ACTS CHAPTER 18 – 2026 Ministering at Corinth; Paul Returns to Antioch; Ministry of Apollos!

11/7/26 – Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, 714 425-9221; ptwente@gmail.com https://www.ptwente.com

ACTS 18:1-28 – Paul in Corinth

Act 18:1 After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to (very large city) ***Corinth.*** *(1Co 2:2) For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.*

Act 18:2 And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded (about 54AD) ***all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them.***

Act 18:3 So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked (together); ***for by occupation they were tentmakers.***

Act 18:4 And he reasoned (not just lecturing) ***in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks.***

Act 18:5 When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul (felt himself to be a debtor to all men to share the gospel) ***was compelled by the Spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ.***

Act 18:6 But when they (the Jews) ***opposed him and blasphemed, he shook his garments and said to them, "Your blood be upon your own heads*** *(Eze 3:18);* ***I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."***

Act 18:7 And he departed from there and entered the house of a certain man named Justus, one who worshiped God, whose house was next door to the synagogue.

Act 18:8 Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized.

Act 18:9 Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent (wonderful encouragement by the Lord);

Act 18:10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." (Many Corinthians did accept Christ during the year and a half that Paul preached there. It is significant, however, that the Lord already knew them and regarded them as His own people, even before they became believers. Although they eventually believed on Christ as a free choice by their own wills, the Lord had already prepared them to do this through their circumstances and by the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit.)

Act 18:11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Act 18:12 When Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him to the judgment (Bema) ***seat,***

Act 18:13 saying, "This fellow persuades men to worship God contrary to the law."

Act 18:14 And when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of wrongdoing or wicked crimes, O Jews, there would be reason why I should bear with you.

Act 18:15 But if it is a question of words and names and your own law (no legal case), ***look to it yourselves; for I do not want to be a judge of such matters."***

Act 18:16 And he drove them from the judgment seat.

Act 18:17 Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes *(1Cor 1:1-* our brother), ***the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. But Gallio took no notice of these things.***

Paul Returns to Antioch - ***Act 18:18 So Paul still remained a good while. Then he took leave of the brethren and sailed for Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila were with him. He had his hair cut off at Cenchrea, for he had taken a*** (Nazirite – full commitment) ***vow.***

Act 18:19 And he came to Ephesus (along with Corinth, both large cities), ***and left them there; but he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.***
Act 18:20 When they asked him to stay a longer time with them, he did not consent,
Act 18:21 but took leave of them, saying, "I must by all means keep this coming feast (reason for Paul's vow?) ***in Jerusalem; but I will return again to you, God willing*** (always should be our criteria)." ***And he sailed from Ephesus.***
Act 18:22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up and greeted the church, he went down (from Jerusalem) ***to Antioch.***
Act 18:23 After he had spent some time there (Paul's home church), ***he departed and went over the region of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples*** (revisiting the churches of Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra and Derbe).

Apollos Speaks Boldly in Ephesus - ***Act 18:24 Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus.***
Act 18:25 This man had been instructed (mighty in the scriptures) ***in the way*** (the Christians) ***of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John*** (repentance from sin).
Act 18:26 So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside (great example for us) ***and explained to him the way of God more accurately*** (he did not really know about walking in the Spirit).
Act 18:27 And when he desired to cross to Achaia (Corinth)***, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace;***
Act 18:28 for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures (Old Testament) ***that Jesus is the Christ.***

SUMMARY:
***Chapter 18* – Luke's underlying theme in chapters 18 and 19 involve the spreading of the gospel in three major cities of the Graeco-Roman world, all of them in being centers of learning, trade and religion. Luke understands their significance for the spreading of the gospel. Having portrayed the apostle Paul among the philosophers in Athens, he now describes his visits to Corinth and to Ephesus. These visits followed a similar pattern, namely the evangelization of Jaws, their opposition to the gospel, Paul's deliberate turn to the Gentiles, and the multiple vindication of his dramatic decision.**

PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE – ***(1Ti 2:1-3) Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, [2] for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. [3] For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.***

AMAZING GRACE – *Newton – sung by Judy Collins (2:32)*
1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now I'm found; Was blind, but now I see.
2. Through many dangers, toils and snares, we have already come;
Was grace has brought us safe thus far, And grace will lead us home.
3. When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.