

The Chronology of the New Testament

An Overview of the New Testament

INTRO

I. The New Testament Chronology

A. The Life of Christ (Winter 5/4 BC- April 3rd AD 33)

1. Childhood (Winter 5/4 BC- April 29th AD 9)

- Old Testament Prophecies
- John the Baptist as the Forerunner
- The Birth Narratives
 - Angelic Announcements

2. Adolescence & Manhood (AD 9- Summer/Fall AD 29)

- Christ at the Temple at 12
- No details on growth to manhood except “He continued to grow in stature and favor with God and man”

3. Ministry years (Summer/Fall AD 29- April 3rd AD 33)

B. The Age of the Apostles (May 24th AD 33- AD 95)

1. The Birth of the Church (Pentecost Sunday May 24th AD 33)

- In Jerusalem
- The Coming of the Spirit at Pentecost

2. The Initial Growth of the Church AD 33- 48)

- Throughout Judea and Samaria
- The Ministry of Peter and the Apostles

3. The Expansion of the Church (AD 48- 57)

- Throughout Southern Europe and Asia Minor
 - The Missionary Journeys of Paul
4. The Late Apostolic Period (AD 57-95)
 - Maturing of the Church
 - The death of the remaining Apostles

II. Key New Testament Events

A. Key Events During the Life of Christ

1. The Period of Anticipation and Preparation
2. The Period of Public Ministry
3. The Period of Suffering
4. The Period of Triumph

B. Key Events During the Age of the Apostles

1. The Birthday of the Church
 - The Coming of the Spirit in a visible and public mark of the Church
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2. The Establishment of the Church
 - Would the initial persecution wipe out the church before it got established?
 - Would the Church become fractured by ethnic tensions and strife?
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3. The Expansion of the Church
 - Fulfillment of the Charge and Promise of Jesus

Matt. 28:16 But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. 17 And when they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:6 And so when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." 9 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

4. The establishing of the Apostles as the doctrinal and practical leaders of the Church
 - All of the Apostles had to defend the Gospel against the attacks of the Jews and the Judaizers
 - Paul had to defend his apostolic authority against the attacks of early Christian and non-Christian teachers (cf. I & II Corinthians)

Eph. 2:20 having been built upon the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,

5. The revealing of the New Testament Scriptures
 - The Scriptures became the sole standard for matters of faith and practice
 - They were the inspired commentaries on doctrinal issues:
 - The meaning of the Gospel
 - The relationship between the OT and the NT
 - Doctrinal issues such as salvation, the person of Christ, sanctification, depravity, the sovereignty of God, etc.
 - Roles of men and women in the church
 - The issue of Spiritual Gifts
 - How do we pray
 - Leadership in the Church
 - They were the inspired counseling textbooks on practical issues:
 - Divorce and remarriage
 - Virginity and Celibacy
 - Roles of men and women in marriage
 - The problem of suffering
 - The virtue of forgiveness
 - The continued problem of sin

- I. A Preview of Who Jesus is
- II. The Early Years of John the Baptist
- III. The Early Years of Jesus Christ
- IV. The Public Ministry of John the Baptist
- V. The End of John's Ministry and the Beginning of Christ's Ministry (Primarily in Judea)
- VI. The Ministry of Christ in Galilee
- VII. The Ministry of Christ around Galilee
- VIII. The Later Judean Ministry of Christ
- IX. The Ministry of Christ in and around Perea
- X. The Formal Presentation of Christ to Israel and the Resulting Conflict
- XI. Prophecies in Preparation for the Death of Christ
- XII. The Death of Christ
- XIII. The Resurrection and Ascension of Christ