

The Life of Paul

Early Life:

1. He was an _____ from the tribe of Benjamin (Romans 11:1, Philippians 3:5)
2. He was a _____ who was trained under Gamaliel (Philippians 3:5, Acts 22:3)
3. He was a _____ of Christians
4. He claimed to be a _____ citizen (Acts 22:25-29)

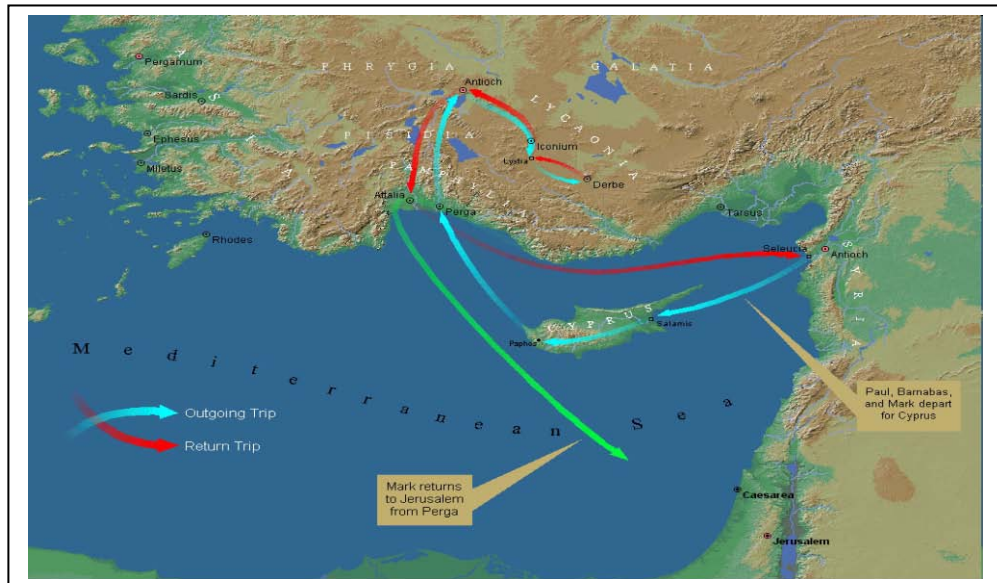
His New Life

1. In spite of all of his “religious training” – he wasn’t a “righteous man” (Romans 3:10, Romans 3:23)
2. Later (after his conversion) he recognized that he was actually “**chief among sinners**”. (I Timothy 1:15)
3. Everything changed for Paul when he met Christ on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:4-31, **Acts 22:1-16**)

Early Years in Ministry:

1. After spending about 3 years (37-40 AD) in Damascus (Gal. 1:17-18, Acts 9:22-23) he will meet up with Barnabas, Peter, and James in Jerusalem.
2. Things are a little testy at first, but Barnabas will persuade the believers that Paul is now one of them. (Acts 9:26-31, Galatians 1:18-19)
3. Paul and Barnabas will then travel to Antioch in Syria and remain there for about 1 year. (Acts 11:26-28)
 - *It is here that the disciples were first called* _____
 - The church was growing rapidly and numerically which was good but it also caught the eye of the Jewish religious leaders.
 - It was during this period (41-44 AD) that James (brother of the Apostle John) was martyred by Herod Agrippa I (Acts 12:2)

Paul's First Missionary Journey (45-47 AD)



