

<u>Acts 18:1</u> After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;

2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

<u>3</u> And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.
<u>4</u> And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews *that* Jesus *was* Christ.

<u>6</u> And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook *his* raiment, and said unto them, Your blood *be* upon your own heads; I *am* clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

7 And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue. 8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. 9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: 10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

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(b) The Limited Success of His Message, 17:32-34 i. The Derision of Some, 17:32-33 ii. The Decision of Some, 17:34



<u>1 Thess. 3:1</u> Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone;

<u>2</u> And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

<u>3</u> That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

<u>4</u> For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know. <u>5</u> For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

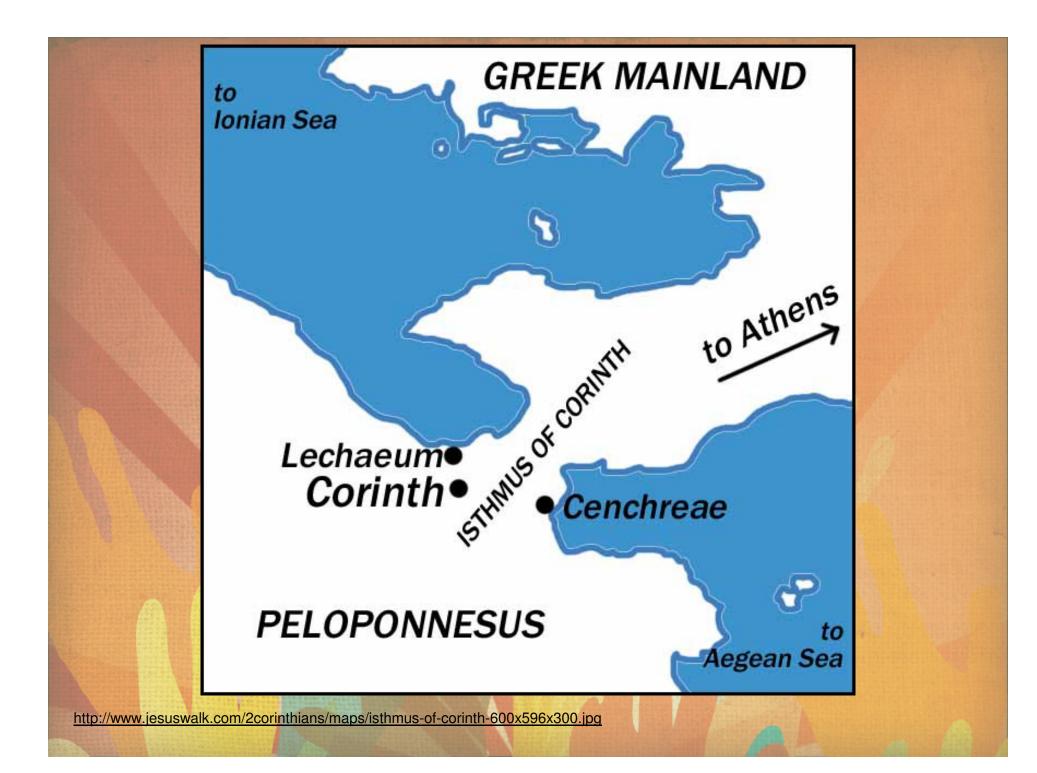
<u>6</u> But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also *to see* you: Phil. 4:16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

