

Act 21:1 When we had parted from them and had set sail, we ran a straight course to Cos and the next day to Rhodes and from there to Patara; (2) and having found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail. (3) When we came in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left, we kept sailing to Syria and landed at Tyre; for there the ship was to unload its cargo.

Act 21:4 After looking up the disciples, we stayed there seven days; and they kept telling Paul through the Spirit not to set foot in Jerusalem. (5) When our days there were ended, we left and started on our journey, while they all, with wives and children, escorted us until we were out of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and praying, we said farewell to one another.

Paul was warned at Miletus, now at Tyre and later at Caesarea

Act 21:6 Then we went on board the ship,
and they returned home again. (7) When
we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we
arrived at Ptolemais, and after greeting the
brethren, we stayed with them for a day.
(8) On the next day we left and came to
Caesarea, and entering the house of Philip
the evangelist, who was one of the seven,
we stayed with him. (9) Now this man had
four virgin daughters who were
prophetesses.

The regulation of 1Cor 14.34 indicates that this was not in the assembly, but in their homes.

1Co 14:31 For you can all prophesy one by one,
so that all may learn and all may be exhorted;
(32) and the spirits of prophets are subject to
prophets; (33) for God is not a God of
confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of
the saints. (34) The women are to keep silent in
the churches; for they are not permitted to
speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the
Law also says. (35) If they desire to learn
anything, let them ask their own husbands at
home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in
church.

Act 21:17 After we arrived in Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. (18) And the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. (19) After he had greeted them, he began to relate one by one the things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. (20) And when they heard it they began glorifying God; and they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed, and they are all zealous for the Law;

At this point in time (57 AD), the Jews in the church continue to observe the law. There are “many” thousands while in 34 AD, the number of men grew to 5000 (Acts 4.4)

Act 21:21 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.

When Paul arrives (57 AD), there is a difference between Jew and Gentile – the Jews are keeping the law and circumcising their children. Paul had not told them not to do that or it would have been recorded here as Paul would have had to confess to that very thing if he had already written the Jews in Galatia about it.

Acts 21.21 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.

For this reason, the book of Galatians cannot have yet been written – and in fact it must have been written after Paul spends his 5 years in jail!

Gal 5:2 Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. (3) And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. (4) You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

Again if Galatians was the first book written, as some scholars say, Paul could not have made the statement about days, seasons, and years – all a part of the OT.

Gal 4:9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again? (10) You observe days and months and seasons and years. (11) I fear for you, that perhaps I have labored over you in vain.

Gal 4:21-22 Tell me, you who want to be under law, do you not listen to the law?
(22) For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the bondwoman and one by the free woman.

Gal 4:25 Now this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children.

Act 21:23 "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 so 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. (25) "But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we wrote, having decided that they should abstain from meat sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication."

The elders have cooked up this plan (v. 23) and they have not consulted God or His word as they did in Acts 15.

The four things the Gentiles were to do were approved by the Holy Spirit Acts 15 only 8-10 years earlier.

Act 15:28 "For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: (29) that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell."

Act 21:26-30 Then Paul took the men, and the next day, purifying himself along with them, went into the temple giving notice of the completion of the days of purification, until the sacrifice was offered for each one of them. (27)

When the seven days were almost over, the Jews from Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, began to stir up all the crowd and laid hands on him,

(28) crying out, "Men of Israel, come to our aid!

This is the man who preaches to all men everywhere against our people and the Law and this place; and besides he has even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy

place." (29) For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple. (30) Then all the city was provoked, and the people rushed together, and taking hold of Paul they dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors were shut.

Act 21:32 At once he took along some soldiers and centurions and ran down to them; and when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. (33) Then the commander came up and took hold of him, and ordered him to be bound with two chains; and he began asking who he was and what he had done. (34) But among the crowd some were shouting one thing and some another, and when he could not find out the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks. (35) When he got to the stairs, he was carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the mob; (36) for the multitude of the people kept following them, shouting, "Away with him!"

Act 21:37-40 As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the commander, "May I say something to you?" And he *said, "Do you know Greek? (38) "Then you are not the Egyptian who some time ago stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?" (39) But Paul said, "I am a Jew of Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city; and I beg you, allow me to speak to the people." (40) When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, motioned to the people with his hand; and when there was a great hush, he spoke to them in the Hebrew dialect, saying,