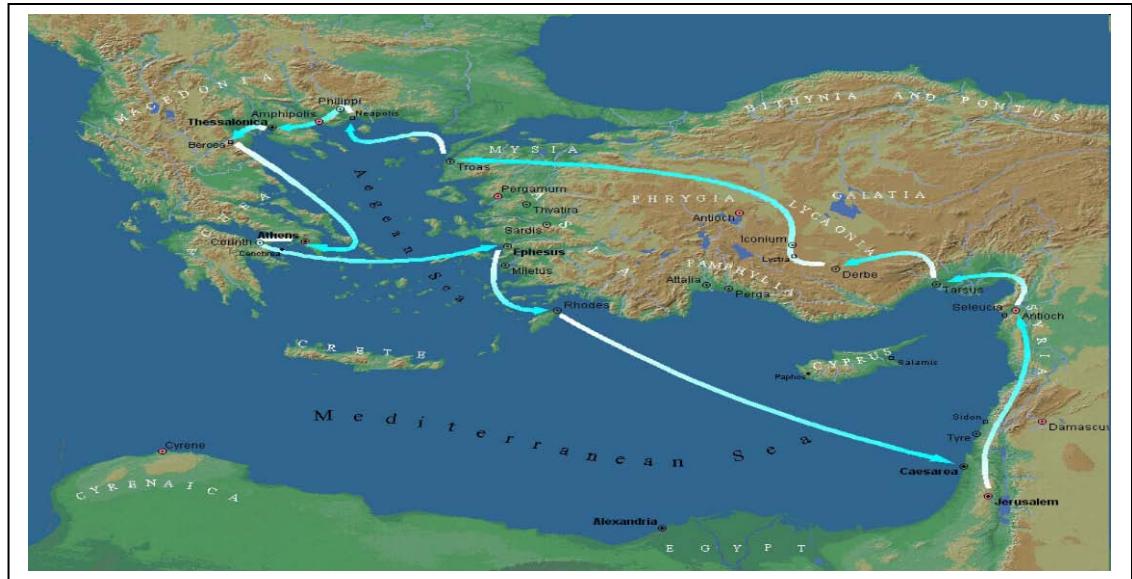
1. Paul, Barnabas, & Mark leave Antioch (Acts 13:4) and sail to Cyprus (an island about 100 miles off the coast of Syria)

2. While on Cyprus they will travel from Salamis to Paphos where Paul will meet up with a Jewish sorcerer named Bar Jesus. (Acts 13:4-6)
3. Three very significant things transpire from Paul's encounter with Bar-Jesus aka Elymas (Acts 13)
 - Many _____ will come to faith in Christ including a Gentile named of Sergius Paulus
 - The _____ by the Jewish religious leaders and the clear _____ between them and the Christians
 - Paul's _____ role will begin to take shape
4. They (Paul, John-Mark, Barnabas) will leave Paphos and sail to Perga in Pamphylia (Present day southern Turkey)
5. Upon arriving in Perga Mark will depart back to Jerusalem
6. ***The ministry of Paul and Barnabas will begin to turn toward the _____ while at Antioch in Pisidia (Acts 13:46)***
7. They will travel through the cities of Iconium, Lystra (where Paul will be stoned with rocks – thought to be dead but lives; Acts 14:19), then to Derbe, and back to Lystra, Iconium, and to Antioch in Pisidia.
8. They will finally return to Antioch in Syria (Acts 14:24-26)

In between the First and Second Missionary Journeys

1. Paul and Barnabas will meet with the Christian Council in Jerusalem (Acts 15:2, Galatians 2:1-9)
2. Judas and Silas will connect with Paul and Barnabas in Antioch (Syria) (Acts 15:35-36). The purpose of their meeting was to deliver a letter to the Gentile believers outlining how the Gentiles should conduct themselves by ceasing to live as pagans.

Paul's Second Missionary Journey (51-53 AD)