e. The Problem of Legal Pressure, 18:1-18

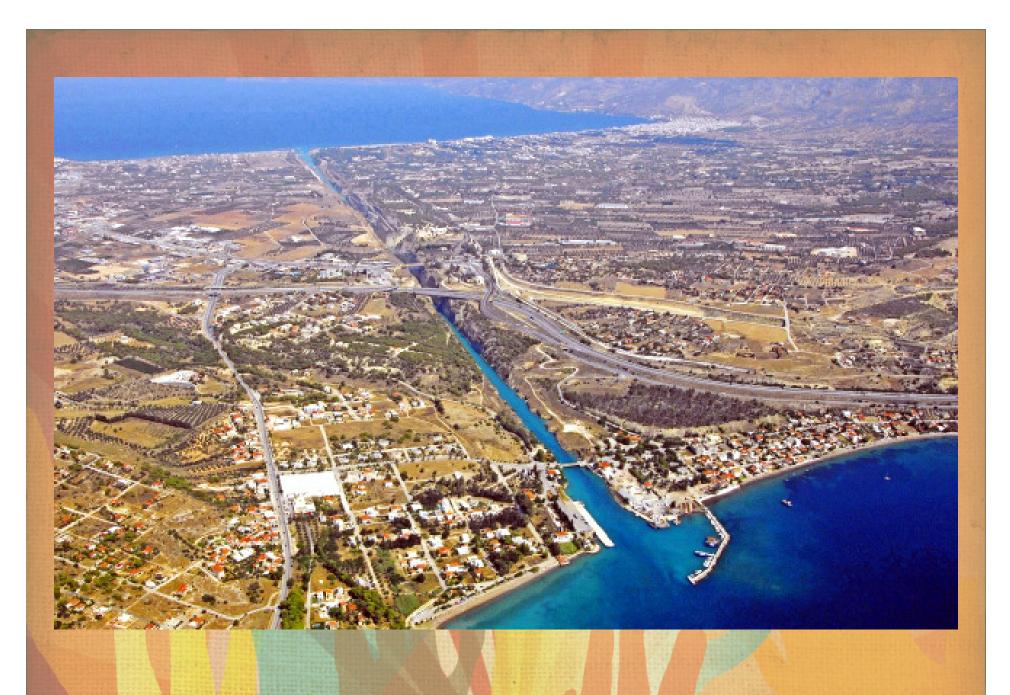
(1) Paul's New Friends, 18:1-3

(a) The Place, 18:1

Acts 18:1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;







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https://www.discovergreekculture.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/the-Corinth-Canal-1024x685.jpg

<u>1 Cor. 2:1</u> And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

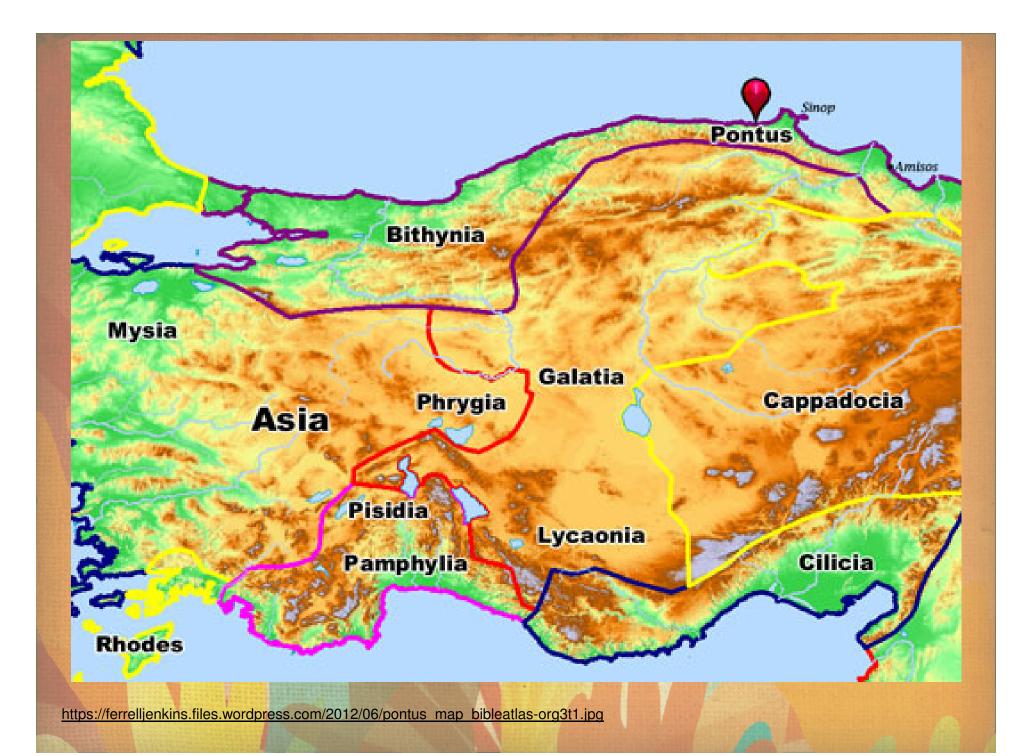
<u>3</u> And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

<u>4</u> And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

#### (b) The People, 18:2

Acts 18:2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.



