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BNTB 511
Beginnings of the NT Church

A Chronological Sketch of the Church's First Thirty Years

(Dates are approximate, but based on NT data and other sources; those with a question mark are even more indefinite)

- 30 Pentecost (Acts 2)
- 30(-66) Jerusalem Church (Acts 2:1-8:3; 11-12; 15; 21:17-26)
Dynamic fellowship and evangelism; strong Jewish orientation (Martyrdom of James, leading elder, 62)
- 32-45? Stephen's martyrdom; persecution with missionary expansion (Acts 8:1-11:26)
- 32-33? Saul's conversion and following months (Acts 9:1-31; cf. Gal. 1:11-17)
- 36? Saul's first Jerusalem visit to see Peter; return to Tarsus; probably evangelizing in Syria and Cilicia (Gal. 1:18-24; cf. Acts 9:26-30)
- 37? Cornelius and Gentiles converted at Caesarea (Acts 10)
- 44? Barnabas brings Saul from Tarsus to Antioch Church (Acts 11:22-26)
- 46 Barnabas and Saul's "famine visit" to Jerusalem
A first Jerusalem conference? (Acts 11:27-30)
- 47-48 Paul's first missionary journey (evangelizing southern Asia Minor); return to Antioch (Acts 13-14)
- 49 The Jerusalem conference of Acts 15
- 49-52 Paul's second missionary journey and return to Antioch (includes evangelizing in Philippi, Thessalonica; Athens; Corinth) (Acts 15:36-18:22)
- 51-52 Paul's letters to the Thessalonians

Paul's letter to the Galatians (?)
- 53-59 Paul's third missionary journey; arrival in Jerusalem (includes 3-year Asian mission) Acts 18:23-21:26
Paul's letters to the Corinthians and Romans
- 59-61 Paul's imprisonment at Caesarea
- 62 Paul arrives in Rome