

I and II Thessalonians – During Paul’s 2nd Missionary Journey

Review of Acts

Acts 2 Pentecost – Discuss, read Acts 2:41-47 (36 AD)

Acts 3-5 Independence – Break with the High Priest and Sanhedrin, read Acts 5:27-32

Acts 7-8 Persecution Begins – Stephen and Saul, read Acts 8:1-4

Acts 9 Conversion of Saul/Paul

Acts 10-11 Peter and Cornelius – Gentiles granted salvation, read Acts 11:17-18
(more?)

Acts 11:19-30 – Establishment at Antioch – Read 11:19-26

Acts 12:1-3 – Second wave of persecution – Read 12:1-3a

James was probably instanced by the martyrdom of Stephen (Acts 7 – 37 AD) or of James (Acts 12 – 41-45 AD, commonly 44-62 AD, after 1st Missionary journey)

1. Was written to scattered, persecuted, Jews
2. Enduring suffering by persecution the first and main theme
3. No specific address to gentile believers - would not be omitted, after 1st Missionary Journey – too many Gentile-believer issues to just leave out.
4. If not instanced by martyrdom(s), then the book has questionable context, seems to contradict Paul (Luther), and has no other criteria for dating

Acts 13 Paul and Barnabas 1st Journey – Read 13:1-3 (47-49 AD)

Acts 15 – Jerusalem Council, Read 15:1-2, 22-29, 35

Galatians was occasioned by the Judaizers and the Jerusalem Council

1. All about refuting the Judaizers
2. Clearly references events up to and including the Jerusalem Council only.
3. His defense in early chapters of Galatians precludes a date during or after the 2nd missionary journey.

Acts 15:36-41 – 2nd Missionary Journey, Read 15:36, 39-41 (50-52 AD)

CONTINUATION of Acts – Forward from Galatians to I and II Thessalonians

Acts 16 – Meet Timothy, Lydia, Paul & Silas Imprisoned

Acts 17 – Thessalonica

17:1-4 Many converted

17:5-6, 8-10, 13-15 Run out and chased away!

Acts 18 – Corinth, read 1, 8-11

I Thessalonians was instanced by the travels of Timothy – while in Corinth

1 Thessalonians 1:1, 14-16a, 17, 3:1-7

2 Thessalonians would be a contemporary following epistle, still from Corinth.