

Foundations

Week 1/10

The Eyewitnesses of Yeshua

THE STONE THE
BUILDERS REJECTED
HAS BECOME THE
CHIEF CORNERSTONE.
PSALM 118:22



Tree of Life Tabernacle Confession of Faith

We believe and hold fast to the gospel/good news that was delivered to us by the direct apostles and eyewitnesses of Yeshua's majesty (John 21:24, 2 Peter 1:16); That Messiah died for our sins in perfect accordance with the Hebrew scriptures, was buried, and bodily rose again on the 3rd day as divinely foretold in the Hebrew scriptures (1st Corinthians 15, Luke 24:44, John 20:29).

We believe Yeshua presented himself to his apostles for 40 days after his death (Acts 1:3), then ascended into heaven where he is currently seated at the right hand of the Father (Hebrews 1:3) interceding as high priest for his elect until his enemies are made his footstool (Hebrews 1:13).

The Eyewitnesses of Yeshua

THE STONE THE
BUILDERS REJECTED
HAS BECOME THE
CHIEF CORNERSTONE.
PSALM 118:22



“How do you know if everything wasn’t just made up?”

“The bible’s been translated so many times. How do we know if what you have is even what was originally written?”



**“How do you know if
everything wasn't
just made up?”**

Map of the 7 Churches of Asia

Revelation 2 & 3

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1. EPHESUS
Loveless Church

4. THYATIRA
Corrupt Church

5. SARDIS
Dead Church

6. PHILADELPHIA
Faithful Church

7. LAODICEA
Lukewarm Church



Josephus 93 AD Writing About John The Baptist

"Now some of the Jews thought that the destruction of Herod's army came from God, and that very justly, as a punishment of what he did against John, that was called the Baptist: for Herod slew him, who was a good man, and commanded the Jews to exercise virtue, both as to righteousness towards one another, and piety towards God, and so to come to baptism; for that the washing [with water] would be acceptable to him, if they made use of it, not in order to the putting away [or the remission] of some sins [only], but for the purification of the body; supposing still that the soul was thoroughly purified beforehand by righteousness. Now when [many] others came in crowds about him, for they were very greatly moved [or pleased] by hearing his words, Herod, who feared lest the great influence John had over the people might put it into his power and inclination to raise a rebellion, (for they seemed ready to do any thing he should advise,) thought it best, by putting him to death, to prevent any mischief he might cause, and not bring himself into difficulties, by sparing a man who might make him repent of it when it would be too late. Accordingly he was sent a prisoner, out of Herod's suspicious temper, to Macherus, the castle I before mentioned, and was there put to death. Now the Jews had an opinion that the destruction of this army was sent as a punishment upon Herod, and a mark of God's displeasure to him.

" - (Antiquities Of The Jews 18.116)





"Our Saviour's works, moreover, were always present: for they were real, consisting of those who had been healed of their diseases, those who had been raised from the dead; who were not only seen whilst they were being healed and raised up, but were afterwards constantly present. Nor did they remain only during the sojourn of the Saviour on earth, but also a considerable time after His departure; and, indeed, some of them have survived even down to our own times. - Quadratus quoted by 4th century Church historian Eusebius in His Work Ecclesiastical History



**Quadratus 125 AD
Writing About
Those That Were
Healed By Yeshua**



"Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition, thus checked for the moment, again broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome, where all things hideous and shameful from every part of the world find their centre and become popular. Accordingly, an arrest was first made of all who pleaded guilty; then, upon their information, an immense multitude was convicted, not so much of the crime of firing the city, as of hatred against mankind. Mockery of every sort was added to their deaths. Covered with the skins of beasts, they were torn by dogs and perished, or were nailed to crosses, or were doomed to the flames and burnt, to serve as a nightly illumination" - Annals Of Tacitus

Tacitus 115 AD Writing About 64 AD Events





Josephus 93 AD Writing About 62 AD Events

"Ananus was of this disposition, he thought he had now a proper opportunity [to exercise his authority]. Festus was now dead, and Albinus was but upon the road; so he assembled the sanhedrim of judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James, and some others, [or, some of his companions]; and when he had formed an accusation against them as breakers of the law, he delivered them to be stoned" - (Antiquities Of The Jews 20.197-203)





"I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world-and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible."

**Charles (Chuck)
Colson 1982 AD**

What Happened To The Apostles?

Paul - beheaded during the reign of Nero.

Peter (Cephas) - crucified during the reign of Nero.

James “the Just” (Yeshua’s/Jesus’ brother) - executed by stoning.

James (brother of John) - slain by sword under Herod Agrippa.

Sources: TERTULLIAN SCORPIACE 15, FIRST CLEMENT TO THE CORINTHIANS, Josephus, Antiquities Book 20: chapter 9, Eusebius Ecclesiastical History Book 2 Chapter 9:1-2, Acts 12:2

"I interrogated these as to whether they were Christians; those who confessed I interrogated a second and a third time, threatening them with punishment; those who persisted I ordered executed. For I had no doubt that, whatever the nature of their creed, stubbornness and inflexible obstinacy surely deserve to be punished." - (Pliny the Younger to Roman Emperor Trajan)



Pliny the Younger
110 AD



"It was in the nineteenth year of the reign of Diocletian (303AD)... that royal edicts were published everywhere, commanding that the churches be leveled to the ground and the Scriptures be destroyed by fire,"
- (Ecclesiastical History (Book VIII Chapter 2)



