

# HARMONIZING THE BOOK OF ACTS WITH PAUL'S EPISTLES

*"... a preacher and an apostle ... a teacher of the Gentiles" (1 Timothy 2:7)*

by Chris Reeves

## I. INTRODUCTION.

### A. Harmonizing Acts and Paul's Epistles Is Important.

1. The book of Acts gives the history behind the epistles.
2. The epistles give the doctrinal/theological material that Paul wanted Christians to know. But the epistles also contain historical references that can be traced back to the book of Acts. What to look for in the epistles in relation to the book of Acts ...
  - a) Material that points back to the time when Paul established a particular church.
  - b) Material that points back even beyond the time that Paul was in a particular city, to a previous event further back in the book of Acts.
  - c) Material not mentioned in the book of Acts. (Just like there is material in Acts that is not mentioned in the epistle.)
  - d) Material not mentioned in the book of Acts because it took place after Paul left a particular place, but before he wrote the letter to that place.
3. Both Acts and the epistles have to be studied in order to get a complete picture of what Paul was doing and writing.
4. Note: There are three major places in the Bible where you want to do a harmonization: a) Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles; b) the life of Christ in the gospels; and, c) the life of Paul in Acts and his epistles.

### B. This Harmonization Exercise Contains "Educated Guesses" At Some Points Along the Way.

1. Paul does not always tell us specifically when and where he wrote a particular epistle.
2. We have to make conclusions and inferences based upon the evidence available in the epistles. All dates and places for Paul's epistles are subject to interpretation and are approximate. In many cases, we can state what "may" be the case or what is "probable", but nothing more certain.

### C. Paul's Epistles.

1. These epistles are not placed in our NT in chronological order. They are placed together based upon the recipients: letters to the churches are group together first, followed by letters to individuals.

2. A chronological order of Paul's letters would be something like this:  
Galatians [?], 1 & 2 Thessalonians, [Galatians?], 1 & 2 Corinthians,  
[Galatians?], Romans, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon,  
1 Timothy, Titus, and 2 Timothy.

## **II. ACTS AND PAUL'S EPISTLES.**

### **Emperor Tiberius (A.D. 14-37)**

#### **A. Acts 1-12: Primarily the Work of Peter.**

1. Acts 1-8: Peter and the church.
2. Acts 9: Paul and Peter.
  - a) Paul's conversion and early preaching (9:1-30), c. A.D. 35-36.
  - b) Summary statement (9:31).
  - c) Peter's miracles (9:32-43).

### **Emperors Gaius and Caligula (A.D. 37-41)**

### **Emperor Claudias (A.D. 41-54)**

3. Acts 10: Peter and the conversion of Cornelius.
4. Acts 11: the conversion of Cornelius revisited (11:1-18) and the establishment of the church at Antioch (11:19-30).
5. Acts 12: Peter released from prison (12:1-19), the death of Herod (12:20-23), and concluding statements (12:24-25).

#### **B. Acts 13-28: Primarily the Work of Paul.**

1. Acts 13-14: Paul's first preaching trip from Antioch, c. A.D. 45-49.
  - a) Antioch of Syria.
  - b) Cyprus.
  - c) Paphos and Perga.
  - d) Antioch of Pisidia.
  - e) Iconium.
  - f) Lystra.
  - g) Derbe.
  - h) Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch.
  - i) Perga.
  - j) Attalia and Antioch of Syria.
2. Acts 15: the meeting in Jerusalem, c. A.D. 49-50.
  - a) Paul's epistle:
    - (1) Galatians – "Justification by Faith, Not by Works of the Law".