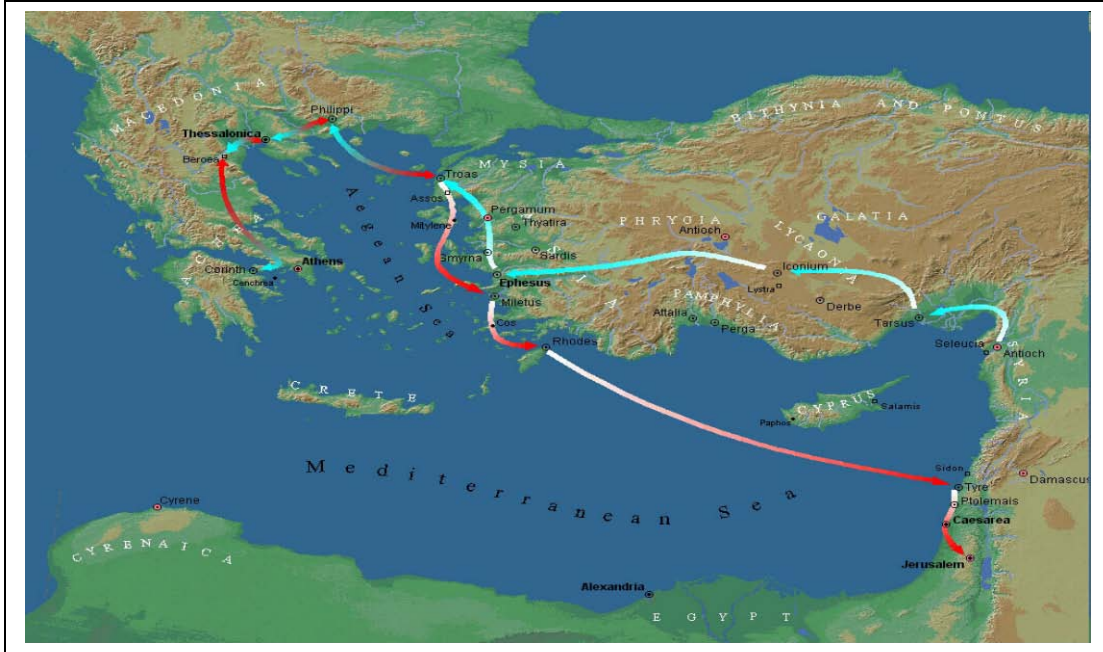


1. This second journey probably begins in the spring of 51 AD with Paul and Silas traveling through Syria & Cilicia (Modern day southeastern Turkey)
2. They (Paul & Silas) will hook up with Timothy and travel through the region of Phrygia and Galatia (Central Turkey)
3. Paul wanted to travel from there into Asia but he didn't receive such direction from the Holy Spirit (Acts 16:6)
4. Instead of going into Asia they will travel to Troas, then to Neapolis. They will then receive a vision that encourages them to take the Gospel to _____. (Acts 16:9-11)
5. It is because of this obedience to go to Macedonia that Paul will minister to two very important individuals while in the town of Philippi (Acts 16:14-34)

- _____
- _____

6. After leaving Philippi Paul will travel to Thessalonica after passing through Amphipolis and Appolonia.
 - He will teach for about 3 weeks while in Thessalonica
 - He will also do some teaching in the region of Berea
7. Paul will then leave (ahead of Timothy & Silas) and travel toward Achaia (southern Greece) and then to Athens where he will spend the winter there; 51-52 AD (Acts 17:14-15)
8. Paul will then visit _____ for the first time and will remain there for about a year and a half (Acts 18:5). This would fall in the spring of 52 AD to the fall of 53 AD.
 - While there; he will meet up with Aquila and Priscilla who came there from Rome because of the persecution of the Jews by Claudius Caesar.
 - Silas and Timothy will rejoin Paul at this time
 - While there Paul accomplishes the following:
 - 1) He will write his first letter to the _____ in about 52 AD. (I Thessalonians 3:1-2, 6)
 - 2) He will also write _____
 - 3) **Paul will experience a number of challenges due to the influence of the pagan culture of Corinth. This will require continued teaching on spiritual matters and much patience.**
9. The Second journey ends with Paul, Aquila & Priscilla leaving by boat across the Aegean Sea and sailing to Ephesus, meeting up with Apollos (Acts 18:19, 26), and sailing to Caesarea and finally on to Antioch in Syria where he will spend the winter of 53-54 AD. (Acts 18:23)

Paul's Third Missionary Journey (54-58 AD)



1. The journey begins from Galatia (Central Turkey) in the spring of 54 AD and then on to Phrygia (Acts 18:23)
2. The next major stop will be _____ where he will stay for about 3 years (Fall of 54 AD to the fall of 57 AD)
 - He will meet up with some of the disciples of John the Baptist where he will lay hands on them to receive the Holy Spirit. (Acts 19:1-7)
 - He will preach in the Jewish Synagogue with great boldness and did so without too much problem for about 3 months
 - Eventually he meets too much opposition from the Jewish leaders and Paul will then leave the Synagogue (along with the other believers) to teach in the School of Tyrannus where he will debate with other Greek teachers, philosophers and students on a daily basis.

3. Other notable events in Ephesus:
- The Scriptures tell us that; “***all who lived in _____ heard the Word of the Lord, both Jew and Greek***” (Acts 19:10)
 - It is believed that he wrote the **first letter to the _____** toward the end of his stay in Ephesus – probably 57 AD (I Corinthians 16:8, 19)
 - Paul’s work while in Asia was so effective that on the west coast of what we know of as modern day Turkey; **the churches at Colosse, Laodicea, and Hierapolis were founded.** (Colossians 4:13)
3. After some significant disturbances, riots, and other miscellaneous trouble in the region of Asia Minor; Paul will set out for Macedonia with a seemingly strong desire to visit Rome and even Spain after first returning to Jerusalem. (Romans 1:15, Romans 15:22-24)
4. Paul’s reason for wanting to go to Macedonia and Achaia was to affirm them in their faith and to take an offering for the saints in Jerusalem. This offering seemed to bridge the gap that existed between Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians and showed a mutual love and appreciation for the efforts of those who continued to preach and teach the Gospel and to aid in helping the poor.
5. On his way to Macedonia Paul will stop in Troas (II Cor. 2:12-13, 7:5-7) for some evangelistic opportunities and to meet up with Titus to receive a report on how things were going in Corinth.
6. It is believed that he wrote his **second letter to the _____** somewhere in northern Greece (most likely Philippi) in the fall of 57 AD.

