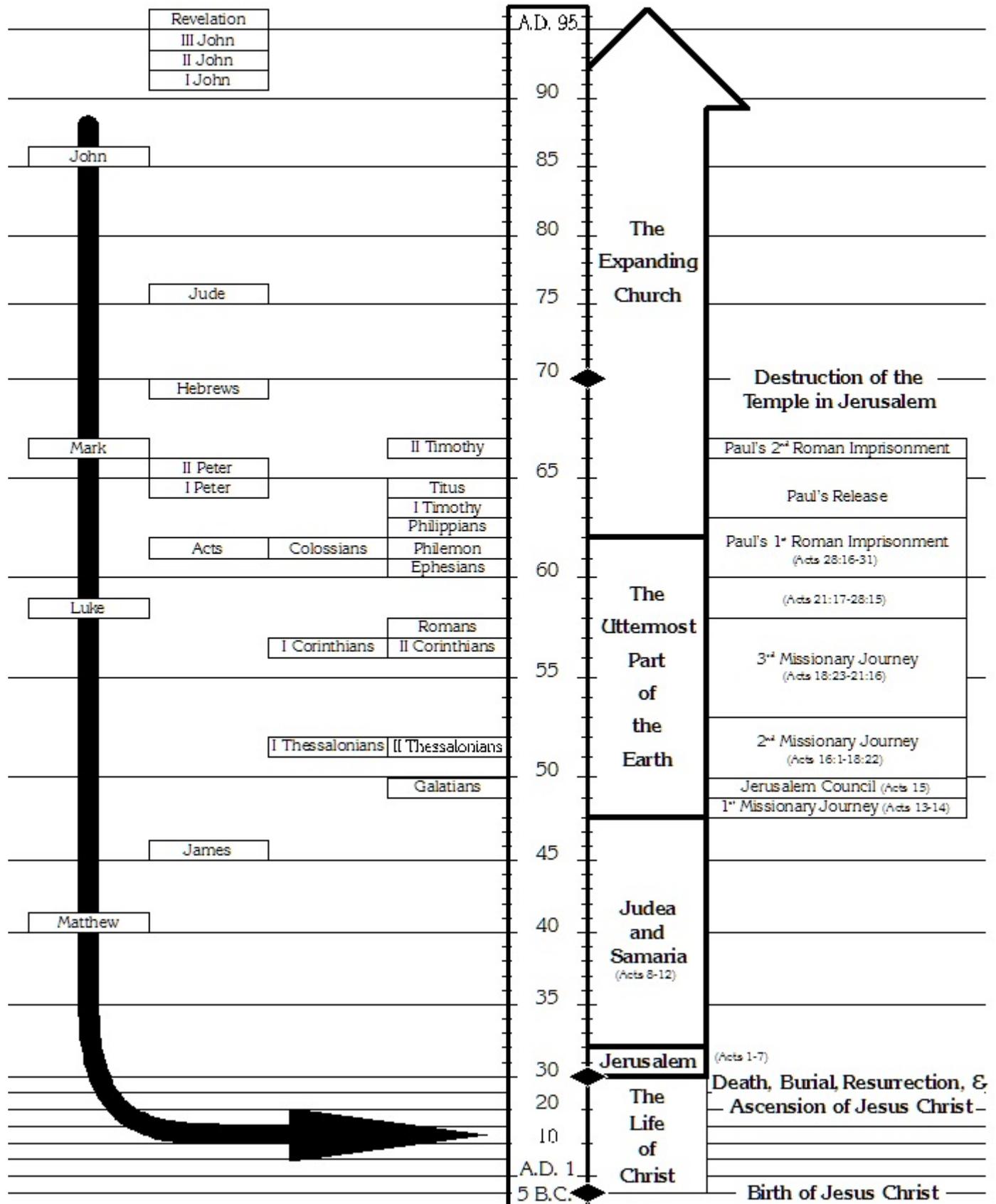


The Development of the New Testament

Key Verse: Acts 1:8



The Common Message of Peter's Epistles

The common purpose of both epistles (& all Scripture): 2 Peter 3:1-2

What are the words and commandments?

