

## The Chronological Order of the Pauline Epistles

Epistle	Time of Writing	Scriptural Proof
<i>Acts Period Epistles</i>		
Galatians	Shortly after Acts 16:23	Acts 16:6 Paul in Galatia Acts 16:23 Paul receives stripes Gal 6:17 "From henceforth . . . bear the marks . . ." Acts 18:23 Paul in Galatia
1Thessalonians	Acts 18:5-18	Acts 17:1 Paul in Thessalonica Acts 17:10 Paul departs Thessalonica Acts 18:5 Silas and Timotheus come from Macedonia to Corinth 1Th 3:6 Timotheus returned from Thessalonica to Paul 1Th 1:1 Paul writes 1Thess with Silvanus and Timotheus present Acts 18:18 Paul departs Corinth for Syria and apparently does so without Silas & Timothy
2Thessalonians	Acts 18:5-18	Acts 17:1 Paul in Thessalonica Acts 17:10 Paul departs Thessalonica Acts 18:5 Silas and Timotheus come from Macedonia to Corinth 1Th 3:6 Timotheus returned from Thessalonica to Paul 2Th 1:1 Paul writes 2Thess with Silvanus and Timotheus present Acts 18:18 Paul departs Corinth for Syria and apparently does so without Silas & Timothy
1Corinthians	Acts 19:22	Ac 18:1 Paul is in Corinth Ac 18:18 Paul departs Corinth Ac 19:1 Paul arrives in Ephesus 1Cor 16:8-9 Paul writes 1Corinthians from Ephesus 1Cor 4:17 Paul writes that he has sent Timothy to Corinth Ac 19:22 Paul sends Timothy from Asia to Macedonia but he himself stayed in Asia for a season Acts 19:23 No small stir arises in Ephesus Acts 20:1 Paul departs Ephesus after the uproar to enter Macedonia
2Corinthians	Acts 20:2a	2Cor 1:1 Paul writes to the saints at Corinth 2Cor 2:5-7 Paul mentions the erring brother of 1Cor 5, thus demonstrating that 2Cor is written after 1Cor Acts 20:1 Paul departs Ephesus after the uproar to enter Macedonia Acts 20:2a Paul goes over Macedonia 2Cor 8:1-2 Paul informs the Corinthians of the generosity of the Macedonian churches 2Cor 9:1-2 Paul writes 2Corinthians while in Macedonia 2Cor 9:3-5 Paul writes 2Corinthians some time before he enters Corinth to allow them to collect their offering for the poor saints at Jerusalem before he arrives Acts 20:2b Paul enters Greece
Romans	Acts 20:3a	Rom 15:25-26 At the time of writing of Romans, Paul is heading to Jerusalem with the offering from Macedonia and Achaia Acts 20:2-3 Paul enters Greece and spend 3 months there  Romans is written from Corinth Rom 16:23 Romans is written while Paul is living with Gaius in the same city where Erastus is a chamberlain 1Cor 1:14 Gaius was a Corinthian 2Tim 4:20 Erastus lives at Corinth Acts 20:3b Paul leaves Corinth and goes through Macedonia into Asia

<b>Epistle</b>	<b>Time of Writing</b>	<b>Scriptural Proof</b>
<i>Acts 28 Imprisonment Epistles</i>		
Philippians	The order of these epistles in relation to one another is uncertain	Php 4:22 Philippians is written while Paul is in Rome Php 1:13-14 Philippians is written during the Acts 28 and not the final imprisonment as others wax confident by Paul's bonds Php 1:1 Philippians is written while Timothy is present Php 2:23-24 Paul is waiting to see how things go with him and then anticipates sending Timothy and himself going to Philippi Php 2:25, 4:18 Epaphroditus is the courier
Colossians	Colossians and Philemon are written	Col 4:18 Colossians is written while Paul is a prisoner Col 1:1 Colossians is written while Timothy is present Col 4:7-9 Colossians is delivered by Tychicus and Onesimus
Philemon	contemporaneously	Phm 1 Philemon is written while Paul is a prisoner and Timothy is present Phm 10, 12 Onesimus is sent along with the epistle to Philemon
<i>Liberty Epistles (when Paul was at liberty after the Acts 28 imprisonment and before his final imprisonment)</i>		
1Timothy		1Tim 1:3 Prior to the writing of 1Timothy, Paul had asked Timothy to stay in Ephesus while Paul went into Macedonia; this never occurs during the book of Acts 1Tim 3:14-15, 4:13 Paul is at liberty and planning to come unto Timothy shortly
Titus		Tit 1:5 The epistle to Titus is written after Paul chose to leave him in Crete; this event must occur after Acts 28 as Paul is never in Crete with Titus during the book of Acts Tit 3:13 It seems that Paul is assembling his legal team of Zenas and Apollos in anticipation of his final imprisonment and execution, thus suggesting Titus is chronologically after 1Timothy
<i>Final Imprisonment Epistles</i>		
Ephesians	Ephesians and 2Timothy are written contemporaneously	Eph 6:20 Ephesians is written while Paul is a prisoner Eph 6:21-22 Tychicus is the courier of Ephesians
2Timothy		2Tim 4:6 Paul writes 2Timothy shortly before his death; it is Paul's last epistle 2Tim 4:19 Paul tells Timothy to greet Prisca and Aquila 1Cor 16:8,19 Aquila and Priscilla's house is in Ephesus where Paul was tarrying when he wrote 1Corinthians 2Tim 4:12 Paul mentions having sent Tychicus to Ephesus – this is very likely so that Tychicus could deliver Ephesians and 2Timothy at the same time