Footsteps of Christ

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Chapter 14

THE LIFE OF CHRIST

Outlines of Jesus’ public ministry with a possible chronology

1. The early life of Christ
2. Jesus’ preparation for the ministry
3. Jesus’ call of His first disciples and His early ministry in the year of inauguration
4. Jesus’ second year of ministry in the year of popularity in Galilee from December AD 27 to December AD 28
5. Jesus’ third year of ministry in the year of opposition from December AD 28 to September AD 29
6. Jesus’ third year of ministry continues – the year of opposition – from September to December AD 29
7. Jesus in His last months – from January to April AD 30 – the Perea and Judean ministry
8. Jesus during His last days – the passion week

This chronology is made from Matthew’s and John’s Gospels. Of those four that wrote the Gospels, were these two disciples the only ones who followed in Jesus’ footsteps. It is therefore supposed that they relate the story in the chronologic order they experienced it.

According to some scholars, the apostle John wrote his Gospel at an age of 94 years and that he had most likely read the others’ gospels. Therefore he does not repeat their stories, but he completed them in his gospel, in most cases, with events that he alone had experienced.

A broad outline of Jesus’ 3½ years of ministry:

3½ is a very significant prophetic figure in the Bible. Dan 9:26-27; Rev 11:2-3; 12:14; 13:5. Most scholars teach that Jesus was born in BC 4 and that His ministry lasted during three and a half years.

Here follows a broad outline of Jesus’ ministry, which starts in December AD 26 when Jesus was about 30 years old (Lk 3:23) and ends with His ascension 3½ years later.

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<td>The triumphal entry into Jerusalem The second cleansing of the temple Crucifixion and resurrection</td>
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1. The early life of Christ
2. Jesus’ preparation for the ministry
THE FIRST YEAR OF MINISTRY
JESUS WAS MAKING AND BAPTIZING MORE DISCIPLES THAN JOHN

The first Easter during Jesus’ ministry when He cleansed the temple.
Eight or nine months of successful preaching tour in Judea. Return to Galilee.

3. Jesus’ calling of His first disciples and early ministry in the year of inauguration
The big draught of fishes. Jesus is calling Peter for the third time.

His bended knees became a turning-point in world history.
THE YEAR OF POPULARITY IN GALILEE
(Dates and order of events are assumptions.)

AD 27 DECEMBER
– THE SECOND YEAR OF MINISTRY

John the Baptist imprisoned Mt 4:12; Mk 1:14
1. Through Samaria to Cana and Capernaum
   Nobelman’s son healed Jn 4:45-54
2. First preaching-tour in Galilee
   Begins to preach the Kingdom Mt 4:17
   The 2nd call of Peter and Andrew: James and John Mt 4:18; Mk 1:15; Lk 5:1
   Preaching in Capernaum’s synagogue Mk 1:21
   To a lonely place for prayer Mk 1:35
3. To Nazareth and back to Capernaum
   Rejected at Nazareth Lk 4:16

AD 28, APRIL
4. To Jerusalem – A feast of the Jews
   The second Passover. THE DEITY of Christ
   Jesus claims equality with God Jn 5:1
5. Second preaching-tour in Judea Lk 4:44
   Back to Capernaum
   The big draught. The 3rd call of Simon Peter

SPRING AND SUMMER
6. Second preaching tour in Galilee Mt 4:23-25
7. To the mountain – The Horns of Hattin
   THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT
   To Capernaum Jesus heals the leper Mt 8:1
   Centurion’s servant healed Mt 8:5-13
   Peter’s mother-in-law healed Mt 8:14-17
   Great miracles in Capernaum Mt 8:16

AUTUMN AND WINTER
8. The third preaching-tour in Galilee Mt 8:18
   To the other side of Gennesaret
   Discipleship tested Mt 8:18-22
   Jesus stills the storm Mt 8:23-27; Mk 4:35
   Madmans of Gergesa Mt 8:28-34; Mt 5:1-16
9. Back to Capernaum Mt 9:1
   Healing of a lame in Capernaum Mt 9:1-8
   Call of Levi Matthew Mt 9:9; Mk 2:13; Lk 5:27
   Feast in Lewi’s house Mt 9:10-13
   Answers John’s disciples Mt 9:14-15
10. From Bethsaida to Capernaum Mk 5:21
    Woman of blood-issue healed –
    Jairu’s daughter raised Mt 9:18-26; Lk 8:41
    Two blind healed Mt 9:27-31
    Mute man healed Mt 9:32-34