Holy Prophets:

- 1 Peter 1:10-11 – sufferings and glories to follow
- 2 Peter 1:19 – Peter's word confirms theirs
- 2 Peter 3:16 – “the rest of Scripture”

Peter (2 Peter):

- 2 Peter 3:13 – new heavens & earth; righteousness
- 2 Peter 3:14 – Be diligent . . .
- 2 Peter 3:17-18 – Do not fall, but grow
- 2 Peter 3:15-16 – Paul (2 Timothy 4:8, 18)

Peter (1 Peter)

- 1 Peter 1:3 – Begotten to a living hope
- 1 Peter 1:13 – Hope in grace to be brought at His return
- 1 Peter 5:10-12 – Called to His eternal glory
- 1 Peter 1:15; 2:11 – Be holy while waiting

Distinctive of 1 and 2 Peter – obstacles to hope

- Suffering
- False teaching

An Outline of 2 Peter

1. The common faith affirmed (1:1-15)

- God has given . . .
- You must add . . .

2. The authority of the common faith (1:16-21)

- Eyewitnesses
- The inspired prophets

3. The opposition to the common faith (2:1-22)

4. The common faith displayed (3:1-18)

- A warning – scoffers
- An explanation – Why I should not doubt?
 - The power of God
 - The eternity of God
 - The purpose of God
- Our hope: The power and coming of the Lord
 - Unexpected
 - Catastrophic beyond imagination
 - The new heavens and earth – righteousness
- The moral implications
 - What manner of persons ought you to be?
- The Glory of God now and forever

The danger of false prophets (2 Peter 2)

The importance of Scripture/Revelation – a digression

An ongoing threat (2:1)

- O.T. and N.T. era (cf. Jeremiah 2:11-13)
- Destructive heresies.

A “successful” threat (2:1-3)

- Deceptive – “secret” & “denial” (2:1, 3)
- Many will follow . . . (2:2)
- Way of truth blasphemed

A severe warning from history (2:4-9)

- Swift destruction?
- God judged angels
- God judged by the flood
- God judged Sodom and Gomorrah
- God delivers the godly and punishes the ungodly

The wickedness of false teachers (2:10-23)

- No spiritual capacity
 - Fleshly - Despise authority - Presumptuous and self-willed
 - Ignorant - Decadent - Materialistic - Wells without water
 - Condemned forever
- No spiritual ministry
 - Empty words - Entice through lusts of the flesh
- Condemned (2:9, 12, 13, 17, 19)
 - Slaves of corruption - dogs - pigs

Exceedingly great and precious promises (2 Peter 3)

The message resumed (3:1-2)

A warning – scoffers will come

- These are the false teachers
- Challenging the faithfulness of God
- Willfully forget = deny God's Word

Creation

The Flood

God's witness

- Creation – by the Word of the LORD
- The Flood – by the Word of the LORD
- The nature of God

His power – The same Word

His eternity – God is above time

God's purpose – God is longsuffering

The promise of His coming – a certainty

- Will come unexpectedly
- Devastating destruction
- A new heavens and earth wherein dwelleth righteousness

Exceedingly great and precious promises (2 Peter 3)

Motivation for holy conduct and godliness (3:11)

Compare 1 Peter 1:13-16 – “grace to be brought”

All these things will be dissolved – under wrath

“Looking for and hastening” the Day of the Lord

Look, according to His promise

We are “pilgrims and sojourners” (1 Peter 2:11)

Our “citizenship is in heaven” (3:13).

Do diligence

See 1:5 – giving all diligence to adding virtue . . .

See 1:10 – diligent to make your calling and election sure

Hebrews 11:6 – “rewarder of those who diligently seek Him”

Diligence to be found in peace, spotless and blameless

Peace with God and with all men

justification and sanctification

Trust in God

Consider the longsuffering of God is salvation (3:15)

The message of Paul also

The focus of false teachers

The challenge of our faith – Hab. 2:4 – 3:17-18

Live by faith in the Promise of His coming

Faith that is challenged by the longsuffering of God

The Final Word

You know this

An old message

The power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (1:16)

Beware – be alert

Not fall from steadfastness

The error of the wicked

Grow in grace and in knowledge of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Grace – our present spiritual condition and future hope

Knowledge – produced life and godliness

Our living hope

What do we think about the coming of the Lord?

This is the apex of the precious promises