

FULL STATUTORY INITIATIVE

**ACTS
INTRODUCTION**



FSI-001-A

FULL STATUTE INITIATIVE

001-A

ACTS INTRODUCTION

This series:

- Systematic verse study of the Bible
- Intended to help equip participants to better grasp the Bible
- Not intended to address any particular topic or system
- Supplemental for those who have a difficult time finding a local church
- Includes optional interactive follow-up session

FSI-001-B

- Zoom Meeting on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 7pm
- Invitations will be emailed to financial supporters
- Zoom meeting will be pre-recorded and later uploaded to youtube
- Participants are asked to watch and comply with the Full Stature Announcement Video
 - Details in the description below
 - Guidelines posted on the FSI page of the website
 - www.beyondthefundamentals.com
- Participants will be asked to make comments or ask questions with regard to material covered in this video and the follow-on assignment
- These slides are also posted on the web site on the FSI page

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THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

¹ THE former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

² Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

³ To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

⁴ And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me.

⁵ For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

⁶ When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

⁷ And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

⁸ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the

uttermost part of the earth.

⁹ And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

¹⁰ And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

¹¹ Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

¹² Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

¹³ And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas *the brother* of James.

¹⁴ These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

¹⁵ And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

Luke 1:1–4 (KJV)

¹ FORASMUCH as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,

² Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word;

³ It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent **Theophilus**,

⁴ That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

Acts 1:1–3 (KJV)

¹ THE **former treatise** have I made, O **Theophilus**, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

² Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

³ To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Luke joins the retinue of Paul when the pronoun “we” starts to appear.

Acts 16:1–13 (KJV)

¹ Then came **he** to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father *was* a Greek:

² Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

³ Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

⁴ And as **they** went through the cities, **they** delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

⁵ And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

⁶ Now when **they** had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

⁷ After **they** were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.

⁸ And **they** passing by Mysia **came down to Troas**.

⁹ And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

¹⁰ And after he had seen the vision, immediately **we** endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called **us** for to preach the gospel unto them.

¹¹ Therefore loosing from **Troas**, **we** came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next *day* to Neapolis;

¹² And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, *and* a colony: and **we** were in that city abiding certain days.

¹³ And on the sabbath **we** went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and **we** sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted *thither*.

Hints about Luke's whereabouts, function and methodology.

Colossians 4:14 (KJV)

¹⁴ [Luke](#), the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you.

Written from Rome to the Colossians by ^bTychicus and Onesimus.

2 Timothy 4:10–21 (KJV)

¹⁰ For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

¹¹ [Only Luke is with me](#). Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

¹² And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

¹³ The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring *with thee*, and the books, *but* especially the parchments.

¹⁴ Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works:

¹⁵ Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.

¹⁶ At my first answer no man stood with me, but all *men* forsook me: *I pray God* that it may not be laid to their

Luke 2:19 (KJV)

¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, and pondered *them* in her heart.

charge.

