

August 9, 1992
Addendum I

"Acts Chronology"

Couples Class
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Teacher

Complete data are not given to be absolute about the exact chronology of Acts. The following factors help determine the timing of the events in Acts.

1. Herod's death is known to have been in 44 AD - Acts 12:20-23.
2. Paul's arrival in Jerusalem when Herod killed James - Acts 11:30-12:2
3. Paul's departure from Jerusalem just after Herod's death Acts 12:23,25
4. #2 and #3 above probably envelop the "14 years" in Gal. 2:1 after Paul's conversion.
5. Paul's conversion occurred about 31 or 32 AD.
6. Therefore, placing 30 AD as the starting point and 60 AD as the known date of Festus' appointment as Governor at Caesarea in Acts 24:27, the following chronology is calculated:

Jesus' return to the Father	Acts Chap. 1	30 AD
Formation of church in Jerusalem	2-6	30
Stoning of Stephen and dispersion of church	7-8	31 or 32
Conversion of Saul	9	31 or 32
Paul's first visit to Jerusalem after conversion		34 or 35
Conversion of Cornelius, the Gentile		between 35 - 40
Reception of Gentiles at Antioch	11	about 42
Paul's second visit to Jerusalem	11:27-30	44
Paul's first missionary journey to Galatia	13-14	48-45
Council at Jerusalem	15	about 50
Paul's second missionary journey to Greece	16-18	50-53
Paul's third missionary journey to Ephesus	19-20	54-57
Paul left Ephesus in June (I Cor. 16:8)		57
Paul in Macedonia (I Cor. 16:5-8)		57
Paul in Corinth, three months	Acts 20:2-3	Winter, 57-58
Paul left Philippi	20:6	April, 58
Paul reached Jerusalem	20:16	June, 58
Paul in Caesarea	24-26	Summer, 58 to Fall, 60
Paul's voyage to Rome	27-28	Winter, 60-61
Paul in Rome		61-63

February 2, 1992

"Life, Sin, and Death"
(Review)

Couples Class
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I. Life and death

A. Definitions

1. Life = together with
2. Death = separated from

B. Physical

1. Life = together and communicative with other mortals (John 3:5-6, born physically with water)
2. Death = separated from and uncommunicative with other mortals (Acts 7:60-8:1a)
3. Life and death sequence: alive once with death inevitably following (I Cor. 15:22, 45, 49; Heb. 9:27)

C. Spiritual

1. Life = together with God (at-one-ment, Rom. 5:11), John 3:5-7, entering the kingdom of God is dependent upon spiritual birth, the second birth. (See especially John 3:5b, and also Rom. 4:13-17; Eph. 12:1, 5)
2. Death = separated from God (John 3:3b; Rom. 8:1-4)
3. Spiritual life and God's lordship are inseparable (Matt. 22:32; John 3:5b, 36a)
4. Life and death sequence: alive spiritually when born physically (II Sam. 12:15-23; Lk 18:15-16); dead at age of awareness of sin (wrong doing) in lifestyle (spiritual accountability), John 3:18b, 36b; and by faith in Jesus Christ, alive forevermore (John 3:36a; 11:26).

D. Sin and death

1. Sin = that which separates or causes death, both physical and spiritual
2. Some Bible references to physical death and spiritual death from sin
 - a. Physical death - the serpent on a pole (Num. 21:7-9; John 3:14)
 - b. Spiritual life - the Lord Jesus on a cross (John 3:14b-16)
 - c. Sin through Adam brings physical death to all persons. In Gen. 2:17; 3:3, to die spiritually is meant; in Gen. 3:4 to die physically is meant, and Satan was aware of the two types of death and deliberately deceived Eve by confusing the two types; in Gen. 3:22-23, God's mercy took mankind out of the Garden-of-Eden-type-of-being, i.e., eternal in body and spirit, and let them die physically rather than live forever in the flesh separated from God's presence. (See also Rom. 7:24; I Cor. 15:22; Heb. 9:27) The woman, Eve, who was deceived by Satan was also designated to be the one, by type of human, who (Mary, Jesus' Mother) would be the agent to bring about a resolution for the dilemma of humanity's separation from God (Gen. 3:15).
 - d. Belief, faith in Jesus Christ abolishes (sets aside) the sin that makes a person spiritually dead (separated from and condemned by God). John 3:18; 8:24; 11:26; II Tim. 1:10

- e. Once a person is spiritually alive, spiritual death is no longer possible for him or her (John 10:28-30)
- 1) Luke 12:8-10 Note that the unforgivable sin given comes immediately after and within the context of the idea of denying Jesus before men as God's Savior. Vs. 10 refers to both Jesus' humanity and his Father, God, through the Holy Spirit, i.e., Jesus' divinity.
 - 2) John 11:25-26 Jesus makes the idea explicitly clear that faith in him and his resurrection grants a person eternal (spiritual) life.
 - 3) Rom. 8:2 The term "law of the spirit" is revealing in that it refers to an order within the temporary (mortal) period wherein believers are to live while waiting for the setting up of the Kingdom of God. But he or she is free from the law (Ezek. 18:4b; Rom. 6:23) which states that a person is separated from God without God as Savior.
 - 4) I Cor. 4:4; II Tim. 1:12; I John 3:20 These passages are considered together, because they all contain assurances that a believer's eternal life in Jesus Christ is without question. Note that this is true even if our hearts, our own hearts, condemn us.
 - 5) Heb. 6 The writer makes it clear in the context of this chapter that those who have become "partakers of the Holy Spirit - - - [cannot] fall away and be renewed." Note the "if" (see Subjunctive Mood below indicating a verb form that represents a denoted fact which is contingent or viewed emotionally as with doubt) *idea in vs. 6 and the "but" in vs. 9 indicating assurance (persuasion) that believers are headed for "better things." This hope is to be an "anchor for the soul," vs. 19.
 - 6) I John 5:13, 16-20 The theme of this passage is vs. 13, "that you may know that you have eternal [spiritual] life."
 - a) vs. 16 Appearances of term "death;" first death is physical; second, death is physical; third, death is spiritual.
 - b) vs. 17 "Death" is spiritual.
 - c) vs. 18 One who is spiritually alive does not sin a sin that will separate him or her from God, and the devil cannot touch him or her. (See also I Cor. 3:15)
 - d) vss. 19-20 We believers are God's through Jesus Christ, i.e., together with him (spiritually alive).
3. When a believer in Jesus Christ does contrary to the will of God, his or her Father, he or she is not sinning (being separated spiritually from God, see I John 5:18), but grieving God's Holy Spirit, Eph. 4:30; I John 1:8-9.

*Moods of English verbs - relation of action or being to reality

1. Indicative - objective fact or reality
2. Imperative - reality based on certain on further factor/factors
3. Subjunctive-supposed reality based on a contingency or doubt