

Church History



Church History

- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1st-3rd centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4th-5th centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19th century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20th century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21st century



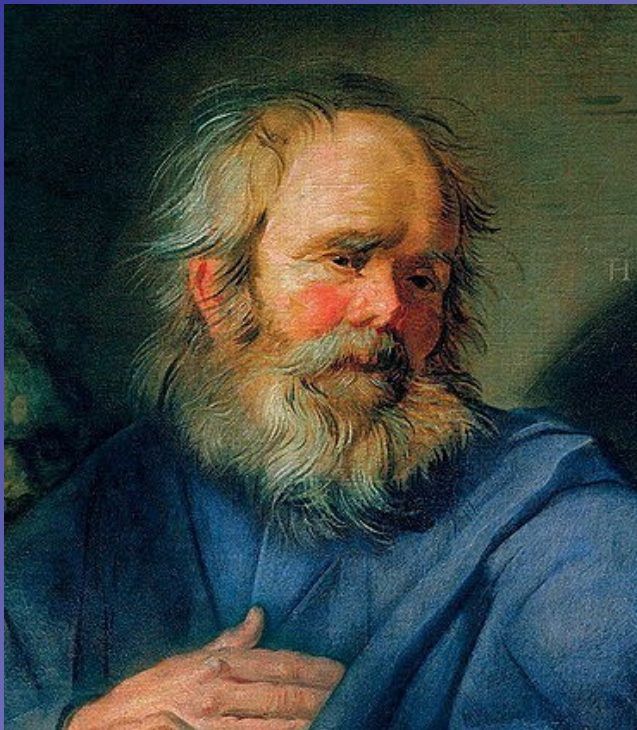
The Ancient Church

- So what's the timeline of the Church within the New Testament itself?

6-4 BC Jesus born in Bethlehem
28-29 Jesus begins His ministry
c. 33 Jesus is crucified and resurrected
33-36 the Disciples become the Apostles
44 the first Apostle (James) is martyred

- Read Acts 12:1-5

- This is one of the sons of Zebedee (*Ya'akov ben Zebediah*), the brother of John—and Peter has been imprisoned
- Peter begins travelling in Europe, including Rome, with young travelling companion John Mark
 - Mark compiles what he learns from Peter into the first Gospel, then goes on to help found the church in Alexandria (which would grow into the Coptic Orthodox Church)



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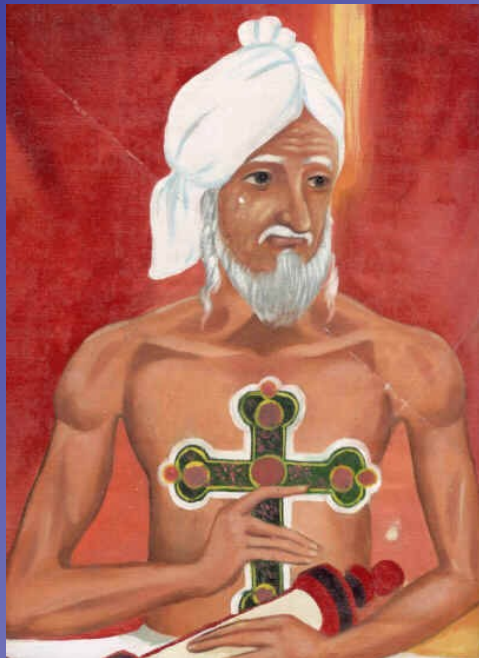


- Leaving Antioch in Acts 13, this is the first time that the Church has *consciously sent out* people to be missionaries (instead of just being scattered by persecution)
 - Why did they just naturally preach the Gospel in *synagogues* (see 13:5), if they talked with Gentiles, too?
 - Why did they appoint Elders in each of the local churches that they started? (see 14:23)
 - And what did the local churches look like? (see Philemon 1:1-2)



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 - 47 Thomas goes east and plants churches
- Specifically, he plants the Church of the East (later called the Nestorian Church after the heretic Nestorius) in Persia
- He continues to head eastward and plants churches all the way into India (Christians there become known as the *Nasrani Mappila*—the word “*Mappila*” describes any non-Indian religion, and the word “*Nasrani*” is a corruption of “*Nazarenes*”)