¹⁷ Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

¹⁸ And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

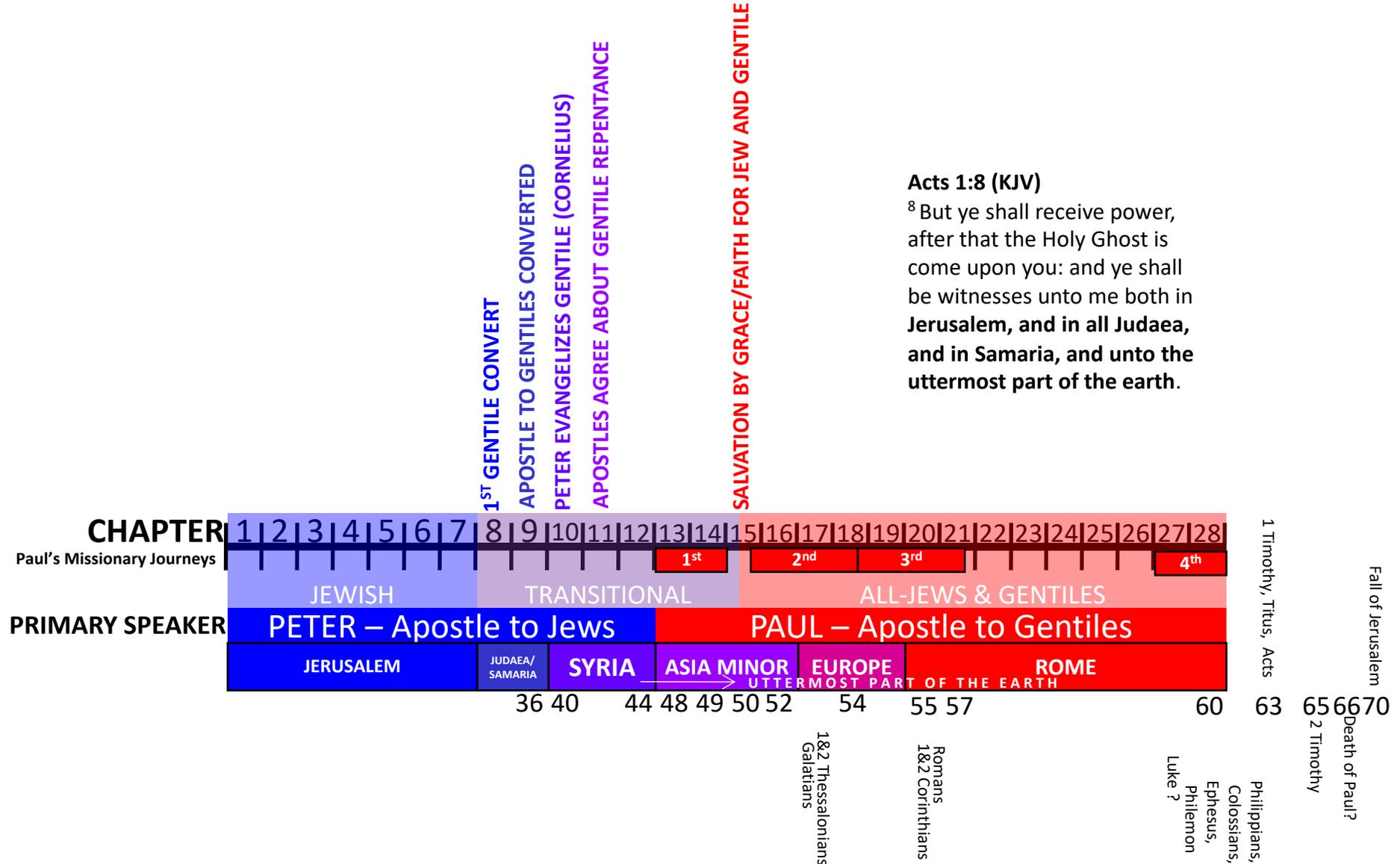
¹⁹ Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

²⁰ Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.

²¹ Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren.

ACTS

T H E B I G P I C T U R E



THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

NOT

THE *sinless, perfect, flawless* ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

It would help a lot of Christians understand the book of Acts better if they saw the title as something like, ***The Actions and Deeds of the Apostles, including their successes, failures, flaws and mistakes.***

The Bible is true in that it gives us an accurate rendering. This should not be confused with the idea that every (or any particular) character's actions are also inspired. The characters in scripture are dynamic and undergo learning. Their actions and words need to be perceived in this light rather than as something to directly employ as dogma.

Acts 15:1–2 (KJV)

¹ And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, *and said*, Except **ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses**, ye cannot be saved.

² When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

Acts 15:7–11 (KJV)

⁷ And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men *and* brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

⁸ And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us;

⁹ And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

¹⁰ Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

¹¹ But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

Acts 15:13 (KJV)

¹³ And after they had held their peace, **James** answered, saying, Men *and* brethren, hearken unto me:

Acts 15:19–20 (KJV)

¹⁹ Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:

²⁰ But that we **write unto them**, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication, and *from* things strangled, and *from* blood.