**Eusebius of
Caesarea 324 AD**



Map of the 7 Churches of Asia

Revelation 2 & 3

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MACEDONIA

THRACE

ITALY

Rome

Amphipolis
Berea
Thessalonica
Neapolis

Byzantium

BITHYNIA
& PONTUS

ASIA

GALATIA

CAPPADOCIA

CILICIA

COMMAGENE

SYRIA

JUDEA

Jerusalem

NABATEA

EGYPT

CYRENAICA

ACHAIA
Delphi
Olympia
Athens
Sparta

LYCIA

PAPHLAGONIA

CYPRUS

Alexandria

Memphis

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3. **PERGAMUM**
Compromising Church

2. **SMYRNA**
Persecuted Church

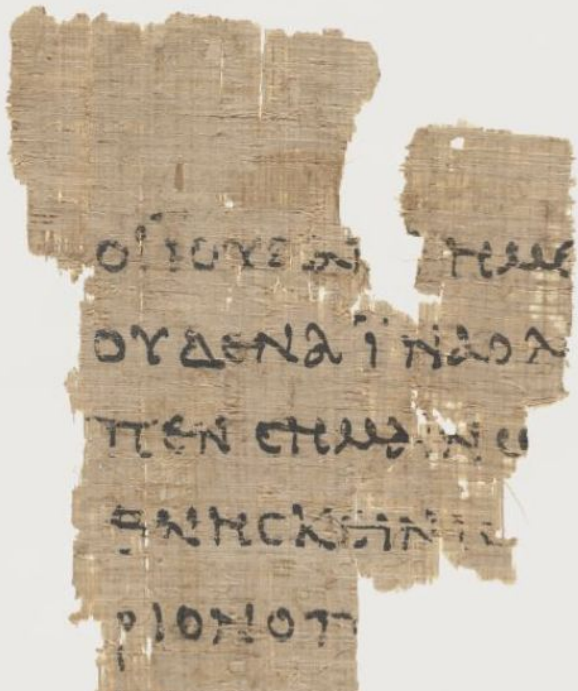
1. **EPHESUS**
Loveless Church

4. **THYATIRA**
Corrupt Church

5. **SARDIS**
Dead Church

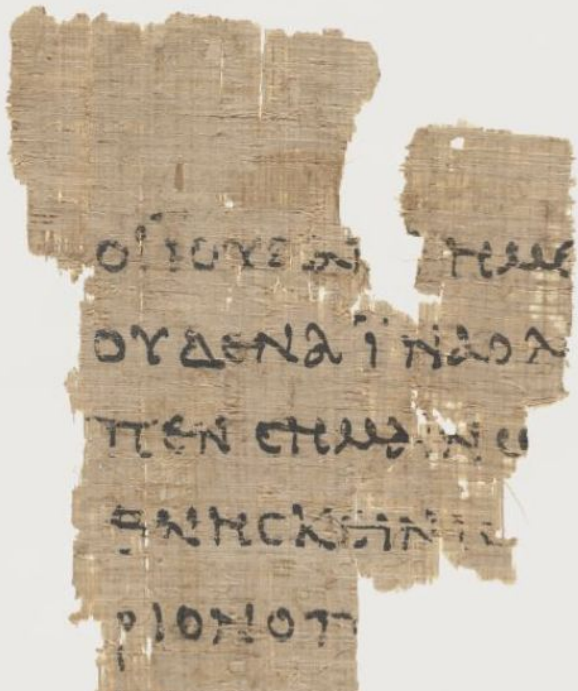
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Lukewarm Church

