

KEYSTONE FELLOWSHIP

FALL 2026



CHRIST IN YOU

A STUDY IN COLOSSIANS

WEEK 1

INTRODUCTION

Explore introductory
"Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?"
questions about Colossians

Start collecting questions about the text

Consider why Colossians matters for us today

WHAT IS COLOSSIANS?

What type of writing is
Colossians?

It is a letter (or an epistle)

Author

Intended recipient

Occasion

It is also Inspired Scripture

Divine Author

Written for us

Fitting for today's situations

READ COLOSSIANS 1:1-8

WHOM

DID COLOSSIANS CONCERN?

Who wrote it?

Paul the Apostle (formerly Saul)

- Jew; former persecutor of the church
- Christ-appointed apostle to the Gentiles

Who was it written to?

Saints in Colossae

- Paul may never have met them
- Epaphras has represented them positively to Paul



WHOM



WHERE IS COLOSSIANS?

(it's in your Bible)

Where is Colossae?
Asia Minor (Present Türkiye)

Where is Paul
writing from?

Imprisonment or
house arrest
(Rome or Ephesus)





WHEN WAS COLOSSIANS WRITTEN?

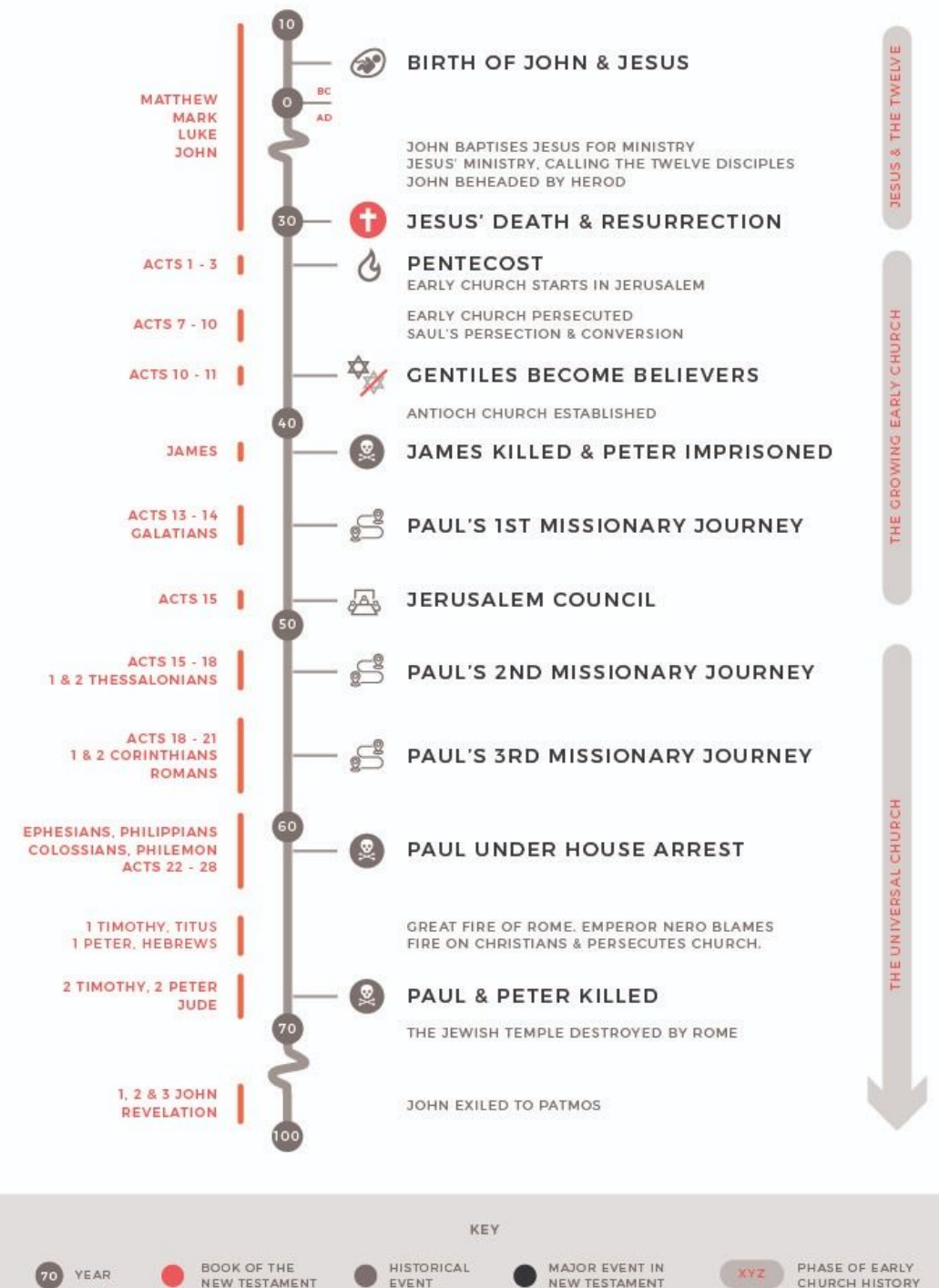
When in Biblical history
did Paul write
Colossians?

