship, like all other gifts, was bestowed by God the Holy Spirit.

1Co 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

9.1 Christ, however, earned the gifts by successfully completing the Father's plan. Christ seized His well-earned booty, but God the Holy Spirit bestowed the gifts.

9.2 The gifts of prophecy and apostleship were given to facilitate the growth of the church during the early part of the Church Age (A.D. c. 32 to 96). The gifts of evangelism and pastor-teacher were given to facilitate the growth of the church after A.D. 96.

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

9.3 The gift of apostleship, like all spiritual gifts, was made possible by Christ.

Heb 2:4 God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

9.4 The gift of apostleship was a temporary gift. This gift passed from the scene in A.D. 96 with the death of John and the completion of the Canon.

9.5 All communication gifts carry with them authority and are thus only given to males. Such was the case with the gift of apostleship.

9.6 Apostles also had to be eyewitnesses of the Resurrection.

9.6.1 Paul often documented his designation as the 12th apostle by telling of his own viewing on the road to Damascus.

9.6.2 There are also Scriptures which seem to teach the generally accepted belief that an apostle had to be an eyewitness of the Lord. More particularly, there are expositors, it would seem, who would require an apostle to be a witness of our Lord in a resurrected state.

10. Timothy proved to be an excellent choice. Let me give you 17 Scriptures where his name is mentioned.

End Lesson

We do not authorize any third party to solicit donations on behalf of the Church.