

# **Biblical Scroll Dating Using Luke – November 8, 2024**

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### **Jesus:**

7 B.C. (late in the year) or 6 B.C. (early in the year) = birth of Christ

4 B.C. (after Nisan 1 - March) = death of Herod the Great

A.D. 12 = beginning of Tiberius Caesar's rule

A.D. 26 (early in the year) = beginning of John's ministry

A.D. 26 (middle or late in the year) = beginning of ministry as a disciple of John the Baptist

A.D. 27 (Nisan 14) = first Passover in Christ's ministry - cleanses Temple -

A.D. 28 (Nisan 14) = second Passover in Christ's ministry

A.D. 32 (Nisan 14) = third Passover in Christ's ministry - spent in Galilee

A.D. 33 (Nisan 14/Thursday evening, April 3, 33 A.D.) = fourth Passover

A.D. 33 (Nisan 14/Friday afternoon, April 3, 33 A.D.) = crucifixion of Christ

### **Paul:**

I, Paul, an ambassador and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus - (Phm 1:9 RSV)

**Παῦλος πρεσβύτης νυνὶ δὲ καὶ δέσμιος Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ·**

Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. (Phm 1:9 KJV)

I, Paul, an old man and even now a prisoner for the sake of Christ Jesus- (Phm 1:9 NET)

- I. At Jerusalem (A.D. 33-34) :
  - a. Witnesses the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:58)
  - b. Participates in the persecution of the Jerusalem church (Acts 8:1-4)
  - c. Receives authority from the High Priest to go to Damascus to persecute believers in Jesus. (Acts 9:1-2)
- II. Experiences at Damascus:
  - a. Jesus appearance on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:3-8; 22:5-11; 26:12-18)
  - b. Ministered to by Ananias of Damascus (Acts 9:9-19; 22:12-16)
  - c. Initial testimony at Damascus (Acts 9:19-22; 26:20)
  - d. Departure to Arabia<sup>4</sup> (Gal 1:16-17), occurs between Acts 9:22 -23

Paul's letters are the earliest parts of the New Testament. Debate has always made dating Galatians impossible - it's an opinion. A series of Letters was written at intervals during the fifties and sixties; there is practically no one who doubts that Paul was their author - and they were in circulation in the first century.

—*Galatians*: A fiery Letter to several churches, may be A.D. 49-50; probably written in A.D. 56 or 57.

—*1 and 2 Thessalonians*: The first two Christian writings that have come down to us. They were surely written in Corinth between A.D. 50 and 52, to encourage a recently believers and to clarify some teaching.

— Suetonius wrote: "since the Jews constantly made disturbances at the instigation of Christus, the Claudias expelled them from Rome" This may have been what *the Bible explicit, calling Aquila of Pontus and his wife, Priscilla, both expelled from Italy at the time, "Jews" (Acts 18:2)*

—*1 and 2 Corinthians*: Two Letters written in A.D. 56, during Paul's time in Ephesus. They contain rather spirited interventions occasioned by disorders and divisions in the community.

—*Philippians*: A Letter that is especially cordial in tone. It is the first Letter that Paul wrote from prison and can be dated to A.D. 56; we know that Paul was imprisoned more than once.

—*Romans*: A lengthy theological writing, covering at greater length, and in a more serene tone, the same themes the writer had dealt with in the Letter to the Galatians. It may date from A.D. 57 or 58.

A second and later series of texts is known as the Captivity Letters (which may include the Letter to the Philippians, as noted a moment ago). They can be attributed to Paul, although a bit tentatively, and dated from A.D. 61 to 63, the period of his imprisonment in Rome.

—*Colossians*: A Letter that encourages authentic faith and authentic Christian life in face of the commingling of religions and new ideas.)

—*Philemon*: A short note of recommendation for a fugitive slave.

—*Ephesians*: A circular Letter inspired by a profound theology and mysticism.

A third series of Letters is addressed no longer to communities but to individuals, pastors of souls, and is lavish with recommendations and guidelines for the exercise of their responsibilities. These are known as the Pastoral Letters and must be dated to A.D. 66 or 67 at the latest, if they are to be attributed to Paul.

—*1 and 2 Timothy*: Two Letters.

—*Titus*: One Letter.

Eusebius of Caesarea (c. 275-339) was the first to write explicitly that Paul was beheaded and Peter crucified in Rome during the reign of Nero (Nero died on June 9, 68).