

Bereans Bible Institute
Module VII – The Apostolic Mission
Lesson 25 – The Ministry of the 12th Apostle – Paul (Part 12)

I. Acts 18:1-17 Paul at Corinth

- A. Vss. 1-3 Paul stayed with a Jewish Christian, Aquila (& wife Priscilla)
1. Aquila was a Jew born in Pontus (north-east Turkey)
 2. He had recently come from Rome
 3. Claudius had expelled all Jews from Rome (Christians included)
 - a. The Roman historian Suetonius states that Claudius expelled all the Jews from Rome in AD49 *“because they were constantly rioting at the instigation of Chrestus.”*
(*Divus Claudius 25*)
 - b. Jews were allowed to return to Rome in AD 54 when Nero became emperor.
 - c. There were 13 synagogues in Rome, some embraced Christ, others did not.
 - d. The synagogues that opposed Christ created riots and persecution of Christians.
 4. Aquila & Priscilla later returned to Rome, and hosted one of the Roman congregations in their home (**Rom. 16:3-5**).
 5. Aquila was among the Jewish “visitors from Rome” who were in Jerusalem for Pentecost (**Acts 2:10**).
 6. Aquila (and others like him present at Pentecost) likely brought the message of Christ back to the Roman synagogues, starting the controversy in Rome.
- B. Vss. 4-6 Paul reasoned in the synagogue.
1. When Timothy and Silas arrived, Paul was compelled by the Breath of God to be more direct that ‘Jesus is the Christ.’
 2. Paul expelled from the synagogue.
- C. Vss. 7-11 Paul taught next-door to the synagogue in the house of Justus
1. Crispus (ruler of the synagogue) believed & his household (Paul himself baptized him – **1 Cor. 1:14**)
 2. Many others believed
 3. Jesus spoke to Paul in a vision.
 4. Paul continued teaching there for 18 months.
 5. **1 Cor. 1:1-8 & 2:1-5** – Paul’s preaching and teaching was accompanied by the distribution of spiritual gifts through his hands.
- D. Vss. 12-17 The Jews’ failed attempt to accuse Paul. Instead the mob attacked Sosthenes, new ruler of the synagogue.

II. Paul leaves Corinth.

- A. He took Aquilla & Priscilla with him
- B. Paul arrives at Ephesus (Turkey)
1. Paul reasoned in the synagogue
 2. Paul left Aquila and Priscilla in Ephesus to help establish a congregation there.
 3. The Jews of the synagogue wanted Paul to stay longer.
 4. Paul wanted to attend the upcoming festival in Jerusalem
 5. (Vs. 22) Paul sailed for Caesarea, went up to Jerusalem and ‘greeted the church’
 - a. Evidently Paul’s intent was to celebrate the Feast with the Jerusalem church.
 6. Paul returns back to his home congregation in Antioch. (END of 2nd Missionary Journey)