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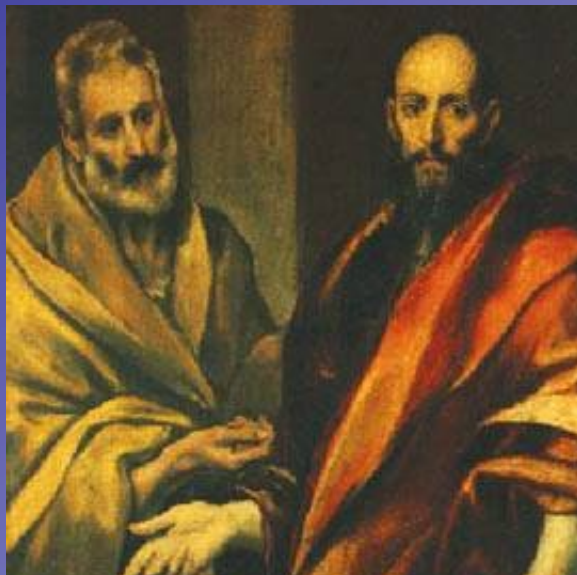
- Suetonius wrote, "Since the Jews constantly made disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, he expelled them from Rome"—i.e.; because of Jewish riots against Christians in Rome
 - Why would Claudius just expel *all* of the Jews?
 - How would this have affected the Christian / non-Christian relations within Judaism?



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- Read Acts 15:1-2
 - Why would Church missionaries teach that Gentiles would have to become Jews to become *Christians*?
 - How did Peter and Paul respond to this in 15:7-12?
 - And yet, why did they still come into conflict over this at Antioch in Galatians 2:11-21? (Note: Barnabas took *Peter's* side)



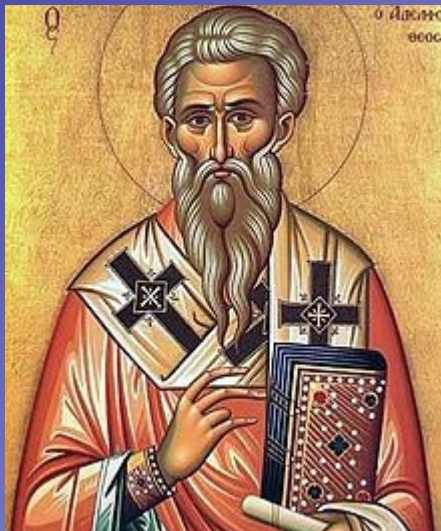
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- Read Acts 15:1-2

- Read Acts 15:13-21

- Why does James (the little brother of Jesus) get to decide this sort of stuff?
- What *exactly* did James decide that Gentiles had to do to become Christians? Didn't Peter just argue that we're saved by grace alone?



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 - 50 the Council of Jerusalem is held
 - 50-53 Paul and Barnabas are sent out again (with the Council's official letter)
 - But they soon split up over Barnabas' support of John Mark (in Acts 15:37-40, recalling his actions from Acts 13:13... which were *what*, exactly?)
 - What does this suggest about Paul and/or Barnabas?



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- **Glance at Acts 16**

- Paul's team intends to go into Turkey (Asia Minor), but in a dream, God tells Paul to go to Macedonia instead
 - Why is this change so crucial?



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- But they soon split up over Barnabas' support of John Mark
- Glance at Acts 16
- **Read Acts 19:1-5**
 - Now the Gentiles have officially had their own Pentecost experience
 - Why is that important?



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- Glance at Acts 16
- Read Acts 19:1-5
- **Note:** it's during this time period that Paul begins to write letters to churches—and that people begin *collecting* them



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 - 54 **Three more Apostles are martyred**
 - Philip is crucified in Hierapolis (in Turkey)



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- Philip
- Bartholomew (*aka* Nathaniel) serves in Ethiopia and Mesopotamia, but then is flayed alive and then crucified—still alive—when he goes north to Armenia



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Three more Apostles are martyred

- Philip
- Bartholomew
- Andrew follows Bartholomew's trail and preaches around the Black Sea (Malta, Romania, Georgia, and even into the Ukraine). He is crucified on a saltire (an X-shaped cross) at Patras, in Greece.



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- Philip
- Bartholomew
- Andrew
- Why do you think that the Church began installing pastors like Titus and Timothy in local churches around this time?