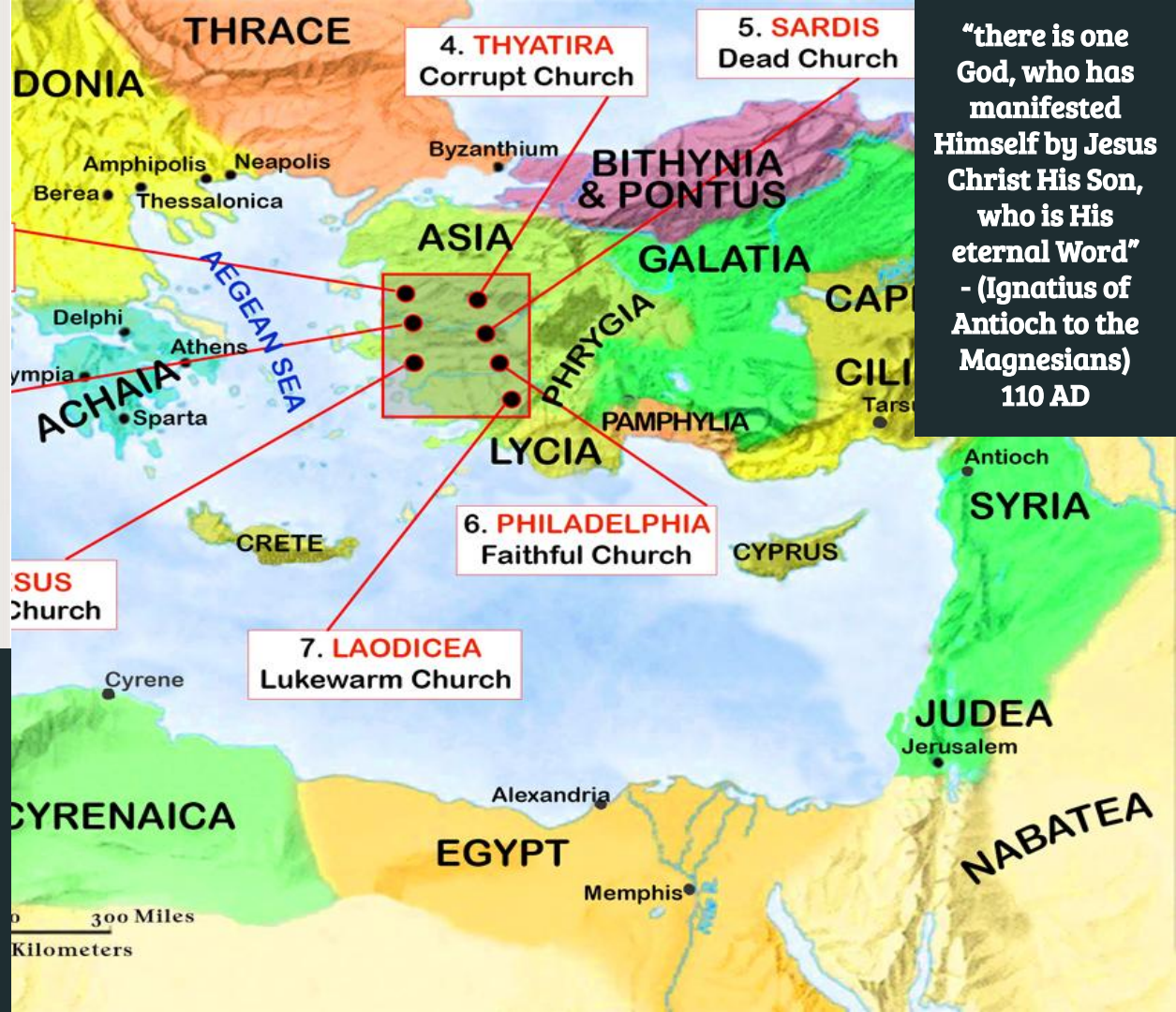


P52 Fragment of John 125AD-150AD





P52 Fragment of John 125AD-150AD



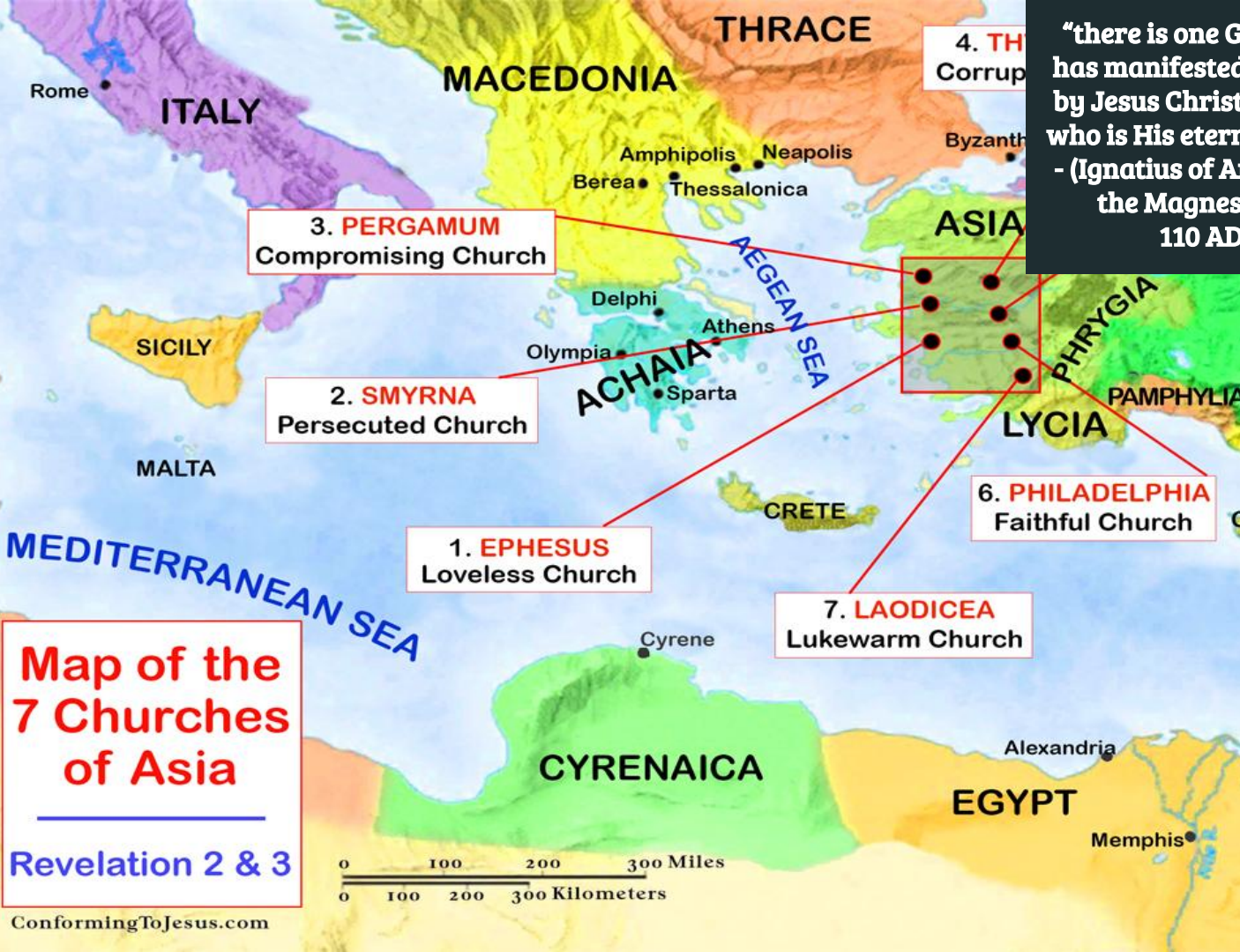
"there is one God, who has manifested Himself by Jesus Christ His Son, who is His eternal Word" - (Ignatius of Antioch to the Magnesians) 110 AD

