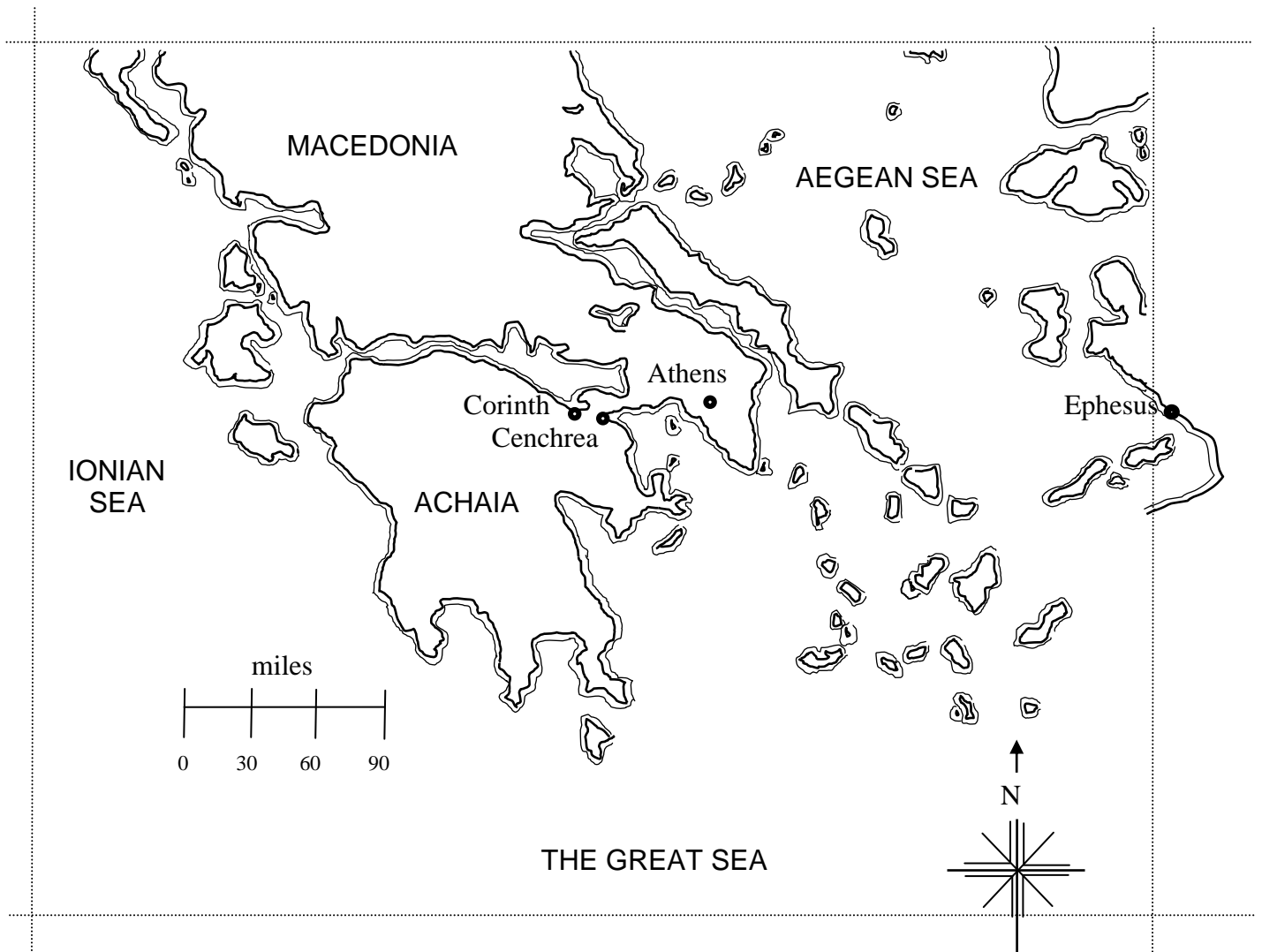


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#21, at Corinth – Acts 18:1-22

At Athens while waiting for Silas and Timothy, Paul ministered in the synagogue and the market place. After a while, even though Silas and Timothy hadn't arrived, he decided to journey to Corinth. Romans and I & II Thessalonians were probably written during his stay in Corinth.



1 After these things he left Athens and went to Corinth.

2 And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them,

[1.] v:1, and went to Corinth. **How long do you think it took Paul to walk from Athens to Corinth?**

[2.] v:2, commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. **How might the Roman soldiers have carried out Claudius' command?**

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#21, at Corinth – Acts 18:1-22

3 and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and they were working, for by trade they were tent-makers. 4 And he was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath and trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

5 But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ.

6 But when they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

Referring to the map, pg 1, notice the "Isthmus", a neck of land that connects Achaia with Macedonia. It is one of Greece's most interesting geographical features and is located near Corinth, which the poets call, "the city of the two seas". The two seas are the Ionian Sea to the West and the Aegean Sea to the East. ¹"Thus, a narrow and level isthmus, across which smaller vessels could be dragged from gulf to gulf was of inestimable value to the early traders of the Levant".