4. Jesus’ second year of ministry – the year of popularity in Galilee
   from December AD 27 to December AD 28
AD 28, DECEMBER – THE THIRD YEAR
A YEAR OF OPPOSITION
1. The fourth tour of Galilee: To all cities and villages
Like sheep without shepherd Mt 9:35-38; Mk 3:7
AD 29, FEBRUARY The twelve ordained and sent forth
MESSAGES TO THE ORDAINED Mt 10:1-42
2. A fifth tour to their cities (alone) Mt 11:1
Jesus predicts judgement over unbelieving cities Mt 11:20
The twelve return Mk 6:30
Jesus, Lord of Sabbaths Mt 12:1: Mk 2:23; Lk 6:1
Withered hand healed on the Sabbath Mt 12:9-14
Blind and mute healed Mt 12:22-23
At the shore of Gennesaret
PARABLES OF THE KINGDOM Mt 13: 36
To the synagogue in Nazareth - again rejected Mt 13:53
MARCH – APRIL THE THIRD YEAR
The death of John the Baptist Mt 14:10
The 72 return Lk 10:17
3. By ship to a desert place near Bethsaida Lk 9:10
Five thousand miraculously fed Mt 14:15-21; Mk 6:31-44
Jesus’ discourse on the bread of Life Jn 6:62
Peter’s first confession of faith Jn 6:67-69
Jesus walks on water Mt 14:22
Jesus heals all in Gennesaret Mt 14:34
4. To Nain The widow’s son resurrected Lk 7:11-36
Jesus anointed with alabaster Lk 7:36
5. TO BETHANY AND JERUSALEM
THE 3RD PASSOVER – A feast of the Jews Jn 6:4
Parable of the good Samaritan Lk 10:30-37
Martha and Mary contrasted Lk 10:38
5. Back to Capernaum (Way unknown)
Jesus rebukes the Scribes and the Pharisees
from Jerusalem Mt 15:1-20; Mk 7:1
SUMMER – THE THIRD YEAR
6. A PREACHING TOUR IN PHOENICIA
- To Tyre and Sidon
Syrophenician woman’s daughter healed Mt 15:21
7. To a mountain at the sea of Galilee
Jesus heals all at Galilee Mt 15:29-31
8. To the center of Decapolis
Deaf and mute man healed Mk 7:31
9. At a lonely place, Four thousand fed Mt 15:32-39
10. By ship to the coasts of Magdala
Jesus again rebukes the Pharisees Mt 16:1
11. To Betsaida A blind man healed Mk 8:22-26
12. To Caesarea Philippi
Peter’s confession Mt 16:13
Jesus foretells His death Mt 16:21
AD 29 SEPTEMBER – TO MT HERMON
13. THE TRANSFIGURATION Mt 17: 1-13
5. Jesus’ third year of ministry – a year of opposition.
His preaching-tours from December AD 28 to September AD 29
AD 29 SEPTEMBER – THE THIRD YEAR
1. At the slope of Mt Hermon
Healing of a boy with a dumb spirit Mt 7:14
Back to Galilee and Capernaum
Jesus again (in Galilee) foretells His death and resurrection Mt 17:22; Mk 9:30-33; Lk 9:44
Six woes upon Pharisees and Law-keepers Lk 11:42-52
2. To Jerusalem through towns and villages
3. THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES
AD 29 The first week in October Jn 7:10-53
Jesus weeps over Jerusalem Lk 13:44
The first temple discourse:
The declaration of the Spirit baptism Jn 7:37
To Mt Olive and back to the temple
The second temple discourse:
Woman taken in adultery Jn 8:1-11
Jesus the light of the world Jn 8:12
In Jerusalem
A born blind healed near the pool of Siloam Jn 9:1
The third temple discourse:
Mission of Jesus stated Jn 9:39; (For judgment I am come into this world)
Parable of the good shepherd Jn 10:1-18
4. Back to Capernaum Mt 17:24
Last messages in Galilee:
Sending fire on earth Lk 12:49-53
Parable of the barren tree Lk 13:6-9
Woman freed from Satan Lk 13:10-17
Jesus warned of Herod’s antagonism Lk 13:31
Parables of salvation and trusteeship:
The parable of the great banquet Lk 14:12-24
Parable of the prodigal son Lk 15:11-32
The rich man and Lazarus Lk 16:19-28
Forgiveness: the unmerciful servant Mt 18:23
Parable of faithful service Lk 17:7
5. Jesus departed from Galilee for good Mt 19:1
Along the border between Samaria and Galilee
Ten healed of leprosy Lk 17:12-19
The coming of the kingdom of God Lk 17:20
6. To Perea and Bethabara
Jesus heals multitudes that followed Him
– in Judea beyond Jordan Mt 19:1-2
Jesus blesses little children Mt 19:13
7. THE FEAST OF DEDICATION
From Bethabara to Jerusalem Jn 10:40
AD 29 December (Winter): Jn 10:22-40
At the Salomon porch in the temple:
The fourth temple discourse:
Jesus again claims deity Jn 10:25;
8. Back to Bethabara Jn 10:40

6. Jesus’ third year of ministry continues – the year of opposition.
His preaching-tours from September to December AD 29
AD 30 THE LAST MONTHS: JANUARY – APRIL