Map of the 7 Churches of Asia

Revelation 2 & 3

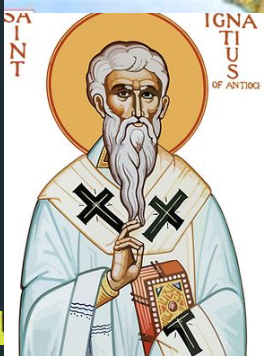
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4. **THYATIRA**
Corrupt Church

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has manifested Himself
by Jesus Christ His Son,
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- (Ignatius of Antioch to
the Magnesians)
110 AD



"I do not, as Peter and Paul,
issue commandments unto
you. They were apostles of
Jesus Christ" - (Ignatius of
Antioch to the Romans) 110
AD

"after His resurrection ... He
came to those who were with
Peter, He said to them, "Lay
hold, handle Me, and see that
I am not an incorporeal
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And after his resurrection He
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(Ignatius of Antioch to the
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Map of the 7 Churches of Asia

Revelation 2 & 3

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MEDITERRANEAN SEA

ITALY

Rome

MACEDONIA

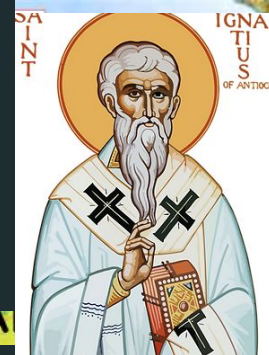
THRACE

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ASIA

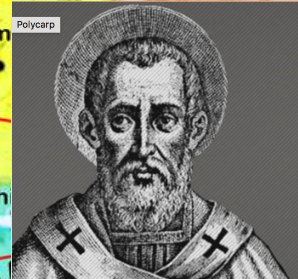
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Compromising Church

2. SMYRNA
Persecuted Church

1. EPHESUS
Loveless Church

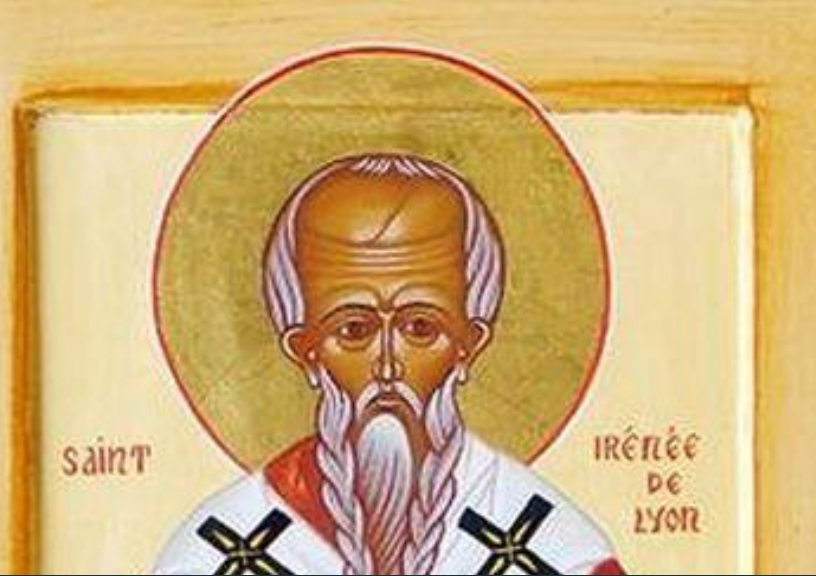


"the Lord said in His teaching: "Judge not, that ye
be not judged; forgive, and it shall be forgiven
unto you; be merciful, that ye may obtain mercy;
with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured
to you again; and once more, "Blessed are the
poor, and those that are persecuted for
righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of
God... Let us then serve Him in fear, and with all
reverence, even as He Himself has commanded us,
and as the apostles who preached the Gospel unto
us... the wisdom of the blessed and glorified Paul.
He, when among you, accurately and steadfastly
taught the word of truth in the presence of those
who were then alive. And when absent from you,
he wrote you a letter" - (Polycarp of Smyrna to the
Philippians) 110 AD

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Irenaeus 175 AD Writing About Earlier Memories With Polycarp

"I remember the events of those days more clearly than those which happened recently, for what we learn as children grows up with the soul and is united to it, so that I can speak even of the place in which the blessed Polycarp sat and disputed, how he came in and went out, the character of his life, the appearance of his body, the discourses which he made to people, how he reported his intercourse with John and with the others who had seen the Lord, how he remembered their words, and what were the things concerning the Lord which he had heard from them, and about their miracles, and about their teaching, and how Polycarp had received them from the eyewitnesses of the word of life, and reported all things in agreement with the Scriptures. I listened eagerly even then to these things through the mercy of God which was given me, and made notes of them, not on paper but in my heart, and ever by the grace of God do I truly ruminate on them"

- Irenaeus to Florinus quoted by 4th century Church historian Eusebius



Map of the 7 Churches of Asia

Revelation 2 & 3

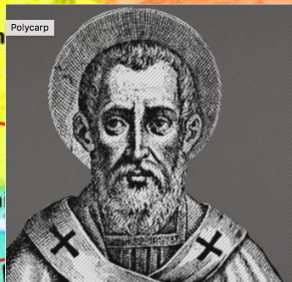
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Persecuted Church

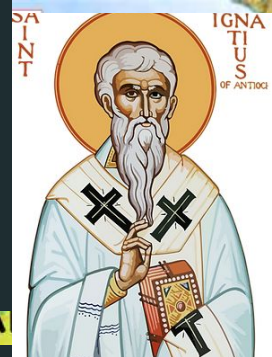
1. **EPHESUS**
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"the Lord said in His teaching: "Judge not, that ye be not judged; forgive, and it shall be forgiven unto you; be merciful, that ye may obtain mercy; with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again; and once more, "Blessed are the poor, and those that are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of God... Let us then serve Him in fear, and with all reverence, even as He Himself has commanded us, and as the apostles who preached the Gospel unto us... the wisdom of the blessed and glorified Paul. He, when among you, accurately and steadfastly taught the word of truth in the presence of those who were then alive. And when absent from you, he wrote you a letter" - (Polycarp of Smyrna to the Philippians) 110 AD

