

Acts 17: 18-34

ACTS 18: 1-22

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7. What did some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers say concerning Paul?

Acts 17: 18-21

18 And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. Some were saying, “What would this idle babbler wish to say?” Others, “He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.

19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is which you are proclaiming?”

20 “For you are bringing some strange things to our ears; so we want to know what these things mean.”

21 (Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new.)

8. How did Paul address the “Men of Athens” at the Areopagus?

Acts 17: 22-23

22 So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects.

23 “For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, ‘TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.’ Therefore, what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.

9. Detail the sermon on Mars Hill.

Acts 17: 24-31

- 24** “The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;
- 25** nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all *people* life and breath and all things;
- 26** and He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,
- 27** that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;
- 28** for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His children.’

9. Detail the sermon on Mars Hill.

Acts 17: 25-31 cont.

29 “Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

30 “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent,

31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”

9. Detail the sermon on Mars Hill.

- A. God is the Creator (Acts 17: 24).
- B. God is the Sustainer of life (Acts 17: 25).
- C. God is the Ruler of the nations (Acts 17: 26).
- D. God is knowable (Acts 17: 27).
- E. God is the Father of humanity (Acts 17: 28–29).
- F. God is both Judge and Rescuer (Acts 17: 30–31).

10. How did Paul's audience respond to his sermon on Mars Hill?

Acts 17: 32-34

32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, "We shall hear you again concerning this."

33 So Paul went out of their midst.

34 But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

11. Could you put yourself in Paul's shoes and elaborate on your response?

Paul's example teaches us to be ready to defend and to be prepared to proclaim the Gospel to those who need salvation.

1 Peter 3: 15

15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

Chapter 18: 1-22

Context

1. Tent Making (18: 1-4)

- a. Paul's co-workers (18: 1-3)
- b. Paul's work ethic (18: 3-4)

2. Full-Time Ministry (18: 5-8)

- a. Support (18: 5)
- b. Opposition (18: 6)
- c. Fruitfulness (18: 7-8)

Context

3. Weakness and Fear (18: 9-10)

a. The Lord's Gentle Rebuke (18: 9a)

b. The Lord's Strong Mandate (18: 9b)

c. The Lord's Sovereign Promises (18: 10)

4. Long-Term Discipleship (18: 11-17)

5. Paul returns to Antioch in Syria (18:18-22)

Temple of Apollo



1. Who did Paul find at Corinth and what was their trade?

Acts 18: 1-4

1 After these things he left Athens and went to Corinth.

2 And he found a Jew named **Aquila**, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife **Priscilla**, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them, 3 and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and they were working, for by trade they were **tent-makers**.

4 And he was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath and trying to persuade Jews and Greeks **14**.

2. What did Paul do when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia and what was the result?

Acts 18: 5-8

5 But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul *began* devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ.

6 But when they resisted and blasphemed, **he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."**

7 Then he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house was next to the synagogue.

8 Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized.

3. What did the Lord say to Paul in a vision?

Acts 18: 9-10

9 And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, “Do not be afraid *any longer*, but go on speaking and do not be silent;
10 for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city.”

4. How long did Paul stay in Corinth?

Acts 18: 11

11 And he settled *there* a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

18 months

5. What did the Jews charge Paul with before Gallio, the proconsul of Achaia?

Acts 18: 12-13

12 But while **Gallio** was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat,

13 saying, “**This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law.**”

6. How did Gallio respond to these charges?

Acts 18: 14-16

14 But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of wrong or of vicious crime, O Jews, it would be reasonable for me to put up with you;

15 but if there are questions about words and names and your own law, look after it yourselves; I am unwilling to be a judge of these matters.”

16 And he drove them away from the judgment seat.

7. Why did they attack Sosthenes?

Acts 18: 17

17 And they all took hold of Sosthenes, the leader of the synagogue, and began beating him in front of the judgment seat. But Gallio was not concerned about any of these things.

Ephesus



8. Who accompanied Paul to Ephesus?

Acts 18: 18-19

18 Paul, having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria, and with him were **Priscilla and Aquila**. In Cenchrea he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow.

19 They came to **Ephesus**, and **he left them there**. Now **he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.**

9. Why did Paul cut his visit short in Ephesus?

Acts 18: 20-22

20 When they asked him to stay for a longer time, he did not consent,

21 but taking leave of them and saying, “I will return to you again if God wills,” he set sail from Ephesus.

22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and went down to Antioch.

What can we learn from Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey?

1. We see that God can bring good results even out of a "sharp disagreement" (Acts 15: 39); Barnabas and Paul split up and went different directions, meaning the gospel was shared in new places.
2. Paul chose to have Timothy circumcised in Lystra even though circumcision is not a requirement for salvation.
 - 2a. Through that act, Paul exemplifies to us the importance of showing consideration to the community with whom we are trying to share the gospel.

What can we learn from Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey?

3. Paul, Silas, and Timothy finally listened to the Holy Spirit and only went where He allowed, setting an example for us to be dependent on God's direction in our lives.

4. Lydia played a vital role in growing the church in the cities in which she lived, showing that God values women and desires to have them help in growing His kingdom.

What can we learn from Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey?

5. The jailer and his household heard the Gospel message and believed.

6. Paul proclaimed the Gospel in the cities he visited. There were Jews who did not want to hear the message and wanted to discredit Paul.

7. Even when Paul was alone in Athens, he boldly preached the Gospel to the Athenians.