

HEROES

OF THE

NEW TESTAMENT

July 27, 2026- Acts Chapter 7 - 20

To The End of the Earth – The Gospel Spread

KEY PEOPLE WHO INFLUENCED THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL

GOD WORKING THROUGH FAITHFUL WITNESSES



1

PETER

Acts 1-4



2

STEPHEN

Acts 6



3

PAUL

Acts 7-20



4

TIMOTHY & LUKE

Luke, Acts, Tim.



5



6



*“You will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the end of the earth.”*

ACTS 1:8



People and Places

Through Paul and being led by the Holy Spirit, the Gospel continued to spread through Luke, Timothy, and many others to places around the world.



A Fatherly Influence

Who was Timothy?

In Acts 16 we learn of this young man from Lystra and the godly influence of his mother Eunice, and grandmother Lois. We do not know anything of his father except that he was a Greek, and Paul became like a father to Timothy.



Timothy's Ministry

He traveled with Paul to:

- Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth, Macedonia, and Ephesus

He became Paul's trusted representative to help:

- Solve problems
- Encourage believers
- Teach sound doctrine
- Appoint leaders

Physician, Writer, Friend

Luke's greatest documented ministry is writing the:

- Gospel of Luke
- Acts of the Apostles

Without Luke we would not know about:

Pentecost, Stephen, Philip, Paul's conversion, as much about Paul's missionary journeys

Luke spread the Gospel by preserving God's Word.

Luke traveled with Paul to:

- Troas
- Philippi
- Jerusalem
- Caesarea Maritima
- Rome



The Apostle to the Gentiles

**DISCOVER
THE BACKGROUND**



THE BOOKS OF 1 & 2 TIMOTHY



The Holy Spirit at Work

"If Paul had never invested in Timothy, how many churches might have struggled?"

"If Luke had never written Acts, how much of the early church would we know today?"

Paul's greatest miracle may not have been planting churches—but planting people. Timothy strengthened churches. Luke preserved the history of the church. Together they became links in God's chain of taking the Gospel to the ends of the earth.



How Then Shall We Pray

What can you ask the Holy Spirit to help you with this week?



Paul's Enduring Message

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

THE GOSPEL CONTINUES

— GOD WORKING THROUGH FAITHFUL WITNESSES —



JESUS



PAUL

Apostle to the Gentiles



TIMOTHY



Strengthened churches



Elders at Ephesus



Church leaders



Faithful men
(2 Timothy 2:2)



Entrust to faithful men
who will teach others also.

→ 2 TIMOTHY 2:2 ←



TITUS



Elders in Crete



Established &
organized churches



LUKE



Traveled with Paul
(*"we" passages in Acts*)



Gospel of Luke
Good News for All



Acts
The Story Continues

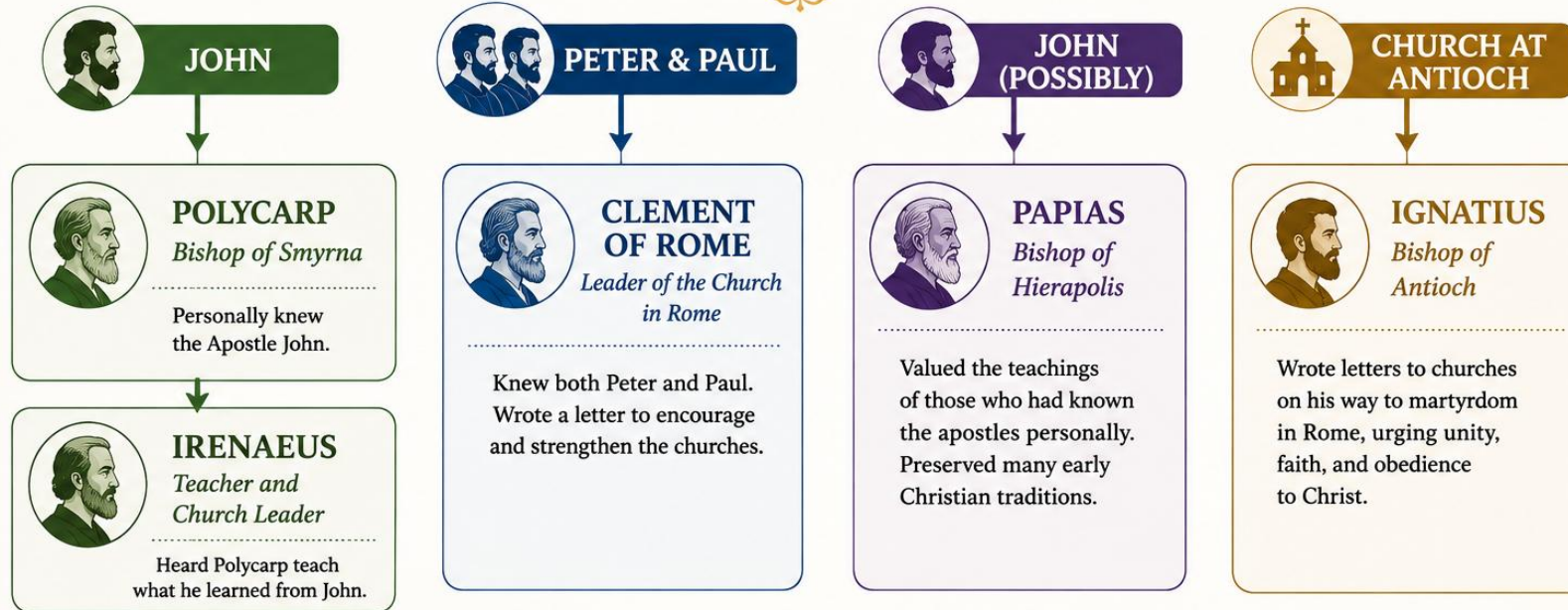


Recorded the story of
the Gospel for all generations

Paul didn't just preach the Gospel—he invested in people who could carry it farther than he could.

THE NEXT GENERATION

FAITHFUL LEADERS WHO CARRIED ON THE GOSPEL



WHAT WE KNOW



Strong historical evidence John taught Polycarp, and Polycarp taught Irenaeus.



Early Christian tradition says Clement knew Peter and Paul and led the church in Rome.



Papias says he learned from those who had actually known the apostles.



Ignatius was a leader in the church that the apostles helped establish in Antioch.



These faithful leaders kept the Gospel alive, taught sound doctrine, and strengthened the Church in the years immediately following the apostles.