4. **THYATIRA**
Corrupt Church

"there is one God, who has manifested Himself by Jesus Christ His Son, who is His eternal Word" - (Ignatius of Antioch to the Magnesians) 110 AD



"I do not, as Peter and Paul, issue commandments unto you. They were apostles of Jesus Christ" - (Ignatius of Antioch to the Romans) 110 AD

"after His resurrection ... He came to those who were with Peter, He said to them, "Lay hold, handle Me, and see that I am not an incorporeal spirit." And immediately they touched Him, and believed... And after his resurrection He did eat and drink with them" (Ignatius of Antioch to the Smyrnaeans) 110 AD

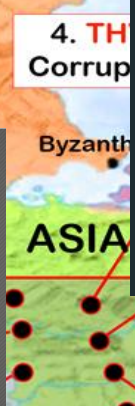


"there shall be a future resurrection, of which He has rendered the Lord Jesus Christ the first-fruits by raising Him from the dead... The apostles have preached the Gospel to us from the Lord Jesus Christ... Take up the epistle of the blessed Apostle Paul. What did he write to you at the time when the Gospel first began to be preached? "- (Clement of Rome to the Corinthians) 67-95 AD

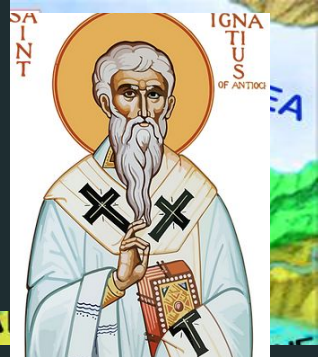
"Not in every place, brethren, are the daily sacrifices offered, or the peace-offerings, or the sin-offerings and the trespass-offerings, but in Jerusalem only. And even there they are not offered in any place, but only at the altar before the temple" ... "Remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, how He said, "Woe to that man [by whom offences come]! It were better for him that he had never been born, than that he should cast a stumbling-block before one of my elect. Yea, it were better for him that a millstone should be hung about [his neck], and he should be sunk in the depths of the sea, than that he should cast a stumbling-block before one of my little ones. "



"the Lord said in His teaching: "Judge not, that ye be not judged; forgive, and it shall be forgiven unto you; be merciful, that ye may obtain mercy; with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again; and once more, "Blessed are the poor, and those that are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of God... Let us then serve Him in fear, and with all reverence, even as He Himself has commanded us, and as the apostles who preached the Gospel unto us... the wisdom of the blessed and glorified Paul. He, when among you, accurately and steadfastly taught the word of truth in the presence of those who were then alive. And when absent from you, he wrote you a letter" - (Polycarp of Smyrna to the Philippians) 110 AD



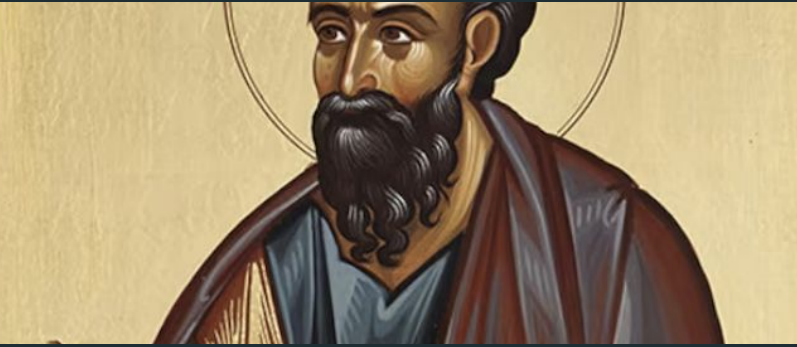
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**"For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.
Therefore let's celebrate the feast" 1 Corinthians 5:7-8
"But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then
at his coming those who belong to Christ." 1
Corinthians 15:23**



Saul of Tarsus (Paul) Writing 50's AD About Events From 30's AD

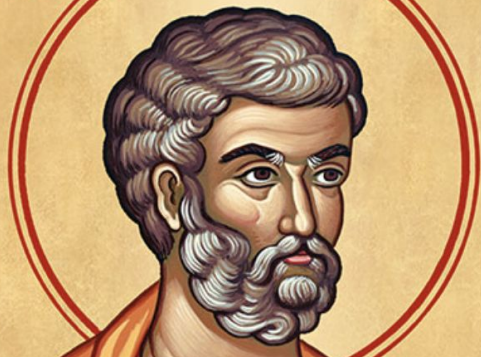
**"For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the
church of God violently and tried to destroy it... Then after three years I
went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him fifteen days.
But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother" -
Galatians 1:13, 18-19**

**"Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with
Barnabas, taking Titus along also.... and recognizing the grace that had
been given to me, James and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be
pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we
might go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised. They only asked us to
remember the poor " - Galatians 2:1,9-10**

**"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that
Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was
buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the
Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he
appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom
are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James,
then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared
also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an
apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. " 1st Corinthians 15:3-9 For I
received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on
the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given
thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in
remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper,
saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you
drink it, in remembrance of me." - 1 Corinthians 11:23-25**

SAINT

PETER



Apostle Peter (Mark was his scribe) - Source For The Gospel of Mark 55AD

"So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed... By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it. She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. " - 1st Peter 5:1,12-13

"And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark." - Acts 12:25 Recorded By Luke