7. After going to Macedonia (northern Greece) Paul will go to Achaia (southern Greece) where he will stay for about three months and make his third visit to Corinth. (The Lord knows they needed it!!!)
 - He will spend the winter there (57-58 AD) and write his **letter to the _____**. (I Corinthians 16:1-3, Romans 15:22-26)
 - He will continue on his journey through Macedonia (Acts 20:1) and then on to Philippi in the spring of 58 AD (Acts 20:6), and then back to Troas.
8. The next significant visit is to Miletus (southwestern Turkey) where he will summon the Ephesian Elders and address them on the pending dangers that await the church at large. (**Acts 20:17-38**)
9. He will then travel to Coos, Rhodes, Patara and on to Tyre (modern day Lebanon) and remain there one week, and then Ptolemais and Caesarea where he stays many days. (Acts 21:10)
10. The third journey ends with Paul going to Jerusalem in 58 AD.
11. It is believed (by most conservative scholars) that Paul wrote his letter to the _____ sometime during his third missionary journey; probably while he was in Ephesus (perhaps between 55-57 AD) since he was there for a long stay.

Paul's Final Years

1. After his third missionary journey Paul will return to Jerusalem
 - Somewhat against the advice of his friends (Acts 21:4)
 - His primary purpose in going to Jerusalem was to take the offering to them that he had collected from the Gentiles during his 3rd journey. (Acts 24:17, Romans 15:25-27, Ephesians 2:11-22, 3:6)

- While in Jerusalem he met up with a group of Jews who were complaining that Paul was teaching the Gentiles to forsake the Mosaic Law. (Acts 21:27-40)
- Acts 22 shows Paul's defense against the accusations but it only infuriated those who were against him.
- It was during this defense that Paul was seized and about to be scourged/whipped when he challenged whether he being a Roman citizen could be scourged by the Centurion? (Acts 22:24-29)
- Paul's life was spared for a season as the Lord had more for him to do!
- First Paul appears before the Jewish council (The Sanhedrin) Acts 23-24:1
- Next Paul appears before the Governor of the province whose name was Felix (Acts 24)
- About two years later Paul will appear before Festus (Acts 25:1-12), which would have been approx. 60 AD.
- While defending himself before Festus - Paul will appeal to Caesar.
- Next Paul defends himself before King Agrippa (great grandson to Herod the Great)
 - 1) Paul will give a powerful testimony of his life and how it changed the day he met Christ on the Damascus Road
 - 2) It will be Agrippa who says to Paul; "You almost persuade me to be a _____" Acts 26:28 (NKJV)

Paul's Years in Rome

1. Paul will initially spend 2 years under house arrest while in Rome. (61-63 AD)
2. While under house arrest he will write what are commonly called the prison Epistles
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
3. Paul's post imprisonment years (after his release from house arrest):
 - He will travel some more and write his Epistle (Letter) to _____ and _____ letters to _____.
 - Some conclude that he wrote Hebrews during this time but there just is not enough evidence to support this claim
 - Although Acts does not record these travels we can piece together some of the places that Paul visits (Colosse, Corinth, Troas, Crete, Ephesus etc) by reading the various Epistles.
4. At some point he returned to prison and awaited what would be his eventual death. (II Timothy 4:6-8)
 - In spite of this impending death sentence Paul still encouraged young Timothy to come visit him and bring some of his most cherished items. (II Timothy 4:9, 21)
 - It is believed that Paul was martyred in 67 AD while in Rome by order of Emperor _____.

Concluding Remarks

1. We should be very thankful for Paul as he wrote a great deal of our New Testament!
2. Paul was responsible for mentoring thousands of believers that blazed a trail of faith that continues today!
3. What legacy of faith are you leaving?