

EPHESIANS: The Body of Christ

From Dust to Destiny
NT Epistles

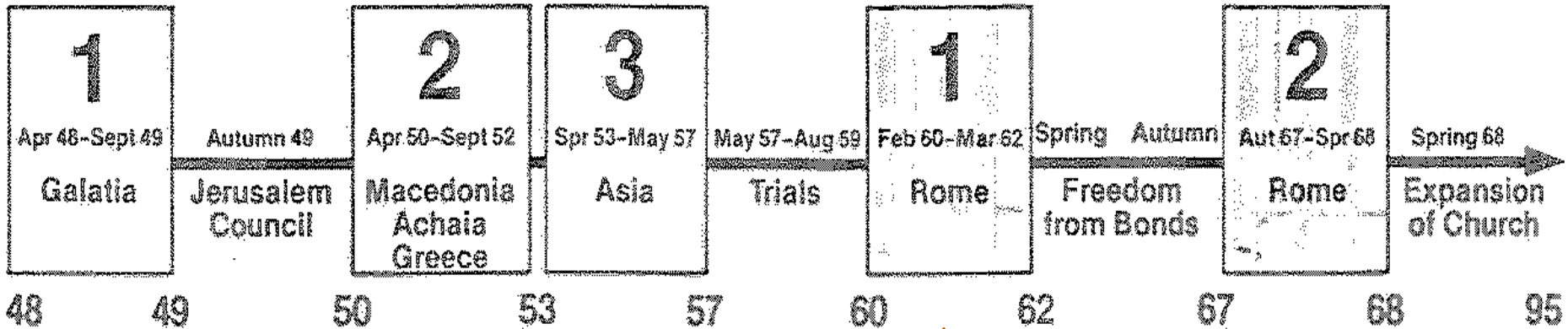
ORDERING THE BOOKS OF THE NT

- The order of the writing of the books was approximately as follows

Book	Date (A.D.)	Book	Date (A.D.)
James	45-49	Philippians, Philemon	63
Galatians	49	1 Peter	63-64
1 & 2 Thessalonians	51	1 Timothy	63-66
Mark	50s or 60s	Titus	63-66
Matthew	50s or 60s	Hebrews	64-68
1 Corinthians	55	2 Peter	66
2 Corinthians	56	2 Timothy	67
Romans	57-58	Jude	68=8-
Luke	60	John	85-90
Acts	61	1, 2, 3 John	85-90
Colossians, Ephesians	61	Revelation	90-95

“Unto the uttermost part of the earth . . .” (Acts 13-28)

13 14 15 16 18 19 21 22 28



Galatians
Place: Antioch
Date: 49

1 Thess.
Place: Corinth
Date: 51

1 Corinth.
Place: Ephesus
Date: 56

Ephesians
Place: Rome
Date: 60-61

1 Timothy
Place: Macedonia
Date: 62-65

2 Timothy
Place: Rome
Date: 67

2 Thess.
Place: Corinth
Date: 51

2 Corinth.
Place: Macedonia
Date: 56

Colossians
Place: Rome
Date: 60-61

Titus
Place: Asia Minor
Date: 65

Romans
Place: Corinth
Date: 57

Philemon
Place: Rome
Date: 60-61

Philippians
Place: Rome
Date: 62

ORDERING THE BOOKS OF THE NT

- Arrangement of Pauline Letters:
 - 1st nine (Romans – 2 Thess.) – to churches
 - Last four (1 Tim. – Philemon) – to individuals
 - Decreasing length (except Galatians/ Ephesians)

From Dust to Destiny
Intro. to the Epistles

ORDERING THE BOOKS OF THE NT

- Arrangement of Pauline Letters:
 - Romans = salvation & Christian walk
 - Corinthians & Galatians = problems in the church
 - Eph., Phil., Col. = prison epistles & deep Christian living