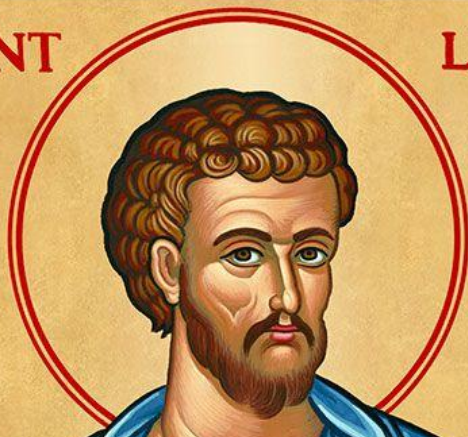
"Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him)" - Colossians 4:10 Recorded By Paul

"Mark having become the interpreter of Peter, wrote down accurately whatsoever he remembered... Matthew put together the oracles [of the Lord] in the Hebrew language, and each one interpreted them as best he could. " - Papias 120 AD Quoted by Eusebius Ecclesiastical History

"Matthew also issued a written Gospel among the Hebrews in their own dialect, while Peter and Paul were preaching at Rome, and laying the foundations of the Church. After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, did also hand down to us in writing what had been preached by Peter. Luke also, the companion of Paul, recorded in a book the Gospel preached by him. Afterwards, John, the disciple of the Lord, who also had leaned upon His breast, did himself publish a Gospel during his residence at Ephesus in Asia. " - Irenaeus 175 AD Against Heresies Book 3

SAINT

LUKE



Apostle Luke (Companion of Paul) - Author of The Gospel of Luke & Acts 60AD

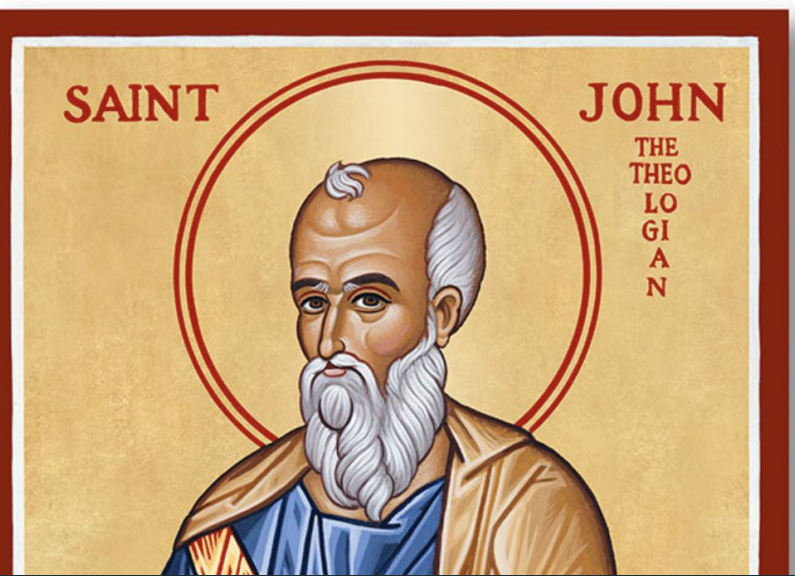
"When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. "- Acts 21:17-18

"Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us" - Luke 1:1-2

"So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word... our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." Acts 6:2-4

"Mark, the follower of Peter, while Peter publicly preached the Gospel at Rome before some of Caesar's equites, and adduced many testimonies to Christ, in order that thereby they might be able to commit to memory what was spoken, of what was spoken by Peter wrote entirely what is called the Gospel according to Mark. As Luke also may be recognised by the style, both to have composed the Acts of the Apostles, and to have translated Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews." - Clement of Alexandria 182-202 AD Fragments From The Latin Translation of Cassiodorus - Comments On First Peter





Apostle John - Author of Gospel of John, 3 Epistles, + Revelation 90AD

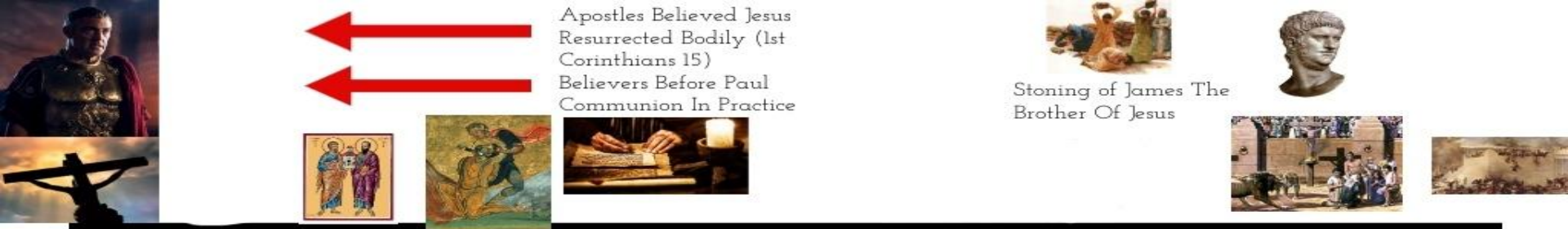
“but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby...” - John 19:25-26

“Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper ... This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.” - John 21:20,24-25

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us” - 1 John 1:1-2

“For the apostles, in the memoirs composed by them, which are called Gospels, have thus delivered unto us what was enjoined upon them’ - Justin Martyr 150 AD First Apology

“even as the Gospel and all the elders testify; those who were conversant in Asia with John, the disciple of the Lord, [affirming] that John conveyed to them that information. And he remained among them up to the times of Trajan. Some of them, moreover, saw not only John, but the other apostles also, and heard the very same account from them” - Irenaeus 175 AD Against Heresies Book 2



