

Acts 18:1-18

Paul's arrival in Corinth—18:1-4

- 1) He arrives from Athens (means “uncertainty”)—18:1
 - a) Approximately 50 mile trip to the west
- 2) He joins with Aquila and Priscilla—18:2-3
 - a) The reason for their arrival in Corinth—18:2 (expelled from Rome in 49 AD)
 - b) Their occupation—18:3 (cf. 1st Corinthians 4:12)
 - i) Perhaps making awnings for the shopkeepers in the business district of town
- 3) He ministers in the synagogue—18:4 (some resistance)
 - a) Reasoning—formal presentation of differing arguments (διαλέγομαι *dialegomai* # 1256)
 - b) Persuading—attempting to convince one to believe (πείθω *peitho* # 3982)

Paul's initial ministry in Corinth—18:5-11

- 1) One benefit of team ministry—18:5a
 - a) Silas and Timothy brought a financial gift from Macedonia (cf. 2nd Corinthians 11:8-9; Philippians 4:15)
 - b) It allowed Paul to become absorbed in the ministry of the Word
 - c) Paul wrote 1st and 2nd Thessalonians shortly after their arrival
- 2) A Jewish-oriented ministry—18:5b-6
 - a) His attempt—18:5b
 - b) Their response and Paul's response to them—18:6 (cf. Acts 13:51; Joshua 2:19)
- 3) A Gentile-oriented ministry—18:7-8
- 4) A vision from the ascended Christ—18:9-10 (preparation for intense opposition)
 - a) The three commands—18:9
 - b) The three promises—18:10
- 5) The length and nature of his ministry—18:11

Persecution arise—18:12-17

- 1) Jewish opposition—18:12-13 (note the singular God)
 - a) Gallio was the Roman ruler @ 52 AD
- 2) The Roman ruler responds—18:14-16 (separates religious and civil matters)
 - a) Remember Jesus' words to Paul in 18:9-10
- 3) Vigilante Gentile opposition and official Roman indifference—18:17

Paul's final period of ministry and his departure—18:18

- 1) An indefinite length of ministry
- 2) His intended destination seems to be Antioch of Syria (cf. Acts 15:35, 40)
- 3) His travel companions
- 4) His stop in Cenchrea, the eastern port for Corinth (6-7 miles east of Corinth)
 - a) Fulfilled a vow; perhaps a Nazirite vow of dedication (cf. Numbers 6)
 - b) This was the home of Phoebe and also another congregation (cf. Romans 16:1)