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Intro. to the Epistles**

ORDERING THE BOOKS OF THE NT

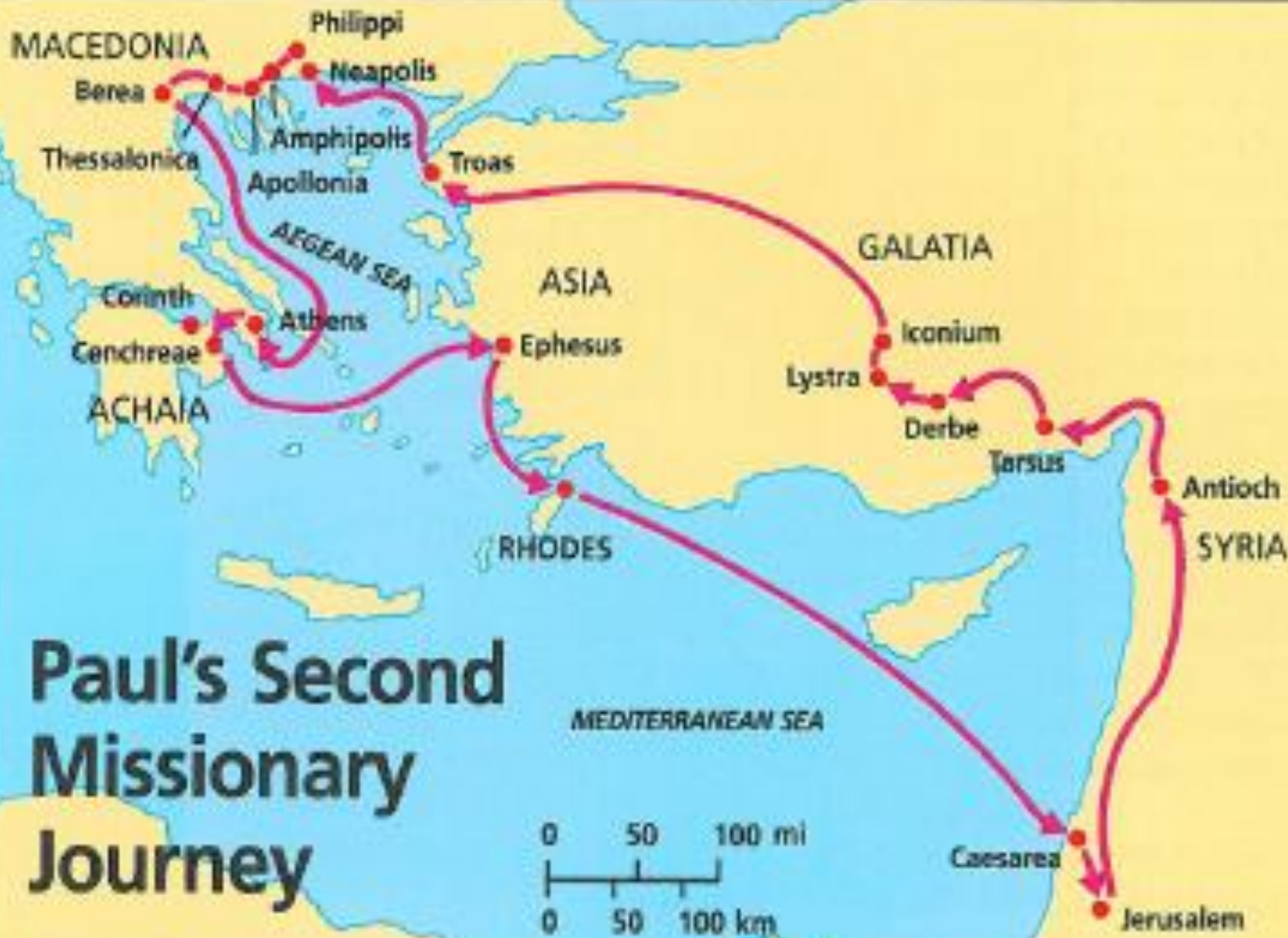
- Arrangement of Pauline Letters (to Churches):
 - Romans – Galatians (soteriological group)
 - Eph. – Phil. (ecclesiological group) – the Body “in Christ”

