

AD 1

AD 100

Life of Jesus and Early Church

Age of the

■ Birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem 6-4 BC

✱ Beginning of Jesus' public ministry: age 30; teaches, does miracles, claims to be God c. 26

✚ Jesus crucified, resurrected, appears to more than 500 disciples at one time; ascends into heaven 30

● Pentecost: the Holy Spirit descends on Jesus' disciples in Jerusalem 30

● Stephen, the first Christian martyr, is stoned to death in Jerusalem 32

■ Conversion of the apostle Paul 37

● Conversion of Roman centurion, Cornelius 41

● Christians persecuted under King Herod Agrippa. James executed, Peter imprisoned 44

● Followers of Christ first called Christians at Antioch 46

▲ Council of Jerusalem agrees with Paul that Gentile converts are not required to follow Jewish law 49

● Jews expelled from Rome 49

● All New Testament books written 49-96

● One of the earliest Christian churches erected at Corinth 50

■ Paul's Letters to the Corinthians written c. 56

■ Gospel according to Mark written c. 58

■ Gospels according to Matthew and Luke written c. 60-62

● Peter and Paul taken to Rome; executed under Nero 64-68

● Great fire in Rome blamed on Christians; Emperor Nero tortures and kills thousands of Christians

● Jewish revolt against Romans; Jerusalem captured and destroyed 70

Emperor Titus orders destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. Only one wall of the Temple (known today as the "Western Wall") remained. Jews and Christians flee to all parts of the empire

● Antioch becomes the center for Christianity 70

● Colosseum in Rome built; Christians thrown to beasts 71-81

● Flavius Josephus writes "History of the Jewish War" 75

● Domitian becomes emperor; Roman persecution of Christians intensifies; Jews oust followers of Jesus from synagogues 81

■ Gospel according to John written 85

● Writings of apostolic fathers (early church leaders) Barnabas, Clement of Rome, Ignatius, Polycarp 85-150

● Rise of gnostic heresies within the church 90

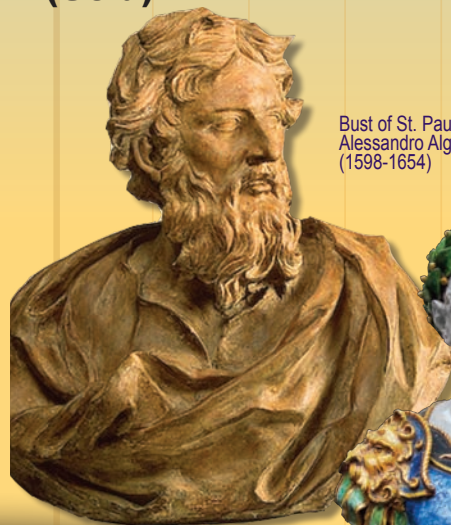
Some gnostics deny Jesus' humanity (Docetism), saying that he only appeared to have a human body. Some say he had secret knowledge beyond divine revelation and faith.

● Death of John, the only one of Jesus' 12 disciples to die a natural death 95

● Hadrian rules Rome; ends persecution of Christians; builds wall around Jerusalem 117-138

● Trajan rules as emperor; under him, the Roman Empire reaches its greatest geographical extent spreading to Mesopotamia, Arabia, and Balkans 98-117

Christian History (Gold)

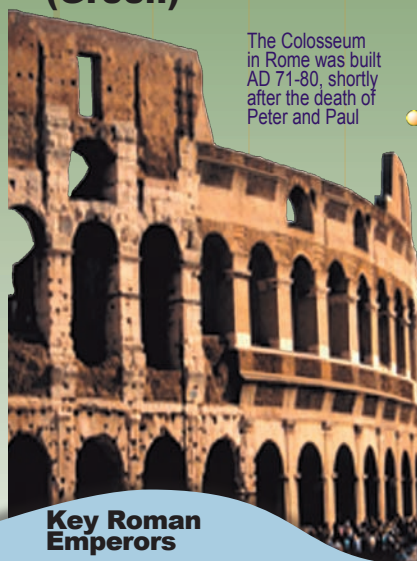


Bust of St. Paul by Alessandro Algardi (1598-1654)



Roman Emperor Caligula proclaimed himself to be a god and made his horse a senator.

World History (Green)



The Colosseum in Rome was built AD 71-80, shortly after the death of Peter and Paul

● Gaius Caligula becomes Roman emperor 37

● Caligula assassinated, succeeded by Claudius 41

● London founded 43

● Romans invade Britain 43

● Han dynasty in China founded by Emperor Kuang Wu Ti 49

● Buddhism introduced to China 49

● Claudius poisoned by his wife, succeeded by Nero 54

● Nero commits suicide 68

Year of the Four Emperors: AD 69

● Galba 69

● Otho 69

● Vitellius 69

● Vespasian 69-79

● Titus 79-81

● Domitian 81-96

● Nerva 96-98

● Trajan 98-117

● Hadrian 117-138

Key Roman Emperors

● Augustus 27 BC-AD 14

● Tiberius 14-37

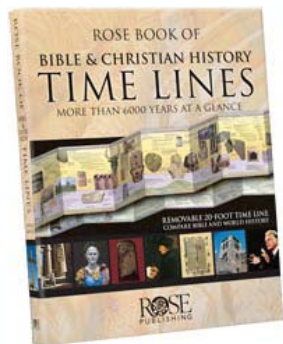
● Claudius 41-54

● Caligula 37-41

● Nero 54-68



Roman coin featuring the profile of Emperor Nero



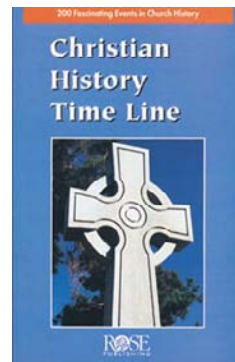
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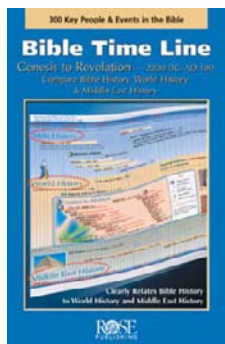
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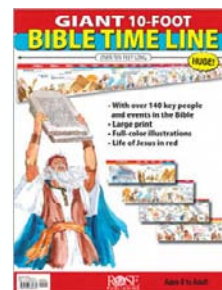


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