

A New Testament Chronology

Taken from "The Untold Story of the New Testament Church" by Frank Viola

Overview

"The Untold Story of the New Testament Church" is a book by Frank Viola, an American writer, blogger, and Christian speaker.

In writing the book Frank was motivated by the fact that the 27 books of the traditional New Testament canon appear not in the order in which they were originally written, but rather in order of decreasing length by author (see pp. 6-7). This arrangement obscures important information about the way Christianity developed in the 1st century A.D. Viola attempts to overcome this problem by setting the new testament books in their chronological order and inserting them into an historical exposition that uses The Book of Acts as a framework.

Chronological Framework

The outline below summarizes the book's chronological framework. The "motions" are five sets of initiatives that God has taken to fulfill His eternal purpose (see p. 14). Each "chronicle" reflects Kingdom activities in a specific city or region.

"Motion"	Chapter: Chronicle	Date(s)	Events
1st	1: The Godhead In Eternity Past	Eternity Past	The Godhead conceives a plan to extend its fellowship.
2nd	2: The Son Sent To Earth	4 B.C.	The Father sends the Son to earth.
	3: Nazareth Chronicle	4 B.C. - A.D. 28	Jesus is born and grows to maturity.
	4: Galilean Chronicle	A.D. 28 - A.D. 30	Jesus conducts his public ministry.
	5: Calvary	A.D. 30	Jesus is arrested, tried, crucified, and buried.
			Jesus rises from the dead. Jesus appears to his disciples.
3rd	6: The Church Is Born	A.D. 30	
	7: Jerusalem Chronicle	A.D. 30 - A.D. 41	The Holy Spirit Descends on Pentecost.
			The Jerusalem church is born. The church grows, experiences

		persecution, and is scattered.
		The church is transplanted throughout Palestine.
		Saul is converted.
		A church is planted in Ceasarea.
8: Antioch Chronicle	A.D. 41 - A.D. 47	Acts 11:20 - 13:13
		A church is planted in Antioch of Syria.
9: Galatian Chronicle	A.D. 47 - A.D. 50	Acts 13:14 - 15:39
		Churches are planted in Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe.
	A.D. 49	Galatians
		The Jerusalem Council
	A.D. 50	James
10: Grecian Chronicle	A.D. 50 - A.D. 53	Acts 15:40 - 18:28
		Churches are planted in Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, and Corinth.
	A.D. 51	1st Thessalonians
	A.D. 52	2nd Thessalonians
11: Ephesian Chronicle	A.D. 54 - A.D. 58	Acts 19:1 - 28:29
		A church is planted in Ephesus.
	A.D. 54	Paul writes Corinthians A (now lost).
	A.D. 55	Paul writes Corinthians B (our 1 Corinthians).
	A.D. 55	1st Corinthians
		A church is transplanted in Rome
	A.D. 55	Paul writes Corinthians C (now lost).
	A.D. 57	Paul writes Corinthians D (2 Corinthians).
	A.D. 57	2nd Corinthians
	A.D. 57	Romans
12: Roman Chronicle	A.D. 59 - A.D. 62	Acts 28:30-31
	A.D. late 50s - early 60s	Mark
	A.D. late 50s - early 60s	Matthew

		A.D. 60-61	Luke
		A.D. 61	Colossians
		A.D. 61	Philemon
		A.D. 61	Ephesians
		A.D. 62	Philippians -
	13: Post-Captivity Chronicle	A.D. 63 - A.D. 70	
		A.D. 63	1st Timothy
		A.D. 63	Acts
		A.D. 64	Hebrews
		A.D. 65	Titus
		A.D. 65	John
		A.D. 65	1st John
		A.D. 65	2nd John
		A.D. 65	3rd John
		A.D. 65	1st Peter
		A.D. 67	2nd Timothy
		A.D. 67	2nd Peter
		A.D. 68	Jude
		A.D. 70	Revelation
4th	14: The Son Returns To Earth	No one knows the day or hour	
5th	15: The Godhead In Eternity Future	Eternity Future	

References

- Viola, Frank (2004). *The Untold Story of the New Testament Church*. Shippensburg, PA 17257-0310: Destiny Image Publishers, Inc. ISBN 0-7684-2236-1.

Further reading

- Howley, G.C.D. (1979). *"The Letters of Paul," New International Bible Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Destiny Image Publishers, Inc.. pp. 1095.
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