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Intro. to the Epistles**

ORDERING THE BOOKS OF THE NT

- Arrangement of Pauline Letters:
 - Travel Epistles
 - 1st MJ – Galatians
 - 2nd MJ – Thessalonians
 - 3rd MJ – Corinthians & Romans

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Intro. to the Epistles**



■ Acts 13-28

- Paul's 3 Missionary Journeys (Paul & Silas) not Barnabas
- Journey #2
 - Around 49-52 AD
 - Macedonia, Achaia
 - Approx. 3000-4000 miles
 - Acts 15:36-18:22
 - Paul's 2nd MJ begins by His own suggestion, not at the prompting of the HS like the 1st MJ
 - Paul's problem is that he has the right message at the wrong place at the wrong time (e.g. Acts 16)
 - Every vision Paul has in Acts, minus 1, is to get him back on track

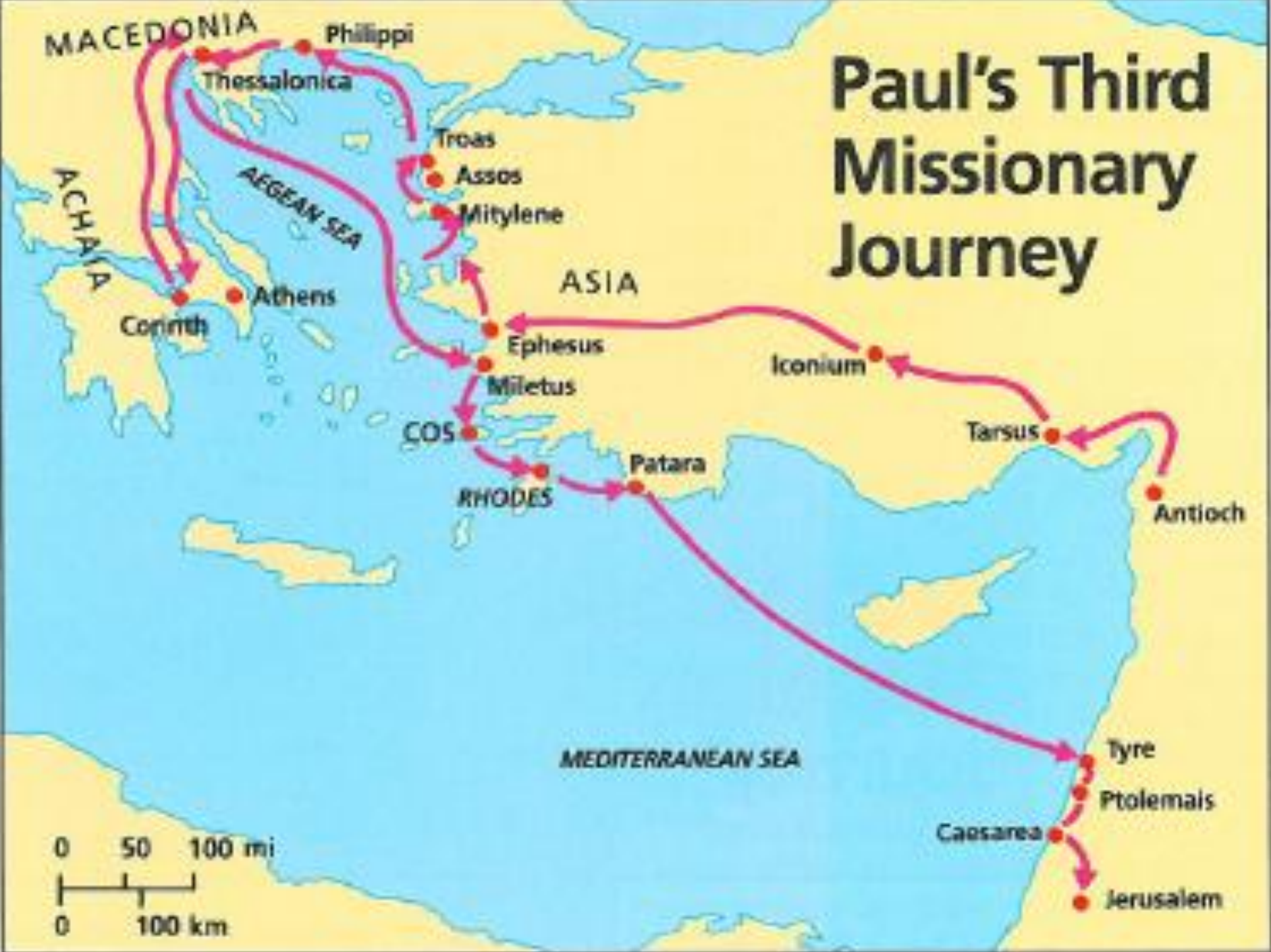
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■ Acts 13-28