Acts 15:23–24 (KJV)

²³ And **they wrote letters** by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren *send* greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:

²⁴ Forasmuch as we have heard, that **certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law**: to whom we gave no *such* commandment:

INSIGHT-GENERATING LENSES

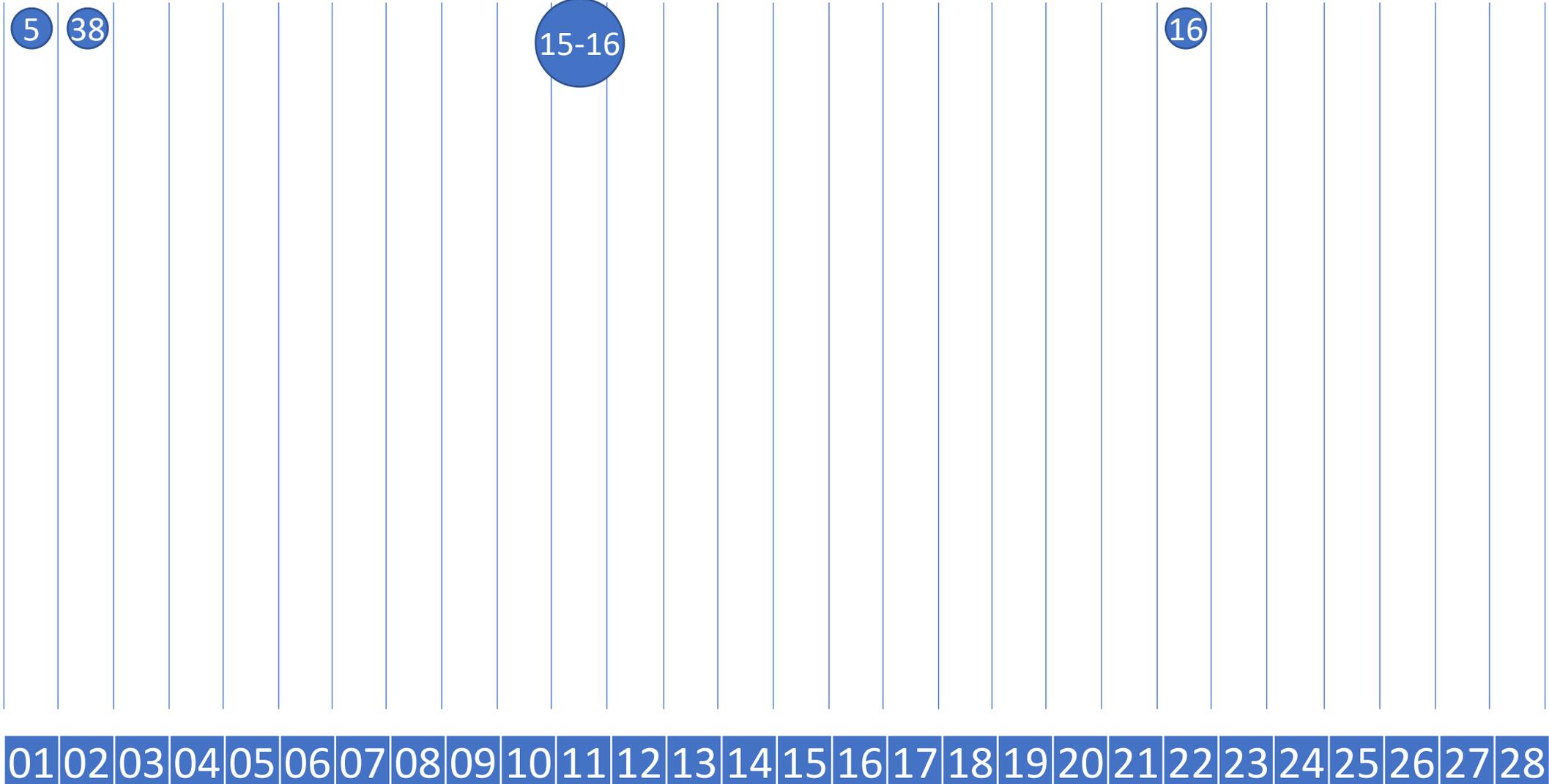
Read Acts as if the audience, Theophilus, was among those lead astray, thinking that Gentiles had to be circumcised and keep the law of Moses in order to be saved. Gentiles had been proselyting to Judaism for ages, and many of the new believers (who were all Jewish) just added Jesus as Messiah to the old conversion process. So when Luke emphasizes “belief” over any other verb, the reader should note that the is re-inforcing for the reader that circumcision or keeping the law was not required for Gentiles. This is spelled out in Acts 15, and it is addressed again in Acts 21.