- (a) This epistle may have been written by Paul after his first preaching trip and the meeting in Jerusalem while he was in Antioch, c. A.D. 49. See Acts 15:35 and Gal. 1:6.
- (b) Note the following parallels between Galatians and Acts:
- (i) Gal. 1:1-5; 4:19 and Acts 13-14 – Paul's preaching in Galatia.
  - (ii) Gal. 1:11-14 and Acts 22:3; 23:6; 26:4-5 – Paul's education.
  - (iii) Gal. 1:15-24 and Acts 9:1-30 (see also Acts 22 and 26) – Paul's previous life, conversion, and early preaching.
  - (iv) Gal. 1:15-17 and Acts 9:23-25
  - (v) Gal. 1:18-20 and Acts 9:26-29 (see also Acts 22:15-21).
  - (vi) Gal. 1:21-24 and Acts 9:30; 11:25-30.
  - (vii) Gal. 2:1-10 and Acts 15:1-29 – the meeting in Jerusalem.
  - (viii) Gal. 2:11-14 and Acts 15:35 – Paul rebukes Peter for his hypocrisy.
  - (ix) Gal. 3:1-5 and Acts 13-14 – Paul's preaching in Galatia and his miracles (see Acts 13:11; 14:3, 8-9).
  - (x) Gal. 4:8 and Acts 14:8-18 – the idolatry of the Galatians.
  - (xi) Gal. 4:12-15 and Acts 13-14 – Paul's preaching and sickness while in Galatia.
  - (xii) Gal. 6:17 and Acts 14:19-20 – Paul's stoning at Lystra (see also 2 Cor. 11:24-25; 2 Tim. 3:10-11).
- (c) Note: Some Bible students place the writing of Galatians after 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Corinthians, or around the time of the writing of Romans. A few students would place it just before the meeting in Jerusalem in Acts 15, c. A.D. 48. Because Paul visited the region of Galatia on his 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> preaching trips (Acts 16:6; 18:23; 19:1), some Bible students will place the writing of Galatia during one of these trips. The

difference in opinion on the placement of Galatians has to do, in part, with two issues: (1) the location of “Galatia” – Is it “Northern Galatia” or “Southern Galatia”?; and, (2) the identification of the Jerusalem visit in Galatians 2:1-10 – Is it a reference to Acts 11:30 (12:25) or to Acts 15? Some Bible students place the writing of Galatians near the writing of Romans because of their similar content.

- (d) Note: The book of James, written by James, was probably written around the same time, or a little earlier, c. A.D. 45-49.

### 3. Acts 16-18: Paul’s second preaching trip from Antioch, c. 50-54.

- a) Antioch of Syria.
- b) Derbe and Lystra.
- c) Troas.
- d) Samothrace, then Neapolis.
- e) Philippi.
- f) Amphipolis and Apollonia.
- g) Thessalonica.
- h) Berea.
- i) Athens.
- j) Corinth.

#### (1) Paul’s epistles:

##### (a) 1 Thessalonians.

- (i) This epistle was likely written by Paul while he was on his second preaching trip and when he was in Corinth, c. A.D. 50-51 (see Acts 18:5, 11).
- (ii) Note the following parallels between 1 Thessalonians and Acts:
  - (a) 1 Thess. 1:1-8; 2:1-16 and Acts 17:1-9 – Paul preached in Thessalonica with Timothy and Silas.
  - (b) 1 Thess. 1:2-10 and Acts 17:1-9 – their conversion.
  - (c) 1 Thess. 2:2 and Acts 16:19-40 – Paul’s suffering at Philippi (see also Phil. 1:30).

- (d) 1 Thess. 2:9; 4:9-12; 2 Thess. 3:6-15 and Acts 17:1-9 – Paul's example of labor.
- (e) 1 Thess. 2:17-20; 3:1-10 and Acts 17:14-15 – Timothy sent back to Thessalonica.
- (f) 1 Thess. 1:1; 3:6; 2 Thess. 1:1 and Acts 18:4-5 – Timothy joins Paul at Corinth.

(b) 2 Thessalonians.

- (i) This epistle was also likely written by Paul when he was in Corinth, c. A.D. 50-51.
- (ii) Note the following parallels between 2 Thessalonians and Acts:
  - (a) 2 Thess. 1:1 and Acts 17:1-9 – Paul preached in Thessalonica with Timothy and Silas.
  - (b) 2 Thess. 1:11 and Acts 17:1-9 – Paul preached in Thessalonica with Timothy and Silas.
  - (c) 2 Thess. 1:3-5 and Acts 17:1-9 – their conversion and suffering.
  - (d) 2 Thess. 1:11-12; 2:16-17; 3:16 and Acts 17:14-15 – Paul's concern for them in a difficult place and his sending Timothy to them.
  - (e) 2 Thess. 3:1-5 and Acts 17:1-9 and 18:9-10 – Paul speaks of the problems he is facing in Corinth and the problems the Thessalonians are facing in their town.
  - (f) 2 Thess. 3:6-15 and Acts 17:1-9 – Paul's example of labor.