- 2nd MJ (Macedonia, Achaia = Europe)
 - Antioch (15:36)
 - Asia Minor
 - Syria, Cilicia (15:41)
 - Mysia, Troas (16:6)
 - Macedonia
 - Philippi (16:11)
 - Thessalonica (17:1)
 - Berea (17:10)
 - Achaia
 - Athens (17:5)
 - Corinth (18:1)

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Intro. to the Epistles**

Paul's Third Missionary Journey



MACEDONIA

Philippi

Thessalonica

Troas

Assos

Mitylene

ASIA

Ephesus

Iconium

COS

RHODES

Patara

Tarsus

Antioch

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Tyre

Ptolemais

Caesarea

Jerusalem

0 50 100 mi

0 100 km

ACHAIA

AEGEAN SEA

Athens

Corinth

- **Acts 13-28**

- Paul's 3 Missionary Journeys

- Journey #3

- Around 52-56 AD
- W. Asia Minor
- Approx. 4000 miles
- Acts 18:23-21:17
- Home base is Ephesus

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◦ **Acts 13-28**

- 3rd MJ (Ephesus, Greece)
 - Ephesus = Paul's crown jewel
 - Satellite churches (Colossae)
 - Silversmith's riot (Paul leaves town)
 - Second "we" section (Philippi on return)
 - Letters written: 1-2 Corinthians, Romans

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- **Acts 13-28**

- Paul's 3 Missionary Journeys (Sermon examples)

- 1st MJ: Antioch – synagogue audience (Jews)
- 2nd MJ: Athens – pagan intelligensia (Gentiles)
- 3rd MJ: Miletus – church audience (Christians)