7 Then he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house was next to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized.

9 And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; 10 for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city." 11 And he settled there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

[3.] v:3, of the same trade, Just for fun, while Aquila, Priscilla and Paul worked, what might have been their topics of conversation?

[4.] v:5, the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. Why would Paul spend so much effort in this teaching?

[5.] v:6, they resisted and blasphemed, II John 7 lists two descriptions of any who do not acknowledge "Christ *as* coming in the flesh." What are the two descriptions?

[6.] v:6 again, Your blood be on your own heads! OK, so the Jews didn't believe that Christ was the "One" Israel was waiting for. What is the problem?

[7.] v:7-8, a worshiper of God, Along with Silas and Timothy, Paul has made many new Christian friends at Corinth. Why would that be of sovereign importance to him?

[8.] v:9-10, This vision is a comfort to Paul. At the same time it implies possible "storm clouds". Considering his ministry so far, what might be coming next? No fair peeking!

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#21, at Corinth – Acts 18:1-22

12 But while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat, 13 saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law."

14 But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of wrong or of vicious crime, O Jews, it would be reasonable for me to put up with you; 15 but if there are questions about words and names and your own law, look after it yourselves; I am unwilling to be a judge of these matters." 16 And he drove them away from the judgment seat.

[9.] v:12, brought him before the judgment seat, By going to the law, what were the Jews admitting?

- a) They couldn't refute Paul's message.
- b) They didn't have time for the small stuff.
- c) Rome was not their authority.

[10.] question [9.] According to I Cor 6:1-8, Why are Christians not supposed to go to the law to settle a dispute with a brother?

11.] v:12-13, worship God contrary to the law. According to Galatians 3:11-14, pick the true statement.

- a) The law is of faith.
- b) A person is saved by faith.
- c) In Christ, a person is still under the curse of the law.
- d) A person can be justified before God by the law.

[12.] question [9.], According to Romans 3:21-22, what was Paul really teaching?

[13.] v:14-17, unwilling to be a judge of these matters. Your opinion please! Was Gallio "one of those good guys" or had he gotten word of Paul and Silas being Roman citizens and wanted no part of it or was there some other reason?

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#21, at Corinth – Acts 18:1-22

17 And they all took hold of Sosthenes, the leader of the synagogue, and began beating him in front of the judgment seat. But Gallio was not concerned about any of these things.

[14.] v:17, took hold of Sosthenes, Oh man, another beating! Recall, v:7, What fact did the Jews know about Titus Justice and Crispus?

[15.] question [14.] If the Jews assumed the same about Sosthenes, how could they verify it?

[16.] As Christians, if we are really concerned about some assumption, how can we verify or not verify it?

18 Paul, having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria, and with him were Priscilla and Aquila. In Cenchrea ([map pg 1](#)) he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow.

vow, OT:5087 (*naw-dar'*); a primitive root; to promise (pos., to do or give something to God):
KJV - (make a) vow.

vow, OT:5088 (*neh'-der*); or neder (*nay'-der*); from OT:5087; a promise (to God); also (concretely) a thing promised: KJV - vow ([-ed]).

vow, NT:2171 (*yoo-khay'*); from NT:2172; properly, a wish, expressed as a petition to God, or in votive obligation (performed in fulfillment of a vow): KJV - prayer, vow.

New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance

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#21, at Corinth – Acts 18:1-22

19 They came to Ephesus, and he left them there. Now he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.

20 When they asked him to stay for a longer time, he did not consent, 21 but taking leave of them and saying, "I will return to you again if God wills," he set sail from Ephesus.

22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and went down to Antioch.

[17.] v:18, he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow. Scripture doesn't tell us what the vow was about, however in Romans 9:1-5, Paul expressed grief for the Jews in their lack of response to the gospel. Discuss the possibility that his vow was a "sign" to remind them of Jeremiah 7:27-30.

[18.] v:19, They came to Ephesus, **What body of water was crossed in order to get to Ephesus?**

[19.] v:20, he set sail from Ephesus. **Why or why don't you believe that Paul left new Christians in Ephesus.**

[20.] v:22, at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, **Off of the top of your head, jot down one fact about Caesarea.**

[21.] v:22 again, End of the second journey! **What would you assume Paul did while in Antioch**

[22.] **Something to think about! Had you accompanied Paul on this journey, how would the rest of your life be different?**

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#21, at Corinth – Acts 18:1-22

NOTES