(c) Note: Some Bible students place the writing of 1 & 2 Thessalonians before Galatians.

k) Cenchrea, then Ephesus.

l) Caesarea, then Antioch of Syria.

**Emperor Nero (A.D. 54-68)**

4. Acts 19-21: Paul's third preaching trip from Antioch, c. 54-58.

a) Overview: Paul's visits to Corinth and his correspondence with them on his third preaching trip.

- (1) Paul visited Corinth for the first time in Acts 18:1-18.
- (2) After leaving Corinth, Paul wrote his first letter (not available) to them concerning their fellowship with the fornicating brother (1 Cor. 5:9, 11).
- (3) Paul hears from the household of Cloe (1 Cor. 1:11) and Apollos (1 Cor. 16:12) about their divided state and he also receives a letter (not available) from them asking questions about issues in the local church (1 Cor. 7:1; 16:17).
- (4) Paul, when he was in Ephesus, sent Timothy to Macedonia and then to Corinth to assist them with their problems (Acts 19:21-22; 1 Cor. 4:17).
- (5) Paul wrote his second letter (1 Corinthians) when he was in Ephesus (Acts 19:21-22; 1 Cor. 16:8).
- (6) Paul visited Corinth for a second time ("painful visit") when he was in Ephesus (Acts 19:21-22; 2 Cor. 2:1).
- (7) Paul wrote his third "painful" or "severe" letter (not available) to them after he returned to Ephesus (Acts 19:21-22; 2 Cor. 2:4, 9; 7:8-12), which was carried by Titus (2 Cor. 12:18).
- (8) Paul wrote his fourth letter (2 Corinthians) to them when he was in Macedonia (Acts 20:1-2; 2 Cor. 8:1; 9:2-4). Here, he met Titus who brought good news from Corinth (2 Cor. 2:12-13; 7:5-16). The letter was probably delivered by Titus (2 Cor. 8:16-17). Note: Some ancient mss identify the origin of the writing in Philippi.)
- (9) Paul visited Corinth for a third time when he came into Greece for three months (Acts 20:3-4; 2 Cor. 12:14, 21; 13:1-2). When Paul came to Corinth this time, he hoped that this visit would not be sorrowful for them – concerning any past problems (2 Cor. 2:1), that it would not be embarrassing for them – concerning the collection (2 Cor. 9:3-4), and that it would not require stern judgment upon them – concerning unrepentant sins (2 Cor. 12:19 – 13:2, 10).

b) Ephesus.

- (1) Paul's epistle: First Corinthians – "Answering Questions About Local Church Issues."
- (2) This epistle was likely written while Paul was in Ephesus (Acts: 19:21-22), c. 55/56 A.D. (see 1 Corinthians 16:5-8, 19). (Some Bible students believe that Paul wrote 1 Corinthians from Philippi in Macedonia based upon 1 Cor. 16:5. The verb, "I am going through," is present-indicative-middle/passive. It states Paul's

certain intention to pass through Macedonia, not that he is currently passing through Macedonia.).

(3) Note the following parallels between 1 Corinthians and Acts:

- (a) 1 Cor. 1:1 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul and Sosthenes together in Ephesus.
- (b) 1 Cor. 1:12; 2 Cor. 1:12 (3:4-6; 4:6) and Acts 18:27-28 – Apollos in Corinth.
- (c) 1 Cor. 1:14-16; 16:15 and Acts 18:5-8 – Crispus and his household are baptized when Paul was in Corinth. The household of Stephanas are also converted.
- (d) 1 Cor. 4:11-12 and Acts 19:20-21; 20:33-35 – Paul suffering and working with his own hands at Ephesus.
- (e) 1 Cor. 4:14-21; 16:10-11 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul sends Timothy and Erastus to Macedonia and then to Corinth. He plans to come again to Corinth.
- (f) 1 Cor. 5:9 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul writes a letter to the Corinthians not to keep company with fornicators. (We do not have this letter.)
- (g) 1 Cor. 9:6-15 and Acts 18:3 – Paul works to support himself in Corinth (see also 2 Cor. 11:6-10 and Phil. 4:15).
- (h) 1 Cor. 15:30-32 and Acts 19; 20:17-19 – Paul suffers and fought with wild beasts at Ephesus (see 2 Cor. 1:8-10; 4:7-10; 6:4-5).
- (i) 1 Cor. 16:1-3 and Acts 19:20-21 – Paul wants the Corinthians to give to the needy saints in Jerusalem.
- (j) 1 Cor. 16:5-9 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul wants to come to Corinth after he visits Macedonia. He is currently staying in Ephesus until Pentecost.
- (k) 1 Cor. 16:10-12 and Acts 19:21-22 – The plans of Timothy and Apollos.
- (l) 1 Cor. 16:15-18 and Acts 18:1-11; 19:21-22 – Paul and his co-workers in Ephesus. Stephanus is converted when Paul was in Corinth.
- (m) 1 Cor. 16:15-20 and Acts 18:2, 19, 26; 19:21-22 – Paul and Priscilla and Aquila are in Ephesus and the churches of Asia send their greetings.

c) Macedonia.

- (1) Paul's epistle: Second Corinthians – "A Defense of Paul's Apostleship".

- (2) The epistle was likely written while Paul was in Macedonia and after he met Titus who came from Corinth (Acts 20:1-2), c. A.D. 56 (see 2 Cor. 1:1; 2:13; 7:5; 8:1; 9:2).
- (3) Note the following parallels between 2 Corinthians and Acts:
- (a) 2 Cor. 1:1 and Acts 20:1-2 – Paul is joined by Timothy in Macedonia.
  - (b) 2 Cor. 1:8-11 and Acts 20:17-19 – Paul's suffering at Ephesus (see also 1 Cor. 15:30-32).
  - (c) 2 Cor. 1:15-20 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul explains his travel plans.
  - (d) 2 Cor. 1:19 and Acts 18:5 – Paul preached in Corinth with Timothy and Silas.
  - (e) 2 Cor. 1:23 – 2:1 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul did not want to come with sorrow, so he writes a letter (not 1 or 2 Corinthians). This would have been written earlier from Ephesus, not Macedonia.
  - (f) Note: 2 Cor. 2:5-11 (and 7:8-11) refers to the repentance and forgiveness concerning the fornicating brother of 1 Corinthians 5.
  - (g) 2 Cor. 2:12-13 and Acts 20:1-2 – Paul finds an open door to preach at Troas after leaving Ephesus on his way to Macedonia. He does not find Titus in Troas, so he goes on to Macedonia. Paul will go back through Troas in Acts 20:6-12.
  - (h) 2 Cor. 7:5-16; 8:6; 12:17-18 and Acts 20:1-2 – Timothy joins Paul in Macedonia and Titus comes there also from Corinth. Titus brings comforting news from Corinth that they had repented and forgiven the fornicating brother.
  - (i) 2 Cor. 8:1-5 and Acts 20:1-2 – the example of the Macedonians in their giving to the needy saints in Jerusalem is shared.
  - (j) 2 Cor. 8:6-24 and Acts 20:1-2 – Titus and one (see 12:18) or two brethren take the letter to the Corinthians and they encourage the Corinthians to have their contribution ready. This is Titus' second visit to Corinth. Paul then follows them there from Macedonia (2 Cor. 9:4).
  - (k) 2 Cor. 9:1-15 and Acts 20:1-2 – Paul refers to the Macedonians again to encourage the Corinthian giving.
  - (l) 2 Cor. 10:16 and Acts 20:1-2 – Paul goes to Illyricum beyond Macedonia (see also Rom. 15:19; for Dalmatia near Illyricum, see 2 Tim. 4:10).