Apostles Believed Jesus
Resurrected Bodily (1st
Corinthians 15)
Believers Before Paul
Communion In Practice

Stoning of James The
Brother Of Jesus

30 AD	35-37 AD	50-55 AD	60 AD	64 AD	70 AD
Christ Executed Under Pontius Pilate	Paul Meets Peter & James The Brother of Jesus	James Brother of John Slain By Sword Paul's Letters		Nero Persecution Beheading of Paul Crucifixion of Peter	Temple Destroyed

THE FIRST 100 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY

According to non-believers who claim "early gentile Christians wrote



75 AD	80 AD	85 AD	90 AD	115 AD
Gospel of Mark	Gospel of Matthew	Gospel of Luke/Acts	Gospel of John	Roman Historian Tacitus

the gospels pretending to be the Jewish apostles"

Internal Evidence of Jewish Apostolic Authorship



"The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him." Mark 3:6

"For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches." Mark 7:3-4

"But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is, given to God—then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do." Mark 7:11-13

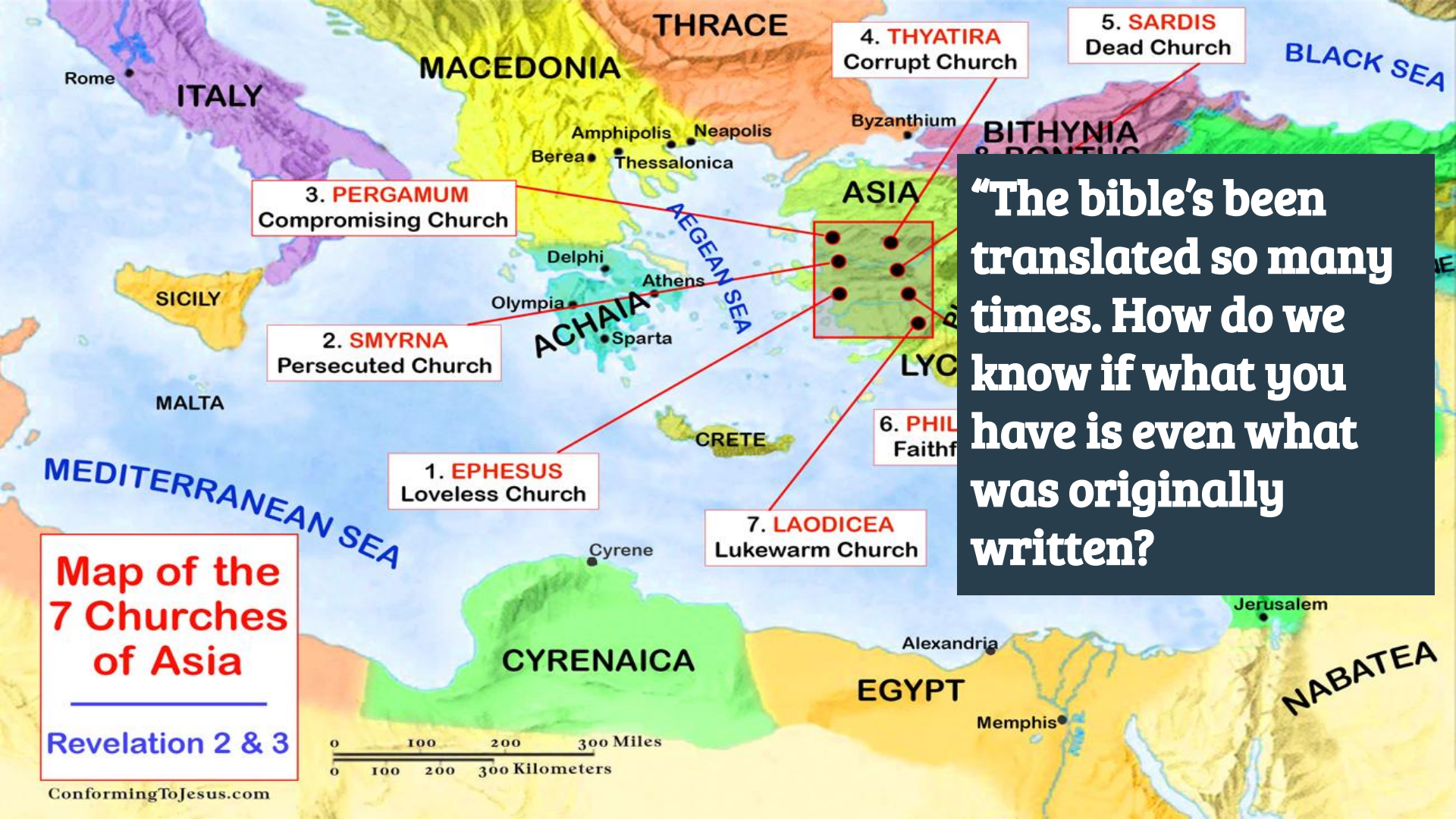
"And Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection. And they asked him a question... (Yeshua replying) as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong." Mark 12:18,26-27

"Which commandment is the most important of all?" Jesus answered, "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.' " Mark 12:28-29

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." Mark 14:26

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

"So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. " Matthew 5:23-24



**Map of the
7 Churches
of Asia**

Revelation 2 & 3

“The bible’s been translated so many times. How do we know if what you have is even what was originally written?”



