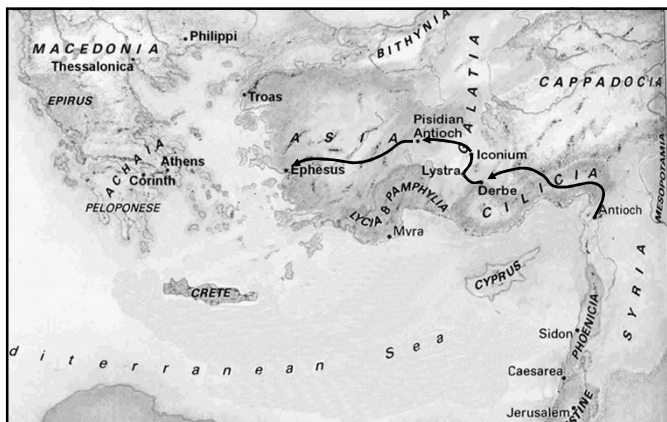
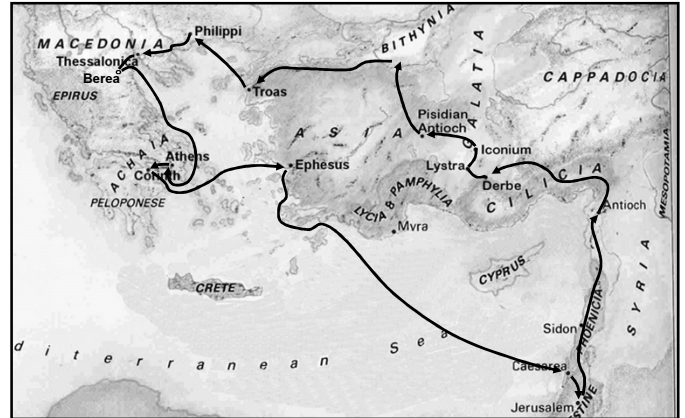


* ACTS

The Continuing Work of Jesus



* Acts 18:24-19:7

An Open Door in Ephesus

Ministry at Ephesus

²⁴ Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. ²⁵ This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; ²⁶ and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. ² He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." ³ And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴ Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were in all about twelve men.

(Acts 18:24-19:7)

Mission in Ephesus

1. Incompleteness of Apollos
 - a Jewish believer in Jesus who was not aware of “Christian” baptism
 - he needed to understand baptism in light of Jesus’ advent – signifying the receiving of the benefits of Jesus’ saving work

Mission in Ephesus

2. Incompleteness of some “disciples”
 - these men were baptized with John’s baptism but had missed the purpose of this baptism
 - they responded by faith in Jesus signified by baptism and they received the Holy Spirit

Mission in Ephesus

- *Significance*
- 1) Jesus is the promised Messiah that John announced – believe on Him!
 - 2) The promised outpouring of the Holy Spirit continues – connected to “Pentecost”

Faithful Fellow Workers

1. Apollos
 - mighty in the Scriptures
 - fervent in Spirit
 - teachable and submissive
 - willing to go where needed

Faithful Fellow Workers

2. Priscilla & Aquila
 - they served together as a married couple
 - their job was secondary to ministry
 - they served faithfully where needed
 - discipleship (Acts 18:26)
 - hospitality (1 Cor. 16:19)
 - sacrificial support (Rom. 16:3-4)

Faithful Fellow Workers

2. Priscilla & Aquila

“Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who for my life risked their own necks, to whom not only do I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles; also greet the church that is in their house”

(Romans 16:3-5)