- (m) 2 Cor. 11:8-9 and Acts 18:1-11 – Paul received monetary support from other brethren while he was in Corinth the first time. (Paul also worked for a living in Corinth, Acts 18:3.)
  - (n) 2 Cor. 11:23-33 and Acts 9, 11, 13-20 – Paul's labors and sufferings while doing the Lord's work, from his conversion to the present time in Macedonia (see Acts 14:19-20).
  - (o) 2 Cor. 12:1-10 and Acts 9:30; 11:25 – Paul sees a vision and is given a thorn in the flesh probably sometime after his conversion when he is in Tarsus, c. A.D. 41-42.
  - (p) 2 Cor. 12:17-18 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul sends Titus and a brother to Corinth the letter called 2 Corinthians.
  - (q) 2 Cor. 13:2 and Acts 19:21-22 – Paul visits Corinth a second time when he is in Ephesus.
  - (r) 2 Cor. 13:13 and Acts 20:1-2 – Paul sends greetings from the saints in Macedonia.
- (4) Note: Some Bible students believe that Paul wrote Galatians at this point and time.

d) Achaia.

- (1) Paul's epistle: Romans – "The Gospel of God's Righteousness".
- (2) This epistle was likely written while Paul was in Corinth for three months (Acts 20:2-3), c. winter of A.D. 57 or the spring of A.D. 58.
- (3) Note: Romans is the one book which Paul wrote to a people and a place that he had not yet visited. (Some Bible students would also include Colossians; see Col. 2:1.)
- (4) Note the following parallels between Romans and Acts:
  - (a) Rom. 1:11-15; 15:22-24, 28-29 and Acts 20-21 – Paul wants to visit Rome and Spain, after going to Jerusalem. Paul will eventually go to Rome in Acts 28 (see also 2 Timothy).
  - (b) Rom. 15:19-20 and Acts 20:1-2 – Paul goes to Illyricum, NW of Macedonia (see also 2 Cor. 10:16; for Dalmatia near Illyricum, see 2 Tim. 4:10).
  - (c) Rom. 15:25-31 and Acts 20:1-4, 17-38 – Paul goes to Jerusalem with the contribution for the needy saints from Macedonia and Achaia.
  - (d) Rom. 16:1-2 and Acts 20:3-4 – Paul mentions the brethren in Cenchrea, a port city of Corinth in Achaia.
  - (e) Rom. 16:3-5 and Acts 18-19 – Priscilla and Aquila have moved from Ephesus to Rome. This shows their dedication to serve the brethren in different places.

- (f) Rom. 16:3-15 and Acts 28:13-15 – the brethren in Rome.
  - (g) Rom. 16:21-23 and Acts 20:4 (19:22) – Paul’s associates in Achaia.
- e) Macedonia.
- f) Troas.
- g) Assos, Mitylene, Chios, and Samos.
- h) Miletus (meets with the Ephesian elders).
- i) Cos, Rhodes, Patara, Phoenicia, Cyprus.
- j) Tyre, Caesarea, and Jerusalem.
- 5. Acts 21-23: Paul’s arrest and trial in Jerusalem, c. 58 A.D.
- 6. Acts 23-26: Paul’s trial and two-year imprisonment in Caesarea, c. 58-60.
- 7. Acts 27-28: Paul’s voyage to Rome, c. A.D. 60.
- 8. Acts 28: Paul’s arrival and imprisonment in Rome, c. A.D. 60-63.
  - a) These epistles were written while Paul was in Rome for 2 years under house arrest, c. 60-63 (see Acts 28:16-31).
  - b) Paul’s epistles:
    - (1) Ephesians: “The Riches and Responsibilities in Christ”.
    - (2) Philippians: “The Joy of Serving in Christ”.
    - (3) Colossians: “The All-Sufficiency of Christ”.
    - (4) Philemon: “The Forgiveness of Others in Christ”.
    - (5) Parallels between Paul’s prison epistles and Acts:
      - (a) Eph. 3:1; 4:1; 6:18-20; Phil. 1:7, 12-16; Col. 1:24; 4:3, 18; Philemon 1, 9-10, 13 and Acts 28:16, 30 – Paul is a “prisoner” for Christ (literally and figuratively) who is in chains or bonds.
      - (b) Phil. 1:23-27; 2:24; Philemon 22 and Acts 28:30 – Paul’s expectation of release.
      - (c) Eph. 6:21-22; Phil. 1:1; 2:19-30; Col. 1:1, 7-8; 4:7-17; Philemon 1-24 and Acts 20:30 – Paul’s companions who came and went while he was in Rome: Timothy, Epaphras, Onesimus, Tychicus, Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, and Epaphroditus.
      - (d) Eph. 3:1-9; 6:18-20; Phil. 1:7, 12-20; Col. 1:23-29; 4:3-4; Philemon 10 and Acts 28:17-31 – Paul’s preaching with boldness.