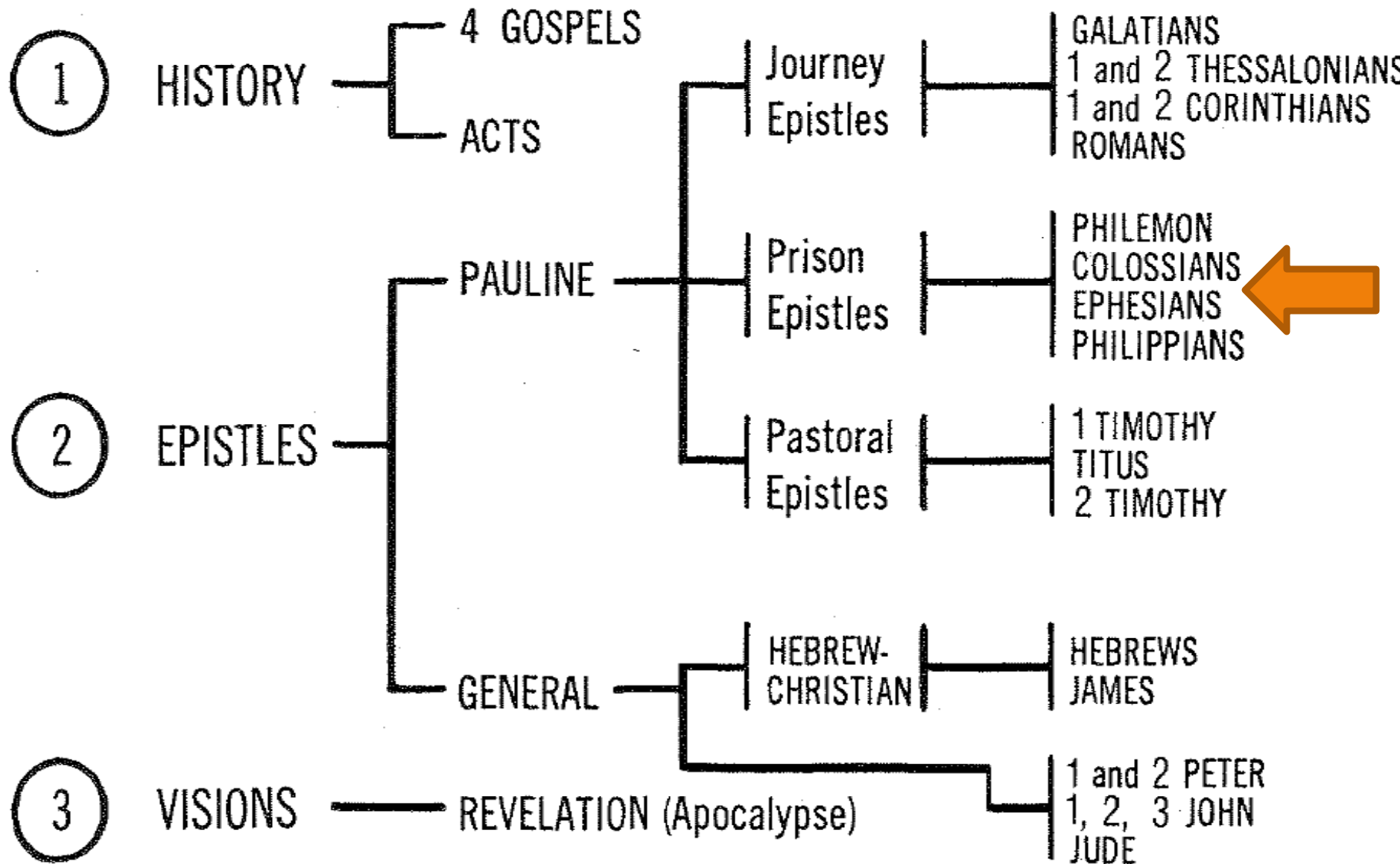
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ORDERING THE BOOKS OF THE NT

- Arrangement of Pauline Letters:
 - Prison Epistles
 - *1st Roman Imprisonment – Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, Philemon*
 - Pastoral Epistles
 - Release period – 1 Timothy, Titus
 - 2nd Roman Imprisonment – 2 Timothy

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GENERAL OUTLINE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



New Testament Books

History	Letters				Prophecy	
Matthew Mark Luke John Acts	Paul's			General	Revelation	
	Early during missionary journeys	Later after arrest at Jerusalem		James Hebrews		
	Galatians	First imprisonment	Release	Second imprisonment		Jude
	1 Thess. 2 Thess. 1 Cor. 2 Cor.	Colossians Ephesians Philemon	1 Timothy Titus	2 Timothy		1 Peter 2 Peter 1 John 2 John 3 John
Romans	Philippians					

PAUL'S 1ST ROMAN IMPRISONMENT

- Paul was falsely accused by the Jews and arrested by Roman soldiers in Jerusalem (Acts 21-22); taken to Caesarea to appear before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa (Acts 23-25); and then taken to Rome and imprisoned to await trial (Acts 27-28).
- In this imprisonment, Paul was chained (Eph. 6:19) to a Roman soldier who guarded him day and night (Acts 28:16).
- The place of confinement was his own rented house where he stayed for two years (Acts 28:30).