INSIGHT-GENERATING LENSES

Read Acts as if the content is a self contained story that has no doctrinal or applicable impact on the modern reader at all. Read it in a detached manner just as one would read a novel or a news paper. Once the content is thoroughly grasped and understood in this manner, the reader can then move forward with how it might apply today.

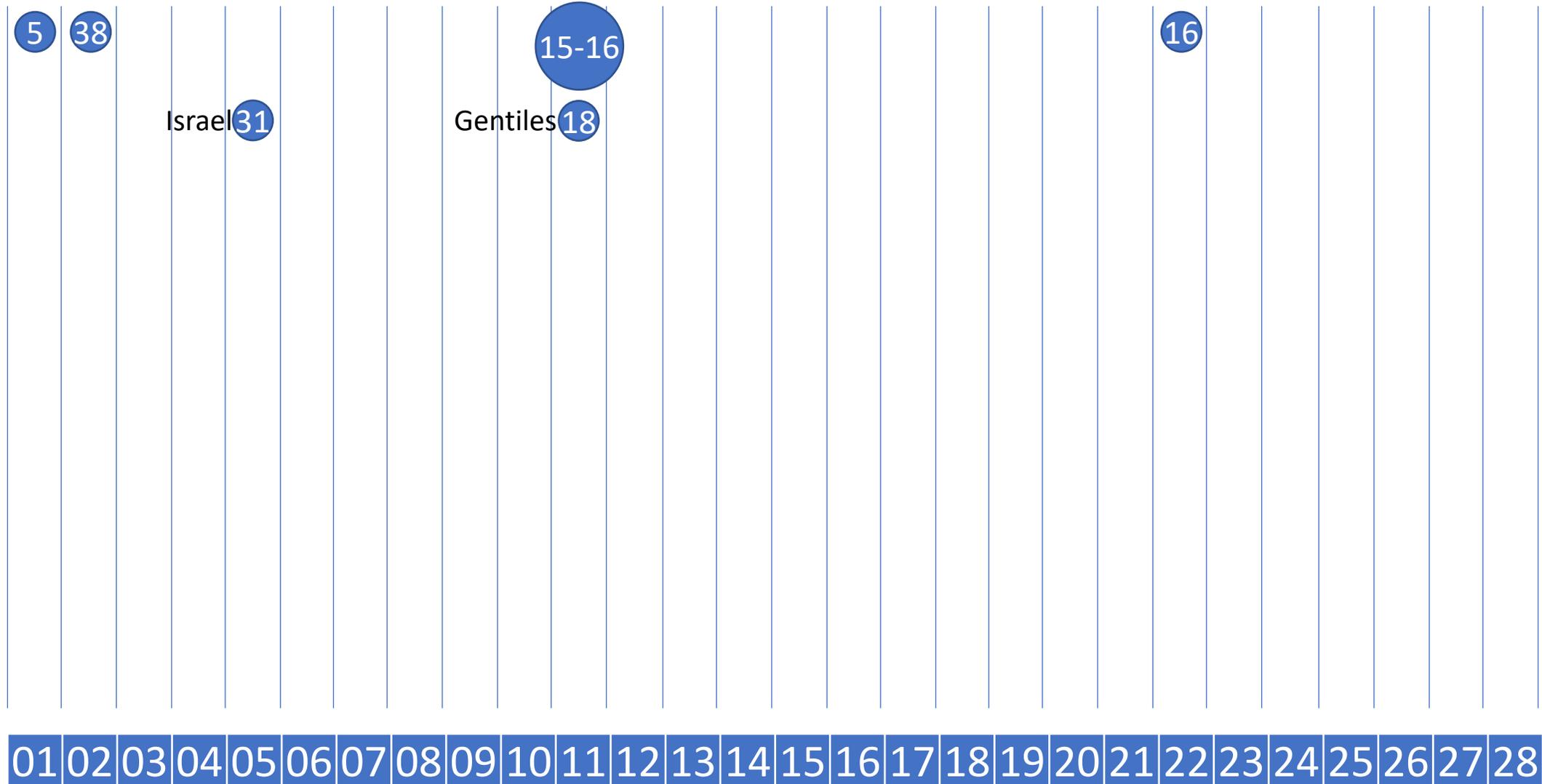
Dynamisms and Transitions in Acts

Baptism (Water v.
Holy Ghost)