- (e) Eph. 3:13; Phil. 1:19-25, 29-30; 2:16-18; 3:4-16, 20-21; 4:11-13; Col. 1:24; Philemon 4-7 and Acts 28:30-31 – Paul's positive faith and joy in suffering.
- (f) Eph. 1:15-16; 3:14-21; Phil. 1:1-11, 27; 2:12, 16-18; 4:10, 14, 17; Col. 1:1-9; 2:1-5; 4:15-17; Philemon 4-7 and Acts 28:30-31 – Paul's love, prayers, and care for the churches.
- (g) Eph. 1:1 and Acts 18-19 – the establishment of the church at Ephesus.
- (h) Eph. 1:13, 19 and Acts 18:8 – the need to hear the gospel and believe.
- (i) Eph. 2:17 and Acts 18-19 – Paul preached the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles.
- (j) Eph. 4:5 and Acts 18:8, 25 and 19:5 – the one (water) baptism (for the remission of sins).
- (k) Eph. 4:6 and Acts 19:26 – Paul preached the one true God at Ephesus.
- (l) Eph. 5:5 and Acts 19:8 – Paul preached the kingdom of God at Ephesus.
- (m) Eph. 6:17 and Acts 18:5, 11; 19:10, 20 – reference to the word of God.
- (n) Phil. 1:1 and Acts 16:11-40 – the establishment of the church at Philippi.
- (o) Phil. 1:30; 4:9 and Acts 16:11-40 – Paul's suffering and conduct in Philippi (see also 1 Thess. 2:2).
- (p) Phil. 3:1-3, 18-19 and Acts 28:17-28 – Paul's warning against Jewish Judaizers.
- (q) Phil. 4:2-3 and Acts 16:13 – this may be a reference to Paul's co-workers in Philippi.
- (r) Phil. 4:15-18 (1:5) and Acts 17 and 28 – Paul's monetary support from the Philippians on his 2<sup>nd</sup> preaching trip and during his Roman imprisonment.
- (s) Phil. 4:22 and Acts 28:16, 30-31 – the gospel is preached to Caesar's household and they send their greetings.
- (t) Col. 1:1-6; 2:1; 4:13, 16 and Acts 19:10 – the establishment of the church at Colossae, Laodicea, and Hierapolis.

C. After the Book of Acts, c. A.D. 63-68.

1. Paul's preaching.

- a) 1 Tim. 1:1, 12-16; 2:7; 4:10.

b) Titus 1:1-3.

## 2. Paul's travels.

a) Possible travels.

- (1) He wanted to travel to Philippi (Phil. 1:26; 2:24).
- (2) He wanted to visit Philemon in Colossae (Philemon 22).
- (3) He wanted to visit Spain (Rom. 15:24, 28).

b) Recorded travels.

(Not necessarily in chronological order.)

- (1) He went to Ephesus with Timothy (1 Tim. 1:3; 3:14-15).
- (2) He left Timothy in Ephesus and went to Macedonia (1 Tim. 1:3).
- (3) He went to Crete with Titus and left Titus there (Tit. 1:5).
- (4) He went to Miletus and left Trophimus there sick (2 Tim. 4:20)
- (5) He went to Ephesus again and Onesiphorus was there (2 Tim. 1:16-18).
- (6) He went to Troas and left a cloak and books with Carpus (2 Tim. 4:13).
- (7) He went to Corinth with Erastus (2 Tim. 4:20).
- (8) He went to Nicopolis to winter (Tit. 3:12).