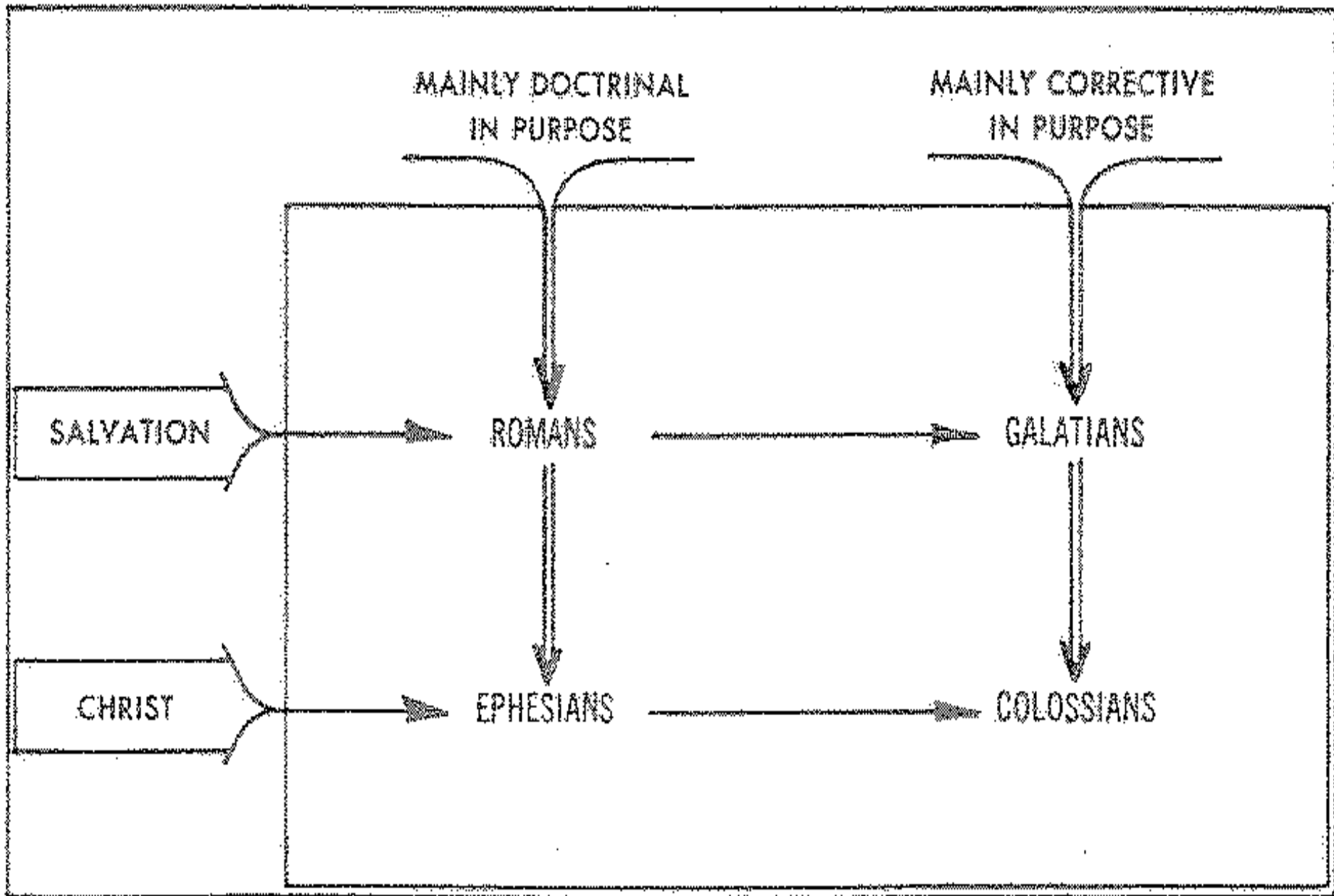
PAUL'S 1ST ROMAN IMPRISONMENT

- Through Paul's witness, the gospel spread throughout Rome and the praetorian guard (Phil. 1:12-13), with many converts made among the choicest guards in Caesar's own household (Phil. 4:22).
- Throughout his imprisonment, Paul saw himself not as a prisoner of Rome, but as a prisoner of Jesus Christ, there by divine appointment (Eph. 3:1; 4:1).
- Therefore, Paul was able to rejoice in his sufferings because he knew that God was still in control (Phil. 4:10-12), that God would be his strength (Phil. 4:13), and that the gospel was now penetrating into places otherwise unreached (Phil. 1:12).