After Christ; during the spread of
the early church; ~60 AD

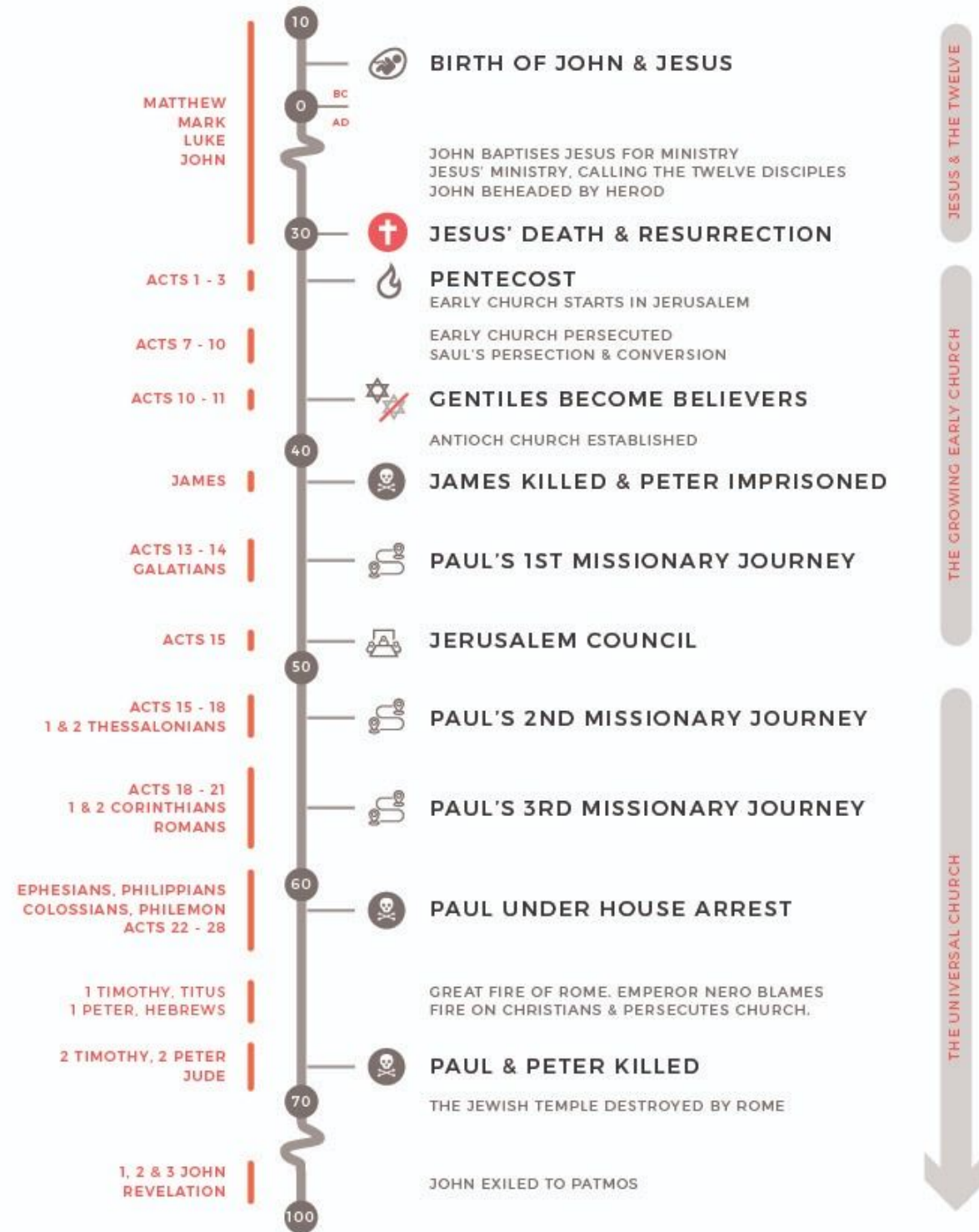
After Paul's missionary journeys

Before the final scriptures were
written

THE TIMELINE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



THE TIMELINE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



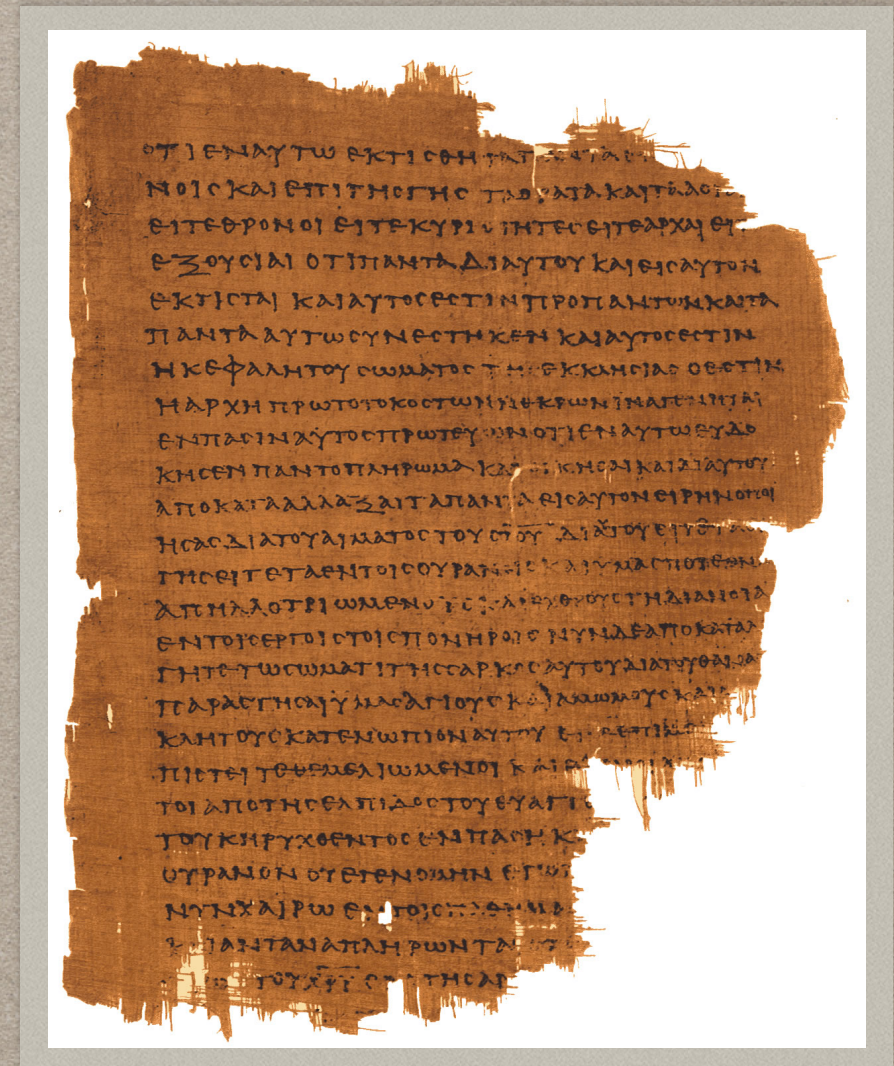
KEY

- 70** YEAR
- BOOK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT**
- HISTORICAL EVENT**
- MAJOR EVENT IN NEW TESTAMENT**
- XYZ** PHASE OF EARLY CHURCH HISTORY

HOW SHOULD COLOSSIANS BE READ?

How was Colossians
originally read?

**As a congregation,
out loud,
all at once.**



READ THE WHOLE LETTER

& write down questions

1:1-8

2:16-3:1-4

1:9-14

3:5-11

1:15-23

3:12-17

1:24-2:5

3:18-4:1

2:6-15

4:2-18

WHY DID PAUL WRITE COLOSSIANS?

THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST > THE THREAT OF MYSTICAL RELIGION (2:1-10)

- Though Paul rejoices in the faith of the Colossians, he is concerned about the threat of false teachings (e.g. visions, circumcision, ceremonies, asceticism, legalism)
- ***“See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition...and not according to Christ.” (2:8)***
- Paul’s counter is to present the **mystery of Christ** (1:27 4:3)

**WHY SHOULD WE READ
COLOSSIANS?**

"...the mystery hidden
for ages and generations...
now revealed to his saints...
is Christ in you,
the hope of glory."

Colossians 1:26-27 (excerpted)

IF WE LOSE OUR WONDER AT CHRIST

**THE WORLD'S 'WISDOM'
SHALL ENTICE US**

IF WE CHERISH THE MYSTERY OF
CHRIST IN US

**THERE IS NO
GREATER WISDOM**