Rom. 16:3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:

<u>1 Cor. 16:19</u> The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

<u>2 Tim. 4:19</u> Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

Aquila = "an eagle" (Ἀκύλας) Priscilla = "ancient" (Πρίσκιλλα)

https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?strongs=G207&t=KJV https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?strongs=G4252&t=KJV

# (c) The Partners, 18:3

<u>Acts 18:3</u> And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.

(2) Paul's Noted Fervor, 18:4-5

(a) His Preaching in the Synagogue, 18:4

Acts 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

Original Word: διαλέγομαι Transliteration: dialegomai Definition: I converse, address, preach, lecture; I argue, reason. *dialégomai* – properly, "getting a *conclusion across*" by exchanging thoughts (logic) – "mingling thought with thought, to ponder (*revolve in the mind*)" (J. Thayer).

[(*dialégomai*) is the root of the English term, "dialogue."] https://biblehub.com/greek/1256.htm

Original Word: πείθω Transliteration: peithó Definition: I persuade, urge. *Peíthō* (the root of *pístis*, "*faith*") – to *persuade*; (passive) *be persuaded* of what is *trustworthy*.

The Lord persuades the yielded believer to be *confident* in His preferred-will (Gal 5:10; 2 Tim 1:12). (*peithō*) involves "*obedience, but it is properly* the result of (God's) *persuasion*" (*WS*, 422). <u>https://biblehub.com/greek/3982.htm</u>

#### (b) His Pressure in the Spirit, 18:5

Acts 18:5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews *that* Jesus *was* Christ.

Original Word: συνέχω Transliteration: sunechó Definition: (a) I press together, close, (b) I press on every side, confine, (c) I hold fast, (d) I urge, impel, (e) pass: I am afflicted with (sickness).

https://biblehub.com/greek/4912.htm

Luke 12:50 But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! <u>2 Cor. 5:14</u> For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

Phil. 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

<u>Phil. 4:14</u> Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.
<u>15</u> Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.
<u>16</u> For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

<u>2 Cor. 11:9</u> And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all *things* I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and *so* will I keep *myself*.

<u>1 Thess. 3:6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us,</u> and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you: 7 Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith: 8 For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord. 9 For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God; 10 Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

## (3) Paul's Normal Foes, 18:6

Acts 18:6 And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook *his* raiment, and said unto them, Your blood *be* upon your own heads; I *am* clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, Io, we turn to the Gentiles. <u>47</u> For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. (4) Paul's Numerous Followers, 18:7-8

(a) A New Base of Operations, 18:7

<u>Acts 18:7</u> And he departed thence, and entered into a certain *man's* house, named Justus, *one* that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue.

Rom. 16:23 Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

(b) A New Burst of Opportunity, 18:8

i. A Famous Convert, 18:8a "And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house..."

# <u>1 Cor. 1:14</u> I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;

ii. A Flood of Conversions, 18:8b "...and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized."

(5) Paul's Needless Fears, 18:9-11

(a) How the Lord Came to Paul, 18:9a "Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision..."

(b) How the Lord Commissioned Paul, 18:9b "...Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:"

## (c) How the Lord Comforted Paul, 18:10-11

i. The Outlook, 18:10

Acts 18:10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.

ii. The Outcome, 18:11

<u>Acts 18:11</u> And he continued *there* a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

#### Conclusion

Mt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Evangelization – v. 19a

Edification – v. 19b

Education – v. 20

<u>Mt. 9:37</u> Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; <u>38</u> Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.