

Dating the Bible

An exploration of the Bible to allow IT to establish
the authenticity of God's Word

1 Cor 13:8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. 11 When I was a child, I used to speak as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I shall know fully just as I also have been fully known.

“the partial will be done away” 1Co 13.10

When will it be done away?

when the perfect comes

The text says, “the perfect” not “he who is perfect.”

Jesus is always a “he”, not an “it”!

It was not Jesus’ return of which Paul spoke, but the complete and revealed will of God.

How do we know this perfect is the complete will of God?

James calls it the “perfect law” (Ja 1.25), while Paul says it is the basis for making us “perfect” (KJV 2Ti 3.16).

Peter tells us we have everything we need for life
and godliness

2Pe 1:3 seeing that His divine power has granted
to us everything pertaining to life and godliness,
through the true knowledge of Him who called us
by His own glory and excellence.

Peter includes Paul's writing in the Scriptures

2Pe 3:15 ... regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, (16) as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

Jude tells us it has been “delivered once for all time.”

Jud 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

We have no other “perfect” thing on earth today.

Everywhere we look, we see imperfection – that
which is not complete.

And while there are groups telling us that we need
additional revelation – the Pentecostals, the
Mormons, the Catholic Church – each of them have
their own way so God is not revealing it to them.

We see that the Bible itself tells us that it is
“perfect.”

Think about it – Mormonism makes things up
Doc & Cov 132.4 For behold, I reveal unto you a new
and an everlasting covenant; and if ye abide not that
covenant, then are ye damned; for no one can reject
this covenant and be permitted to enter into my glory.

52 And let mine handmaid, Emma Smith, receive all
those that have been given unto my servant Joseph,

62 And if he have ten virgins given unto him by this
law, he cannot commit adultery, for they belong to
him, and they are given unto him; therefore is he
justified.

Roman Catholic Church makes things up

"...when she [Mary] is the subject of preaching and worship she prompts the faithful to come to her Son..." (Vatican Council II, p. 420)

<https://carm.org/mary-subject-preaching-and-worship-documents>

“There are several degrees of this worship: ... 3) As the Blessed Virgin has a separate and absolutely supereminent rank among the saints, the worship paid to her is called hyperdulia

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Pentecostals receive a new message every week,
although most will say it is in a tongue you cannot
understand!

1Co 14:8-9 For if the bugle produces an indistinct
sound, who will prepare himself for battle? (9) So
also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech
that is clear, how will it be known what is spoken?
For you will be speaking into the air.

Between 64 AD and 69AD, the writing of God's will is finally completely delivered.

This would include Galatians, Paul's second letter to Timothy, Peter's second letter, Jude, Hebrews, James and Revelation.

Why do I include these as a collection at the very end?

This dating of Galatians harmonizes Gal 5.1-4 with Acts 21.21, 24-25,

Gal 5:4 You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

Act 21:21-24 and they have been told about you, that you are teaching all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs. (22) "What, then, is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. (23) "Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; (24) take them and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses in order that they may shave their heads; and all will know that there is nothing to the things which they have been told about you, but that you yourself also walk orderly, keeping the Law.

Act 21:24 ... but that you yourself also walk
orderly, keeping the Law.

Gal 5:3 And I testify again to every man who
receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to
keep the whole Law.

Why do we include these as a collection at the very end?

There is no fight between James and Paul on whether the church should be Jewish or Gentile, but the continuing revelation of God and the end of the transition period of both Jews and Greeks following different customs

The letter to the Hebrews makes it very clear that
the Old Law is dead.

Heb 9:16-17 For where a covenant is, there must
of necessity be the death of the one who made it.

(17) For a covenant is valid only when men are
dead, for it is never in force while the one who
made it lives.

2Peter 1.3 makes it clear that the Christians have all things necessary at the date of his writing. 2Tim 3.16-17 emphasizes the same point. Jude makes this point in verse 3. James emphasizes this in Ja 1.25 for if the New Testament were not complete, it would not be perfect as both 2Tim 3.17 and 2Pet 1.3 make plain.

Thus, a straightforward reading of the text, clearly indicates that Galatians, Hebrews, 2Peter, 2Timothy and Jude must be written at the same time, since all of them say the will of God is complete – perfect!

Finally we come to the book of Revelation and the question of the early date (70AD) assigned by many scholars as opposed to the late date of 100 AD held by many others.

The early date is favored internally as the temple must have been in existence to show the imagery of Rev 11.1 and the destruction of Jerusalem (occurred in 70 AD), which is spoken of in Rev 11.2 along with the imagery of Jerusalem's occupation by the Gentiles.

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Rev 11:1-2 And there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Rise and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and those who worship in it. (2) "And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months.

The early date also fits especially well with the end of the Jewish age as pointed out in Gal 5.1-4 concerning one keeping circumcision is obligated to the whole law.

Heb 9.15 ff talks about the death that must take place for the New Covenant to be in effect.

and the imagery seen in Rev 2:9 'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

and the imagery seen in Rev 3:9

Rev 3:9 'Behold, I will cause those of the
synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews,
and are not, but lie – behold, I will make them to
come and bow down at your feet, and to know that
I have loved you.

But most importantly, in my mind, is the requirement of the statements in James, 2Peter, 2Timothy and Jude, which require that the writing of the New Testament be finished at the time of their writing AD 68-70.

History tells us that Paul probably died in AD 68-70.

There can be no doubt that all of the writing of the New Testament has occurred by the time of his death.

What do we have in the Bible?

Not a mixture of doctrines that contradict history or one another, but a harmonious whole.

The greatest story of morality, civilization and purpose ever told.

Where do you stand? With Jesus the Christ or with the evil arrayed against Him?

Act 22:16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.'