

New Testament Timeline

5 B.C. – Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

4 B.C. – Jesus' family flees to Egypt to escape from Herod's plan to kill Jesus [Matt 2:13–18]. After returning from Egypt, Jesus' family resides in Nazareth, a small village in southern Galilee [Matt 2:19–23].

8 A.D. – Jesus (age 12) interacts with the teachers in the temple [Luke 2:41–50].

28 A.D. – John the Baptist begins his ministry around the Jordan River [John 1:19].

30 A.D. – Jesus begins his ministry in Judea, but soon focuses his efforts in Galilee.

33 A.D. – Jesus returns to Judea, is crucified, and resurrected. James, the brother of Jesus, becomes a believer after witnessing the resurrected Jesus [1 Cor 15:7; Acts 12:17]. Jesus ascends to the Father's right hand [Acts 1]. Jesus' first followers receive the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and begin to proclaim the gospel [Acts 2].

34 A.D. – Paul witnesses the resurrected Lord on the way to Damascus and is commissioned as an apostle to the nations [Acts 9; Gal 1:15–16].

37 A.D. – Paul meets with Peter in Jerusalem [Acts 9:26–30; Gal 1:18].

38 A.D. – Peter witnesses to Cornelius [Acts 10].

45 A.D. – James writes his letter to believers outside Palestine (see James 1:1).

46-47 A.D. – Paul's First Missionary Journey (with Barnabas) from Antioch to Cyprus, Antioch in Pisidia, Iconium, and Lystra [Acts 13:4–14:26].

48 A.D. – Paul writes Galatians while in Antioch (see Acts 14:26–28).

49 A.D. – Paul and Peter return to Jerusalem for the Apostolic Council. In agreement with James, Gentile believers are not to be burdened with the requirement of circumcision [Acts 15:1–29].

49-51 A.D. – Paul's Second Missionary Journey (with Silas) from Antioch to Syria, Cilicia, southern Galatia, Macedonia, notably Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea; and then on to Achaia, notably Athens and Corinth [Acts 15:36–18:22]. Paul writes 1–2 Thessalonians from Corinth.

51 A.D. – Paul appears before Gallio, proconsul of Achaia [Acts 18:12–17].

52-56 A.D. – Paul’s Third Missionary Journey from Antioch to Galatia, Phrygia, Ephesus, Macedonia, Greece [Acts 18:23–21:17]. Mark writes his Gospel. Paul writes 1 Corinthians from Ephesus [Acts 19:10] and 2 Corinthians from Macedonia [Acts 20:1, 3; 2 Cor 1:16; 2:13; 7:5; 8:1; 9:2, 4].

57 A.D. – Paul winters in Corinth and writes Romans [Acts 20:3; see Rom 16:1–2; also see Rom 16:23 with 1 Cor 1:14]; travels to Jerusalem [Acts 21:1–16], visits with James the brother of Jesus [Acts 21:17–26] and is arrested [Acts 21:27–36; 22:22–29].

57-59 A.D. – Paul is imprisoned & transferred to Caesarea [Acts 23:23–24, 33–34].

60 A.D. – Paul begins voyage to Rome [Acts 27:1–2]; he is shipwrecked for three months on the island of Malta [Acts 27:39–28:10].

62 A.D. – Paul arrives in Rome and remains under house arrest [Acts 28:16–31]; he writes Ephesians (see verses for Colossians), Philippians [Phil 1:7, 13, 17; 4:22], Colossians [Col 4:3, 10, 18; see Acts 27:2 with Col 4:10], and Philemon (see Philem 23 with Col 1:7; Philem 2 with Col 4:17; Philem 24 with Col 4:10; also see Col 4:9). Luke, Paul’s physician and companion (see Col 4:14), writes Luke and Acts.

62-64 A.D. – Paul is released, extends his mission (probably reaching Spain), writes 1 Timothy from Macedonia (see 1 Tim 1:3) and Titus from Nicopolis [Titus 3:12]; he is rearrested in Rome [2 Tim 1:16–17].

64 A.D. – Peter writes his first letter (1 Peter) from Rome [1 Pet 5:13]. There is a fire in Rome; Nero blames and kills many Christians.

67-68 A.D. – Peter writes his second letter (2 Peter). Jude writes his letter. Paul writes 2 Timothy (see 2 Tim 4:6–8). Paul and Peter are martyred in Rome. The letter to the Hebrews is written.

70 A.D. – Vespasian’s son, Titus, after a five-month siege of Jerusalem, destroys the temple.

85-95 A.D. – John writes his letters (1–3 John), probably in Ephesus.

89-95 A.D. – John writes his Gospel, probably in Ephesus.

95-96 A.D. – John, exiled by Domitian to Patmos, writes Revelation [Rev 1:9].