

## **The journeys of St Paul**

### **Introduction**

Paul Diaspora (Greek) Jew,  
born in Tarsus (very urban)  
a Roman citizen  
studied under Gamaliel in Jerusalem  
persecuted followers of the Way  
then Damascus Road conversion AD 35, then another 10 years before missionary work

Account in Acts (How they brought the Good News from Jerusalem to Rome)

NB Acts changes from third person to first person Acts ch 16 v 10

Paul brought from Tarsus to Antioch by Barnabas Acts 11.25-26

### **St Paul's journey with a gift for the Church in Jerusalem**

Acts ch 11 vv 27-30

with Barnabas

### **St Paul's first missionary journey AD 46 – AD 48**

Acts chapters 13 & 14

with Barnabas

Antioch Acts 13.1

Seleucia Acts 13.4

Salamis (Cyprus) Acts 13.5

Paphos (Cyprus) Acts 13.6

*False prophet (bar Jesus/Elymas) turned blind*

Attalia

Perga Acts 13.13

Pisidian Antioch Acts 13.14

*Paul preaching in Synagogue; Jewish opposition, Gentile interest*

Iconium Acts 13.51

*Paul preaching in Synagogue; Jewish opposition, Gentile interest*

Lystra Acts 14.6

*Healing of crippled man: Barnabas taken for Zeus, Paul for Hermes; opposition of Jews from Pisidian Antioch and Iconium*

Derbe Acts 14.20

Lystra Acts 14.21

Iconium Acts 14.21

Pisidian Antioch Acts 14.21

Perga Acts 14.25 *John Mark deserts Paul (Acts 15.38)*

Attalia Acts 14.25

Antioch Acts 14.26

### **St Paul's journey to Jerusalem to resolve the Gentile question**

Acts ch 15 vv 1-35

with Barnabas

Council of Jerusalem – led by James: AD 48

return to Antioch with Barnabas, and Judas and Silas

## St Paul's second missionary journey AD 49 – AD 52

Acts ch 15 v 36 – ch 18 v 22

with Silas (a.k.a. Silvanus) and then Timothy & Luke (Barnabas takes John Mark with him separately)

Antioch

Tarsus Acts 15.4

Derbe Acts 16.1

Lystra Acts 16.1 *met Timothy – who had a Jewish mother*

Troas Acts 16.8 *joined by Luke*

Samothrace Acts 16.11

Neapolis Acts 16.11

Philippi Acts 16.12 *Lydia becomes a Christian; fortune teller healed/made worthless; escape from prison*

Amphipolis Acts 17.1

Appolonia Acts 17.1

Thessalonica Acts 17.1 *supported by Jason; more opposition from the Jews*

Beroea Acts 17.10 *opposition from Jews from Thessalonica; Silas and Timothy travel separately*

Athens Acts 17.15 *Paul's sermon in the Areopagus*

Corinth Acts 18.1 *Aquila (a tentmaker) and Priscilla - Christian; Silas and Timothy rejoin Paul; Titus Justus, Crispus, Gaius and Stephanas become Christians; Paul spends 18 months in Corinth; leaves with Aquila and Priscilla after further problems with the Jews*  
**I THESSALONIANS** written AD 50; **II THESSALONIANS** written a few weeks later ?

Cenchrae Acts 18.18

Ephesus Acts 18.19 *St Paul promises to return*

Caesarea Acts 18.22

Jerusalem Acts 18.22

Antioch Acts 18.22

Corinth – largest city in Greece – cosmopolitan, modern

## St Paul's third missionary journey AD 52 – AD 56

Acts ch 18 v 23 – ch 23 v 35

Antioch Acts 18.23

The region of Galatia and Phrygia Acts 18.23

Tarsus, Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, Pisidian Antioch .....

Ephesus Acts 19.1 *Paul spends two years at Ephesus; Ephesus had Christians who hadn't been christened; opposition from the Jews, so Paul moves to the lecture hall of Tyrannus; trouble with the sons of Sceva; trouble with the silversmith Demetrius: Paul imprisoned here*

**GALATIANS** written AD 53 **I CORINTHIANS** written Spring AD 54 ?

Macedonia Acts 20.1

Philippi, Thessalonica .....

**II CORINTHIANS** written autumn AD 55 in Philippi?

Greece Acts 20.2

Corinth .....

*joined by Sopater, Aristarchus, Secundus, Gaius, Timothy, Tychicus, Trophimus; Paul stays for three months*

**ROMANS** written in Corinth in Spring AD 56 ?

Troas Acts 20.5 *joined by Luke; Eutychus dies of boredom during a long sermon! Paul travels by land, Luke and the others by sea to:*

Assos Acts 20.14  
 Mytilene Acts 20.14  
 Chios Acts 20.15  
 Samos Acts 20.15  
 Miletus Acts 20.15 *goodbye to the elders from Ephesus*  
 Cos Acts 21.1  
 Rhodes Acts 21.1  
 Patara Acts 21.1  
 Tyre Acts 21.3  
 Ptolemais Acts 21.7  
 Caesarea Acts 21.8 *Paul stays at the house of Philip & his daughters; Agabus prophesies trouble*  
 Jerusalem Acts 21.17 *Paul stays at the house of Mnason of Cyprus*

Ephesus – meeting place for East and West

In Jerusalem, Paul meets opposition from the Jews, but cleverly elicits support from the Pharisees (Acts 23.7) over the resurrection (so splitting the opposition). The Jews form a conspiracy to kill Paul (Acts 23.12), but he escapes with help from the Tribune Claudius Lysias, and the Governor Felix and is imprisoned at Caesarea (Acts 23.23). When Felix is replaced by Festus a further conspiracy is formed (Acts 25.3); Paul appeals to the Emperor - his right as a Roman citizen (Acts 25.11); Paul speaks before Festus and King Agrippa, before being sent to Rome and the Emperor.

**PHILIPPIANS** **COLOSSIANS** and **PHILEMON** *written from prison in Caesarea AD 56-58? or from prison in Rome AD 60 – 62 ?*

*The other Epistles in the New Testament were probably not written by St Paul.*

### **St Paul's journey to Rome AD 59 – 60**

Acts chapters 27 & 28  
 with Luke, and under the arrest of the centurion Julius

Caesarea Acts 27.1  
 Sidon Acts 27.3  
 Myra Acts 27.5  
 Fair Havens (Crete) Acts 27.8 *a storm blows up*  
 Malta Acts 28.1 *they are shipwrecked on Malta, and have to wait three months, over the winter; the natives of Malta believe Paul to be a god when a viper's bite does not hurt him; Paul cures Publius and others*  
 Syracuse Acts 28.12  
 Rhegium Acts 28.13  
 Puteoli Acts 28.13 *they find some Christians and stay for a week with them*  
 Rome Acts 28.14 *Paul is met by the believers here: he spends two years under house arrest....*

Rome: the centre of the known world!

Tradition (the first Epistle of St Clement of Rome) has it that after a couple of years under house arrest, Paul is released and journeys to Spain

### **St Paul's (legendary?) journeys to Spain etc AD 62 – AD 65?**

The tradition continues that Paul then returns to Rome, where he is martyred in the persecution of Emperor Nero (Tertullian writes that he was beheaded).