The Search for the Historical Paul

Background

- Born c. 5-10 CE (Acts 7:48); Old Age (55 CE) - Philemon 9
- Tentmaker (Acts 18:3); "Conversion" vs. "calling" or "commission."

Was Paul alone in Athens? Acts: yes (Acts 17:10-15); Paul: no (1 Thess 3:1-3)

Did Paul go to Jerusalem post-conversation: Paul: No (Gal 1:15-18); Acts: Yes (9:26ff)

- Knox: "use Acts to supplement, not correct, autobiographical data."
- Ehrman: "Acts is about as reliable for Paul as the Gospel of Luke is for Jesus"

Deuterocanonical (arranged in order of probability of nonPauline authorship)

II Thess Col Eph 1-II Tim Titus

(50/50 split) (80-90% rejects)

Undisputed (almost certainly authentic)	**Deutero-Pauline (possibly pseudonymous)**	**Pastoral Epistles (probably pseudonymous)**
Romans	Ephesians	1 Timothy
1 Corinthians	Colossians	2 Timothy
2 Corinthians	2 Thessalonians	Titus
Galatians		
Philippians		
1 Thesalonians		
Philemon		

1 Thessalonians

- **Location** (1 Thess 1:7) **-** Paul: urban; Jesus: villages
- **Faith, Hope, and Love** (1 Thess 1:3; 5:8; Rom 5:1-5; 1 Cor 13:13; Gal 5:5-6)
- **Kingdom of God?** (1 Thess 2:12)
- **Early Anti-Judaism?** (1 Thess 2:13-16) vs. Rom 11:25-26
- **Parousia** (4:14-17) — see also 1 Cor 15:51-52
- **Conclusion**: Holy Kiss (1 Thess 5:26); Read [aloud] (1 Thess 5:27)