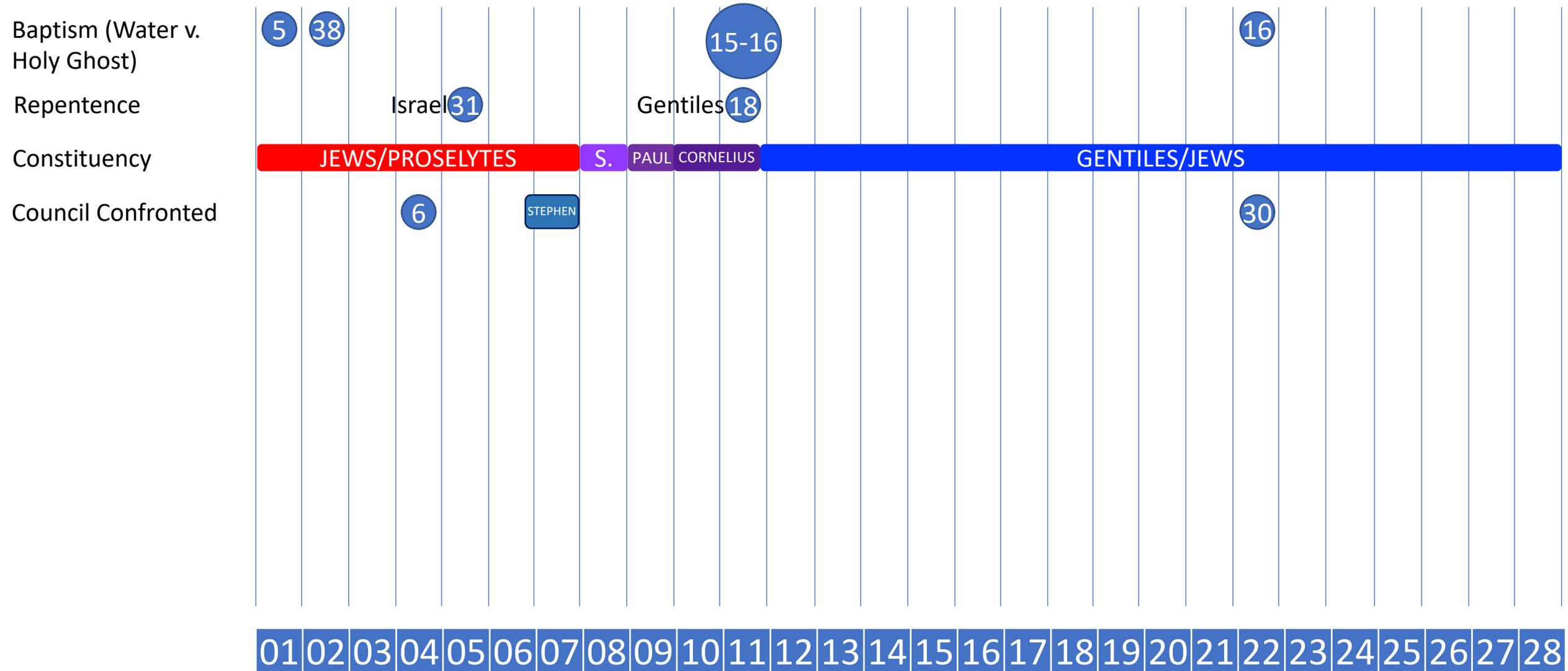


Dynamisms and Transitions in Acts