PAUL'S 1ST ROMAN IMPRISONMENT

- While imprisoned, Paul prayed and asked for prayers on his behalf that he might have opportunities to witness for Christ (Col. 4:3) and that he might do so with boldness (Eph. 6:20).
- Despite his imprisonment, Paul continued his ministry unhindered, welcoming all visitors who came to him, preaching the gospel (Acts 28:31), and writing 4 NT books (Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, and Philippians – PRISON EPISTLES).

DOCTRINAL AND CORRECTIVE EPISTLES



EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Destination & Date
 - “in Ephesus” (1:1)
 - Encyclical letter
 - Probably meant for Ephesus and daughter churches
 - Col. 4:16 – letter from Laodicea
 - Likely sent first to Ephesus by Tychicus (Eph. 6:21-22; Col. 4:7-8)
 - Absence of controversy, no specific church problems, non-personal but general/universal (e.g. no personal greetings which would be expected at a place Paul spent so much time, some only knew Paul through hearsay (3:2))

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Ephesians**

EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Destination & Date
 - Ephesus as gateway from Asia to Rome
 - Center of trade
 - Ranked with Alexandria and Antioch as most important city centers in Mediterranean
 - Temple of Artemis (Diana) – one of 7 wonders of the world (e.g. temple worship) – seen as the workmanship of angels

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Ephesians**

EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Destination & Date
 - Paul spent one week in Ephesus on 2MJ
 - Brought Priscilla and Aquila and left them there (Acts 18:19)
 - Apollos preached there
 - Spent 3 years there on 3MJ with great success
 - “all who dwelt in Asia heard the Word” (Acts 19:10)
 - Paul last visited Ephesian elders in Miletus

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Ephesians**

EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Purpose and Theme

- Paul's purpose is to set forth the divine origin, mystical unity, and the heavenly position of all believers in Christ.
 - Convey something of the wealth of blessings that believers have in Christ, and how, through them, the eternal purposes of God are summed up in the person of Christ, the things in heaven and on earth (1:3-12).
 - State the believer's responsibility to know, grasp, and walk in a manner that is fitting with his heavenly position and calling in Christ (1:18-23; 3:14-21; 4:1).

EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Purpose and Theme

- His theme is the Church as the universal Body of Christ, eternally conceived and chosen by God, indissolubly united in Christ, and mystically energized by the Holy Spirit.
- They are in Christ (1:1); blessed with every blessing in Christ (1:3); chosen in Him (1:4); adopted through Christ (1:5); in the Beloved (1:6); redeemed in Him (1:7); given an inheritance in Him (1:11); have a hope that is to the praise of His glory in Christ (1:12); sealed with the Spirit through Him as an earnest installment of their inheritance (1:13-14); made alive, raised, and seated with Him in the heavenlies (2:5-6); created in Christ for good works (2:10); partakers of the promise in Christ (3:6); and given access to God through faith in Christ (3:12).

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Ephesians**

EPISTLE COMPARISON

- **GALATIANS:** The implication of justification by faith
- **EPHESIANS:** The position of the believer “in Christ”
- **PHILIPPIANS:** The attitude of the believer “in Christ”

	Galatians	Ephesians	Philippians
Style	Mainly logical and argumentative	Doctrinal and hortatory	Informative and consoling (personal)
Main Subject	Salvation	Christ & Church	Life of Joy
Purpose	Corrective	Instructive	Inspirational
Tone	Sharp, rebuking	Calm, victorious	Tender, joyful

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Ephesians**

EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Introduction (1a)
- Our Blessings in Christ (1b-3) --- "We are..."
 - Chosen in Christ: Father
 - Forgiven in Christ: Son
 - Sealed in Christ: Spirit
 - Prayer for Enlightenment (1d)
 - Raised in Christ
 - United in Christ
 - Equal in Christ
 - Prayer for Enablement (3b)

EPHESIANS: BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

- Our Behavior in Christ (4-6) --- "We must..."
 - Walk in unity
 - Walk in maturity
 - Walk in purity
 - Walk in harmony
 - Walk in victory
- Conclusion (6c)