Chronology of Paul's Life

Roman Birthright in the Diaspora

- Born in Tarsus of Cilicia, A.D. 10 (Acts 22:3)
- Schooled in Greco-Roman thought (Acts 17:18,28)
- Privileged by Roman citizenship (Acts 21:39)

Jewish Upbringing in Jerusalem

- Rabbinic education under Gamaliel (Acts 22:3; 26:4)
- A strict Pharisee of Benjamin's tribe (Rom. 11:1; Phil. 3:5)
- Persecutor of the church (Acts 7:58; Gal. 1:14-24)

Conversion in Damascus

- Stoning of Stephen, A.D. 34 (Acts 7:58–8:3)
- Heavenly vision on Damascus Road (Acts 9; 22; 26)
- Baptism by Ananias (Acts 9:18)
- Retreat to Arabia and Damascus preaching (Gal. 1:17; Acts 9; 22; 27)

Silent Years in Syria and Cilicia

- Flees Jews for Tarsus (Acts 9:30)
- 10 unknown years, A.D. 37-46 (2 Cor. 12:2; Gal. 1:21)
- Recalled to Antioch by Barnabas (Acts 11:25; 12:25)

Gentile Mission in the Eastern Provinces

The episodes in Acts can be grouped into three tours that commence and terminate at the church in Antioch.

First Missionary Tour (Acts 12:25–15:35)

- Paul might have written Galatians here before the Jerusalem conference (Acts 14:28; 15:1-2).
- Voyage to the island of Cyprus, A.D. 46
- In the province of Galatia
- The Jerusalem conference, A.D. 48–49 (Acts 15)

Second Missionary Tour (Acts 15:36–18:22)

- In the province of Macedonia, A.D. 50
- In the province of Achaia
- 1–2 Thessalonians written from Corinth
- 18-month stay in Corinth ends, A.D. 52

Third Missionary Tour (Acts 18:23–21:16)

- Two- or three-year Ephesian ministry, A.D. 53–55
- 1 Corinthians written from Ephesus
- Galatians may also have been written here.
- Journey to Jerusalem with offering, A.D. 57
- 2 Corinthians and Romans written in Greece

Captivity and Death in Rome

- Arrest in Jerusalem (Acts 21:27)
- Two-year imprisonment in Caesarea, A.D. 57–59 (Acts 24:27)
- Voyage and shipwreck (Acts 27:1–28:14)
- Roman imprisonments

Two-year house arrest in Rome, A.D. 60–62 (Acts 28:30)

Prison epistles written from Rome

Release and subsequent work

Pastoral epistles (1 Tim. and Titus) written

Second imprisonment

2 Timothy written

• Martyrdom, A.D. 66 or 67

 $Preben\,Vang\,\,and\,Terry\,\,Carter,\,\,Telling\,\,God's\,\,Story\,\,(Nashville:\,B\&H\,\,Publishing\,\,Group,\,2006),\,\,268-69.$