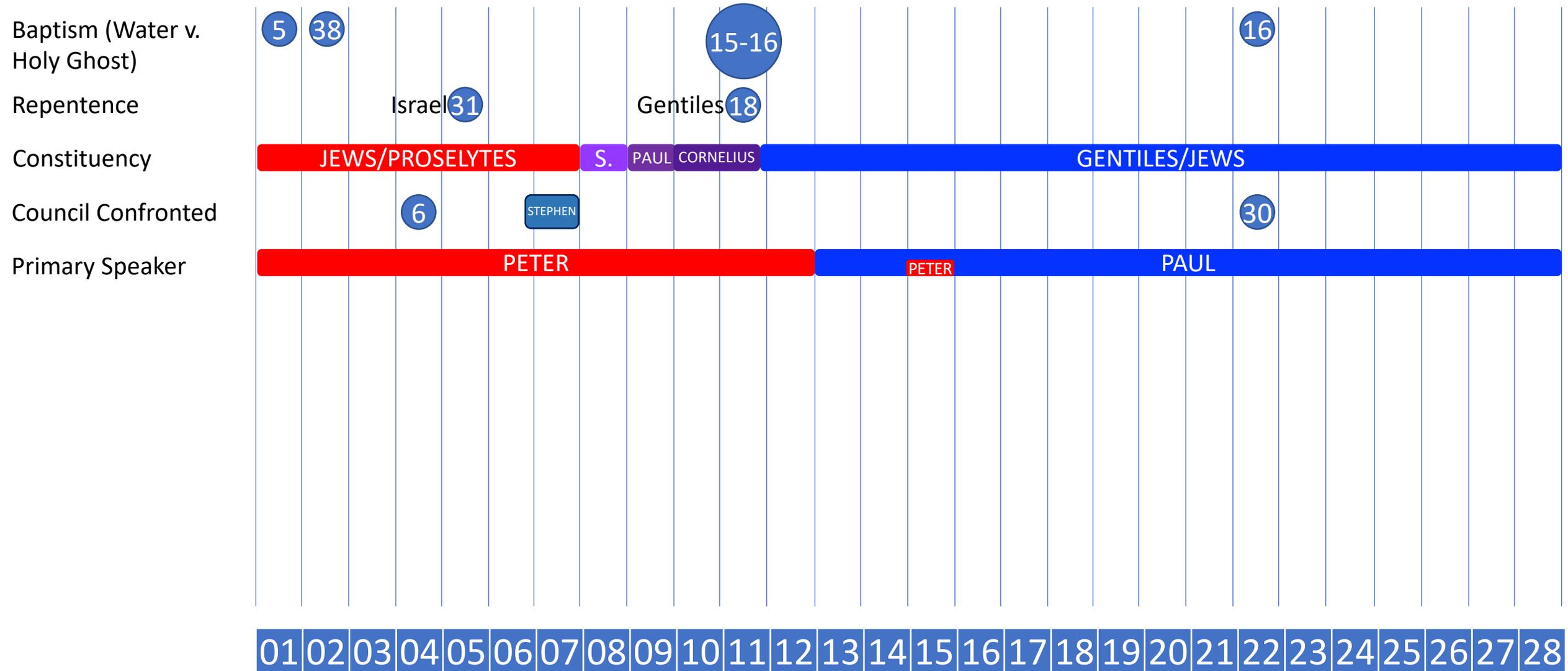
Baptism (Water v.
Holy Ghost)
Repentance



