

SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

Acts: The Beginning of a New Kingdom

The Second Preaching Tour Continues

Quarter Four, Lesson Nine

Focus Text: Acts 17. 1 – 18. 22

Other Readings: 1 Thessalonians 1. 1 – 2. 12; 2. 17 – 3. 8; 4. 9 – 5. 11; 1 Corinthians 1. 1 – 18; 2. 1 – 13

CONTENT

1. Where did Paul normally begin his teaching when he arrived in a city, and why?
2. What attitude toward Paul's teaching did the Jews in Berea demonstrate?
3. What circumstances led to Paul's leaving Thessalonica? to his leaving Berea?
4. Besides in the synagogue, where did Paul teach in Athens?
5. What central point did Paul emphasize in the sermon recorded in Acts 17?

How did he introduce it, and how did he conclude?
6. With whom did Paul stay after his arrival in Corinth, and what (besides teaching) did he do there?
7. Who tried to stop Paul's work in Corinth, and with how much success?
8. Who traveled with Paul from Corinth to Ephesus?
9. About how much time did Paul spend (on this trip) in Corinth? in Ephesus?

Lesson continues. . . .

CONNECTIONS

1. Was there a basis in Paul's teaching for the accusation the Jews brought against him and his associates in Thessalonica? Can you think of a similar accusation brought by Jews against another (earlier) teacher?
2. In chapter 1 and the early part of chapter 2 of Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians, what does he commend about that church?

What does he recall about the conditions in Thessalonica when he taught there?

3. What comforting message does Paul say (early in 1 Thessalonians 3) that Timothy has brought him?
4. According to 1 Thessalonians 4 and 5, what question had become a source of anxiety to the brethren in Thessalonica?

5. What problem in the church at Corinth does Paul address in 1 Corinthians 1?

What does he emphasize in chapters 1 and 2 about his own work in Corinth?

6. What point does Paul repeatedly use as proof that Jesus is both living and the Christ? (Compare Acts 13. 30 – 37, 17. 30 – 31, and 1 Corinthians 15. 1 – 8.)
7. We will encounter Aquila and Priscilla again in the closing verses of Acts 18, and Paul mentions them in three of his epistles: in 1 Corinthians 16. 19 (sent to Corinth from Ephesus), Romans 16. 3 – 5 (sent to Rome from Ephesus), and 2 Timothy 4. 19 (addressed to Timothy in Ephesus). What should we learn from this couple?

PLACES

- On your formerly blank map of the eastern Mediterranean region, indicate the locations of Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth, and Ephesus.
- Then extend your dotted line to finish marking the route of Paul's second preaching trip (including his return from Ephesus to Caesarea and then Antioch).