## 3. Paul's companions.

- a) Timothy (1 Tim. 1:1-3; 3:14; 6:20; 2 Tim. 1:1-5; 4:10).
- b) Titus (Tit. 1:4-5; 3:14-15).
- c) Onesiphorus (2 Tim. 1:16-18; 4:19).
- d) Demas and Crescens (2 Tim. 4:10).
- e) Luke and Mark (2 Tim. 4:11)
- f) Tychicus (2 Tim. 4:12; Tit. 3:12).
- g) Carpus (2 Tim. 4:13).
- h) Prisca (Priscilla) and Aquila (2 Tim. 4:19)
- i) Erastus (2 Tim. 4:20).
- j) Trophimus (2 Tim. 4:20).
- k) Eubulus, Pudens, Linus, and Claudia (2 Tim. 4:21).
- l) Artemas (Tit. 3:12).
- m) Zenas (Tit. 3:13)
- n) Apollos (Tit. 3:13).

4. Paul's opponents.

- a) Hymenaeus and Alexander (1 Tim. 1:19-20; 2 Tim. 2:17-18).
- b) Alexander the coppersmith (2 Tim. 4:14-15).
- c) Hymenaeus and Philetus (2 Tim. 2:17-18).

5. Paul's epistles:

- a) 1 Timothy- "Behaving in God's House" (3:14-15).
  - (1) A.D. 63-64.
  - (2) Possibly written from Macedonia while Timothy is in Ephesus.
- b) Titus – "The Church and Sound Doctrine" (1:9, 13; 2:1-2, 8).
  - (1) A.D. 65-66.
  - (2) Possibly written from Corinth or Ephesus while Titus is in Crete.

6. Paul's second Roman imprisonment and death, c. A.D. 67/68.

- a) 2 Timothy – "The Minister and the Word" (1:13; 2:15; 3:14-16; 4:2).
  - (1) A.D. 67-68.
  - (2) Probably written from Rome (2:17).
- b) His companions (1:1-5; 1:16-18; 4:10-13, 19-21).
- c) His thoughts of others (1:2; 2:9-10; 4:22).
- d) His gratitude and joy (1:3-4).
- e) His imprisonment as an evil-doer (1:8; 2:8-9).
- f) His confident assurance (1:12).
- g) His lack of bitterness or resentment (1:15-18; 4:9-11, 14-16).
- h) His loneliness (1:15; 4:10, 12, 19-20).
- i) His longing for others (1:3-4; 4:9, 11, 21).
- j) His former life of faithful service (3:10-11; note the parallel here with Acts 13-14).
- k) His anticipation of death (1:8-12; 2:8-23; 4:6-8).
- l) His accomplished past, peaceful present, and blissful future (4:6-8).
- m) His desire and plans to stay busy (4:11-13, 19-21).
- n) His first trial and acquittal (4:14-18).
- o) His divine awareness (4:17; see 3:11).
- p) He steadfast hope (4:18).

### III. CONCLUSION.

A. Let Us Learn to Harmonize the Book of Acts with Paul's Epistles.

- B. Let Us Learn to Better Teach These Books by Referencing Acts When Teaching the Epistles, and by Referencing the Epistles When Teaching Acts.
- C. Let Us Learn Better to Interpret What is Written in Acts and the Epistles by Cross-Referencing Each.

## **Resources**

### ***Books***

Conybeare, J.S. and W.J. Howson. *The Life and Epistles of St. Paul*. Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1978 (Reprint).

Goodwin, Frank J. *A Harmony of the Life of St. Paul*. Baker Book House, 1951.

### ***Online***

Aschmann Rick. *Chronology and Locations of the Writings of Acts and Paul's Letters*.

<https://aschmann.net/BibleChronology/WherePaulsLettersWereWritten.html>

Copeland, Mark A. *A Harmony of the Life of Paul*.

[https://executableoutlines.com/pdf/paul\\_so.pdf](https://executableoutlines.com/pdf/paul_so.pdf)

Eastman, David L. *Paul: An Outline of His Life*.

[https://www.academia.edu/9266808/Paul\\_An\\_Outline\\_of\\_His\\_Life](https://www.academia.edu/9266808/Paul_An_Outline_of_His_Life)

Rudd, Steve. <https://bible.ca/maps/maps-pauls-acts-29.htm>

Tanner, J. Paul. *A Chronology of the Apostle Paul*.

<https://eyewitnessbible.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Ref-2-Paul-Chronology.pdf>

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Chris Reeves

TheGoodTeacher.com