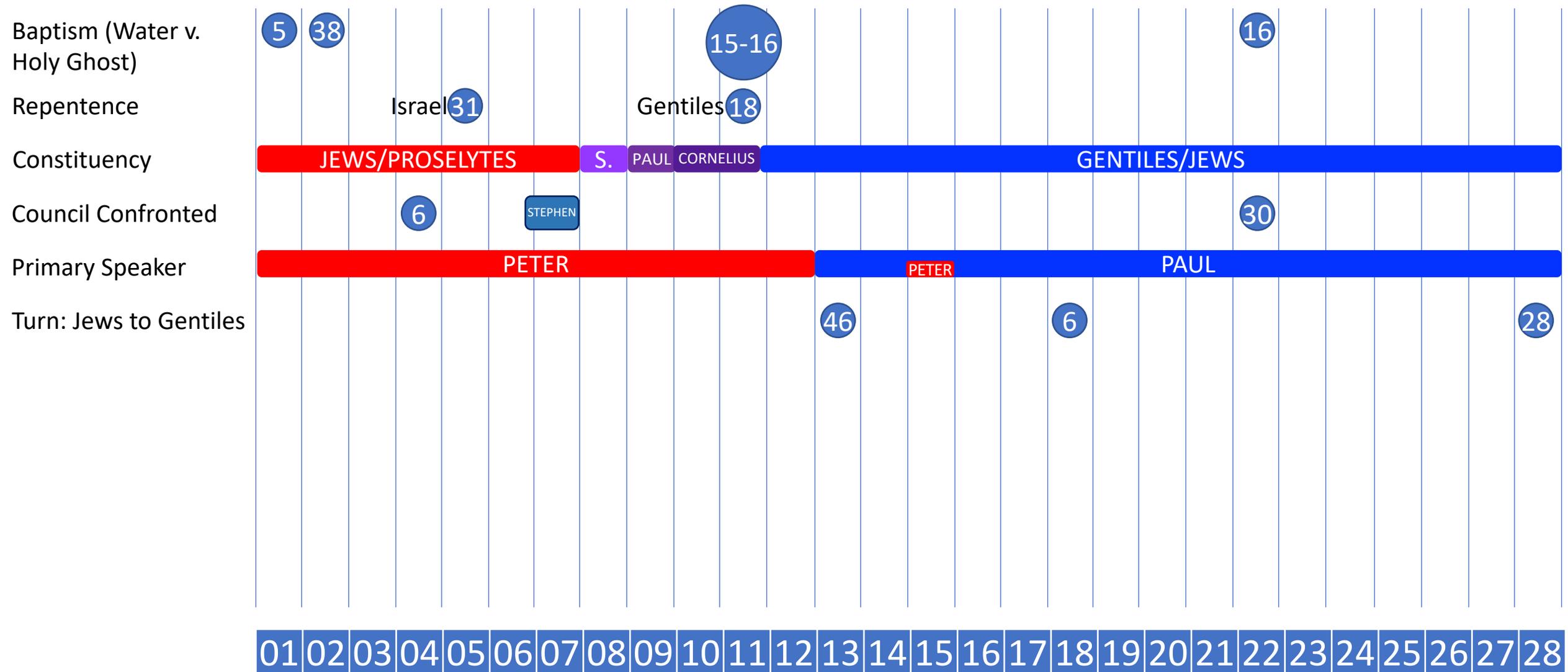
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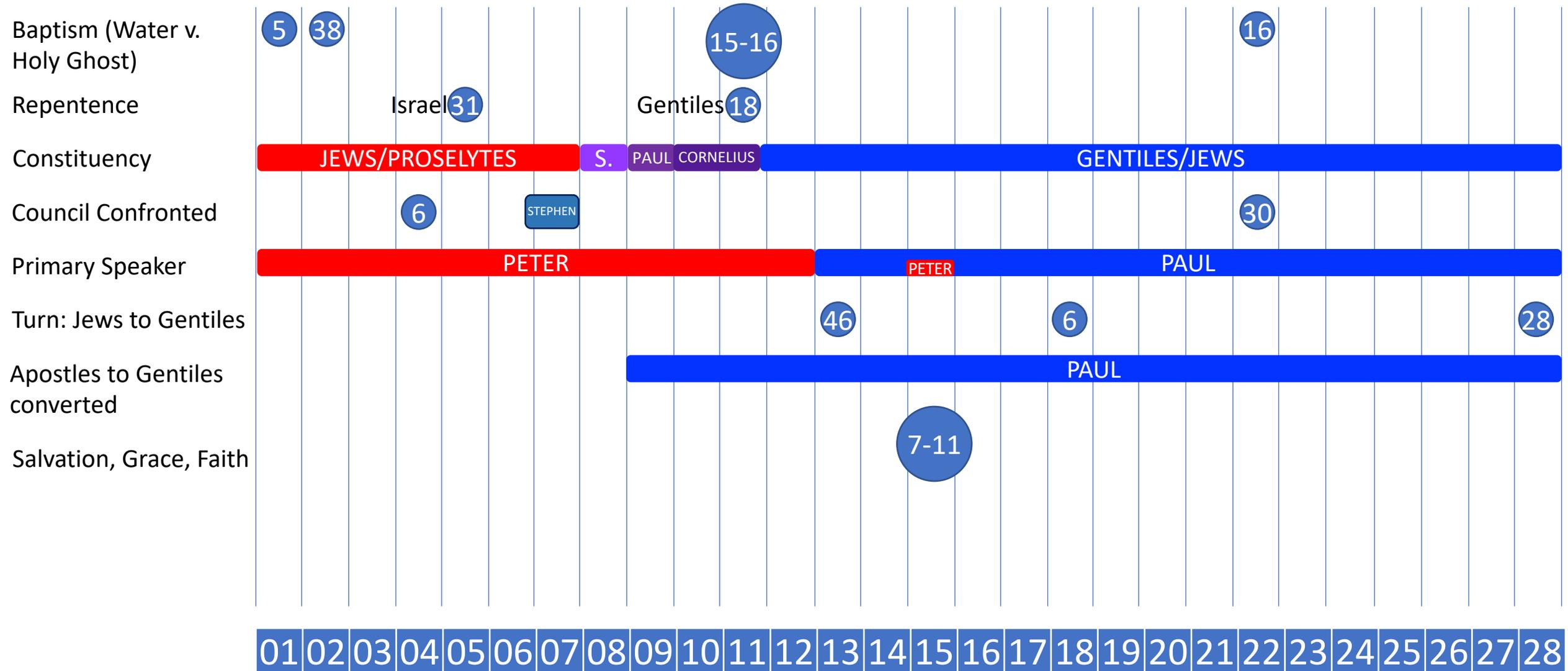