THE PЕРЕAN MINISTRY
The rich young ruler Mk 10:17
Warning to rich men Mt 19:23
Apostles’ place in the eternal Kingdom Mt 19:27
Rewards for full consecration Mt 19:29
Parable of the laborers in the vineyard Mt 20:1

1. From Perea (Bethabara) to Bethany
Arrival in Bethany: Jesus and Martha Jn 11:17
The raising of Lazarus Jn 11:1-46
The result of the miracle Jn 11:45
Caiaphas’ prediction of Jesus’ death Jn 11:49

2. To Ephraim
Retirement to the city of Ephraim Jn 11:54
Jesus stayed with His disciples:
The coming of the kingdom of God Lk 17:20
Second advent predicted Lk 17:22; Mt 24-25
Manner of His coming Lk 17:22; Mt 24:27
His coming to bring sudden destruction
Warning in view of the second coming of Jesus
Battle at Har-Magedon Lk 17:34; Mt 24:27

3. From Ephraim – a second tour of Perea
Parable of an unjust judge:
power of persevering prayer Lk 18:1-8
Parable of the Pharisee and the publican
Lk 18:9-14

4. From Perea to Jericho
Going up to Jerusalem
Jesus again foretells His death and resurrection
Two blind men healed at Jericho Mt 20:29-34
Conversion of Zaccaeus Lk 19:1-10
Parable of ten pounds Lk 19:11-27

5. To Bethany – six days before Easter Jn 12:1
The anointing of Jesus by Mary at Bethany

6. To Jerusalem
To Bethphage on Mt Olive
Jesus’ triumphal entry Mt 21:1-11
The second purification of the temple
Mt 21:12
Healing in the temple Mt 21:14
Greeks seek Jesus Jn 12:20

7. Back to Bethany Mt 21:17

8. Next morning in Jerusalem Mt 21:18
Cursing the fig three Mt 21:18-20
Jesus’ judgement over Jerusalem Mt 23
Eight Woes upon the Pharisees Mt 23:1-36
Jesus weeps over Jerusalem Mt 23:37-39

Sunday before Easter the last week.

7. The last months of Jesus’ ministry.
Januari – April AD 30
THE LAST DAYS – THE WEEK OF PASSION
AD 30, Sunday the 10th to Friday the 15th of April

1. From Bethany to Jerusalem
   SUNDAY THE 10TH: TRIUMPHAL ENTRY
   The second purification of the temple Mt 21:12
   Greeks seek Jesus Jh 12:20
   Jesus predicts His death Jh 12:23

   TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY:
   Jesus’ judgement over Jerusalem Mt 23
   Eight Woes upon the Pharisees Mt 23:1-36
   Jesus weeps over Jerusalem Mt 23:37-39; Lk 13:34

   Two days before Passover
   Jesus again foretells His death Mt 26:1-2
   Judas agrees to betray Jesus Mt 26:14-16
   THE GREAT OLIVE PROPHECY Mt 24 – 25

   THURSDAY: THE LAST PASSOVER
   Washing the disciples’ feet Jn 13:1-17
   Judas submits to Satan Jn 13:27
   Peter’s denial foretold Jn 13:36; Mt 26:30
   Lord’s supper instituted Mt 26:26-30
   THE PARTING WORDS OF JESUS
   John 14: Jesus the Way, the Truth and the Life
   John 15: The true vine  John 16: The Holy Spirit
   John 17: Intercessory prayer

   GETHSEMANE

2. Jesus to the garden of Gethsemane Jn 18:1
   The betrayal and arrest Mt 26:47-56

   FRIDAY: THE TRIAL AND MOCKERY
   Peter’s denial Jn 18:15, 25
   The trial before the high priest Jn 18:19
   Jesus before Pilate Jn 18:28
   Jesus before king Herod Lk 23:7
   6. From Herod’s palace back to Pilate Lk 23:11
   Jesus condemned; Barabbas released Jn 18:38
   Jesus crowned with thorns Jn 19:1
   Pilate brings Jesus before the multitude Jn 19:4
   Jesus again taken before Pilate Jn 19:8
   Pilate seeks to free Jesus Jn 19:12
   Pilate again brings Jesus before the Jews Jn 19:13
   Final rejection of Jesus by the Jews Jn 19:15

   THE CROSS

7. Via Dolorosa, Jesus bearing his cross Jn 19:17
   Simon from Cyrene carries the cross Mk 15:21
   The women at the cross Jn 19:25

8. The crucifixion Jn 19:16; Mt 27:33-44
   The death of Jesus Jn 19:28; Mt 27:45-56
   (Tetelestai – It is finished, Jn 19:30)

9. The burial of Jesus Jn 19:38; Mt 27:57-61

10. THE RESURRECTION Mt 28:1-7

8. The last days – the week of passion