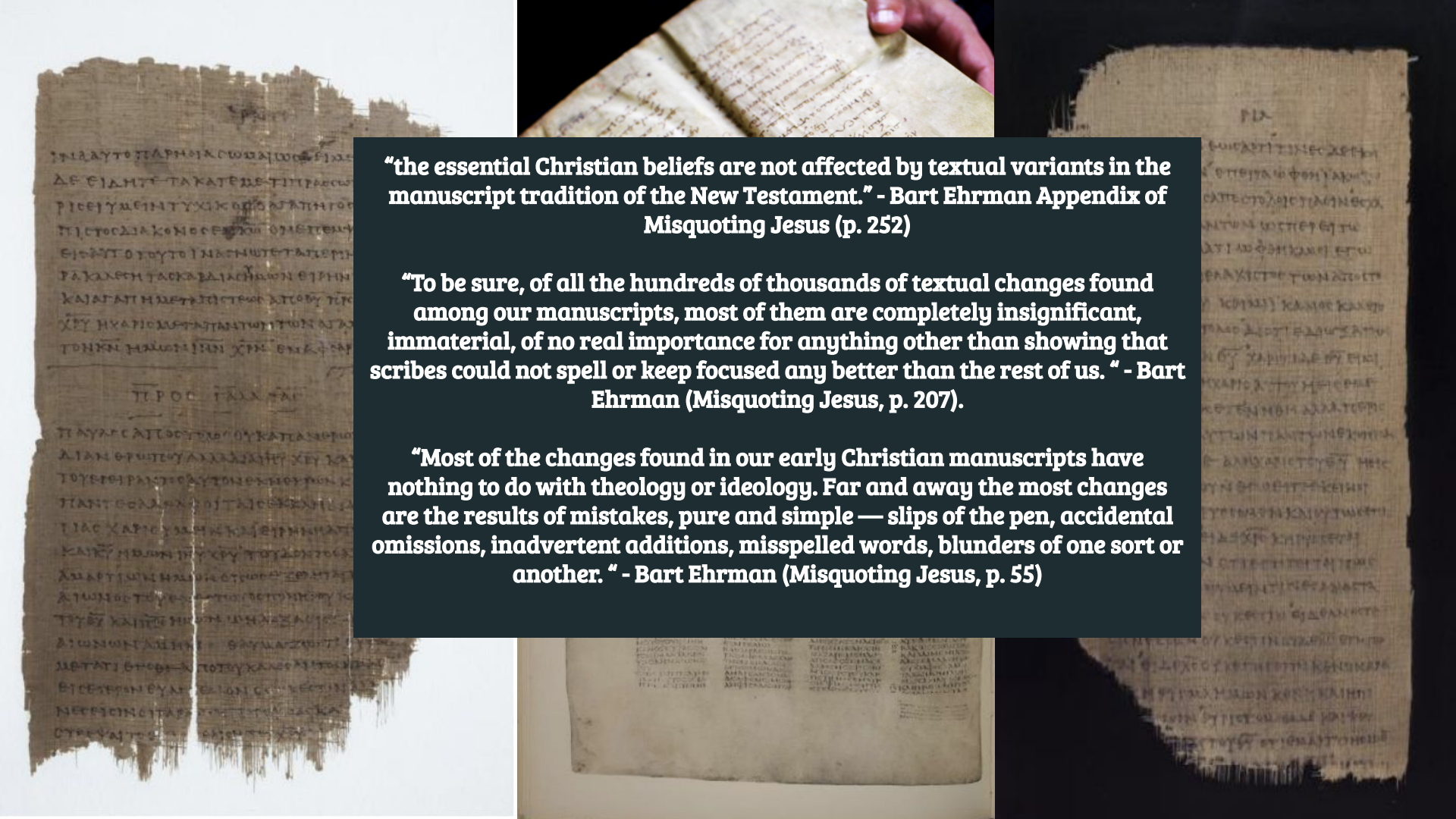
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“Matthew also issued a written Gospel among the Hebrews in their own dialect, while Peter and Paul were preaching at Rome, and laying the foundations of the Church.” - Irenaeus 175 AD Against Heresies Book 3

“Matthew put together the oracles [of the Lord] in the Hebrew language, and each one interpreted them as best he could. And he also gives another story of a woman who was accused of many sins before the Lord, which is to be found in the Gospel according to the Hebrews.” - Papias 120 AD Quoted by Eusebius Ecclesiastical History



“the essential Christian beliefs are not affected by textual variants in the manuscript tradition of the New Testament.” - Bart Ehrman Appendix of Misquoting Jesus (p. 252)

“To be sure, of all the hundreds of thousands of textual changes found among our manuscripts, most of them are completely insignificant, immaterial, of no real importance for anything other than showing that scribes could not spell or keep focused any better than the rest of us.” - Bart Ehrman (Misquoting Jesus, p. 207).

“Most of the changes found in our early Christian manuscripts have nothing to do with theology or ideology. Far and away the most changes are the results of mistakes, pure and simple — slips of the pen, accidental omissions, inadvertent additions, misspelled words, blunders of one sort or another.” - Bart Ehrman (Misquoting Jesus, p. 55)

Tree of Life Tabernacle Confession of Faith

We believe and hold fast to the gospel/good news that was delivered to us by the direct apostles and eyewitnesses of Yeshua's majesty (John 21:24, 2 Peter 1:16); That Messiah died for our sins in perfect accordance with the Hebrew scriptures, was buried, and bodily rose again on the 3rd day as divinely foretold in the Hebrew scriptures (1st Corinthians 15, Luke 24:44, John 20:29).

We believe Yeshua presented himself to his apostles for 40 days after his death (Acts 1:3), then ascended into heaven where he is currently seated at the right hand of the Father (Hebrews 1:3) interceding as high priest for his elect until his enemies are made his footstool (Hebrews 1:13).

The Eyewitnesses of Yeshua

THE STONE THE
BUILDERS REJECTED
HAS BECOME THE
CHIEF CORNERSTONE.
PSALM 118:22