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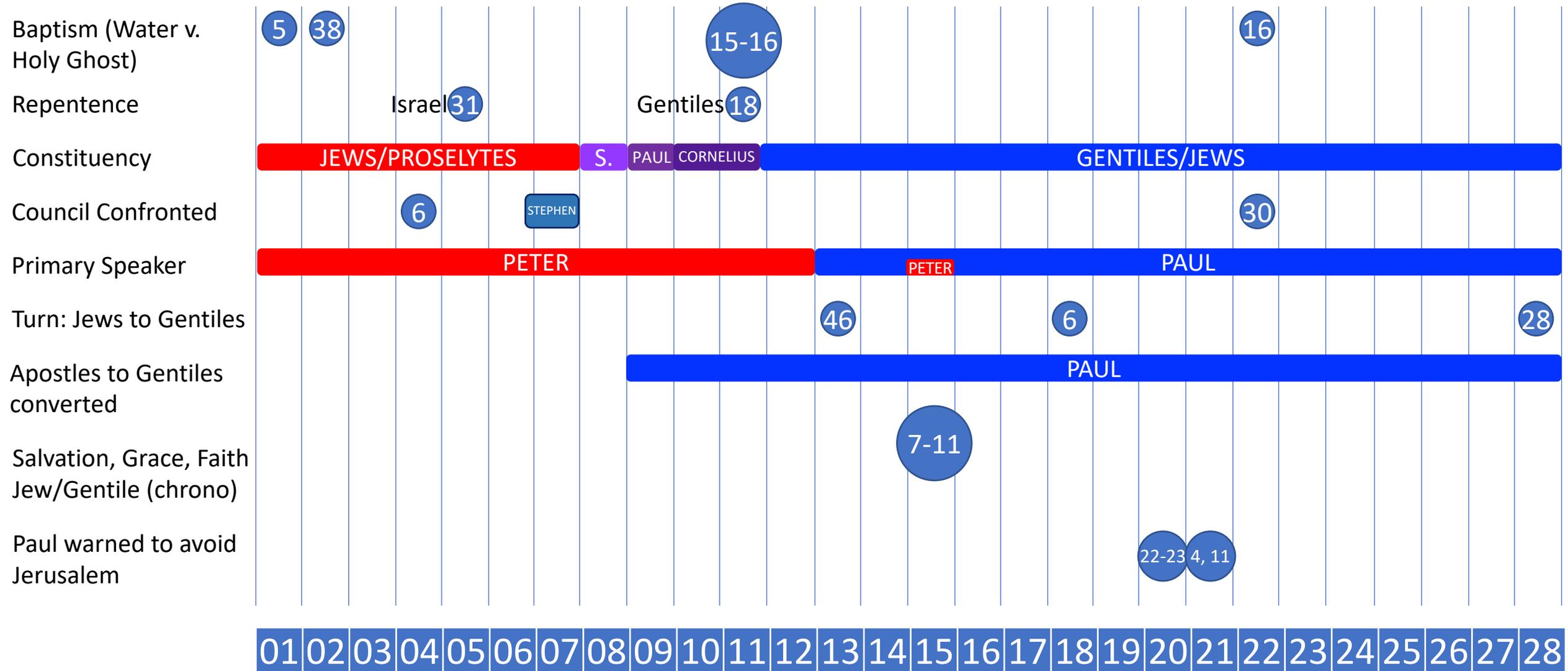
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