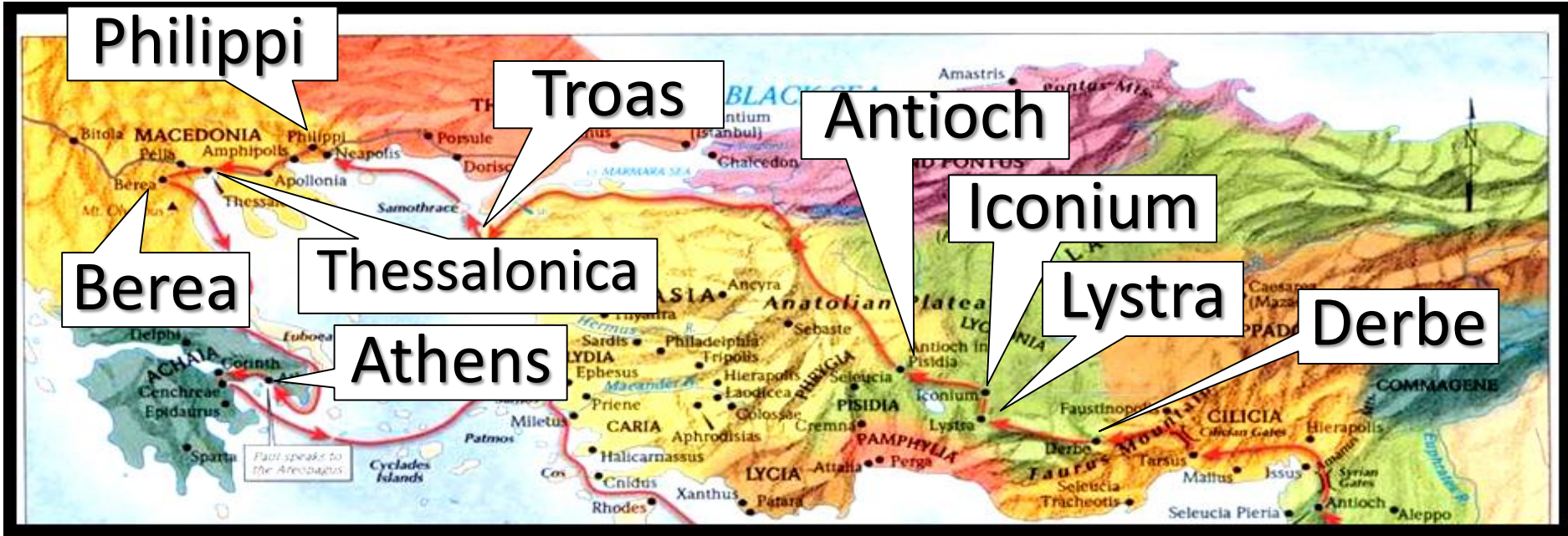


**Acts 17:1-9**  
**2nd Journey**  
**Thessalonica**



**The Egnatian Way was the main land route across northern Greece. Paul would follow this road from Neapolis to Philippi and Thessalonica.**

# Quizz Regarding the 2nd Journey ~ chap 16

1. At least how far had Timothy's reputation spread? v.2
2. What were they delivering to the churches? v.4
3. Why did Paul choose Philippi as a destination? v.9
4. Who was the first convert in Europe? v.14-15
5. Where were they going as met the slave girl? v.16
6. How long was this girl following Paul & speaking? v.18
7. What caused Paul & Silas to be beaten & imprisoned? v.19
8. What caused the jailer to ask about salvation? v.30
9. What was the attitude of the officials learning of Paul's citizenship? v.38

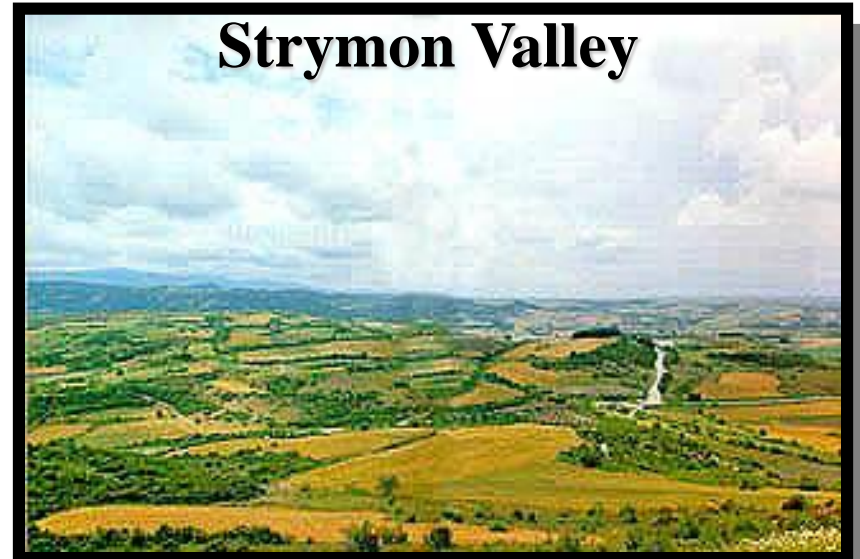
# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:1 Now when THEY had traveled through Amphipolis ... “city on both sides”

Strymon River



Strymon Valley

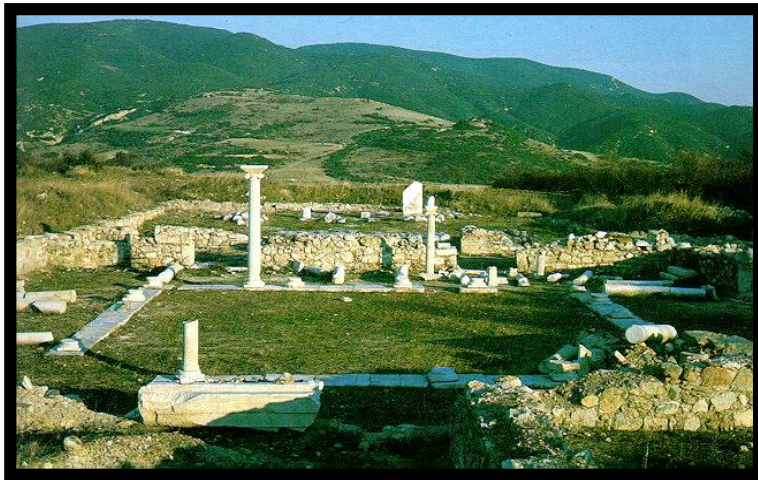


AMPHIPOLIS, a city of Macedonia. It was 33 miles from Philippi. It was situated along the Egnatian Way, on the left bank of the river Strymon by which it was nearly surrounded.

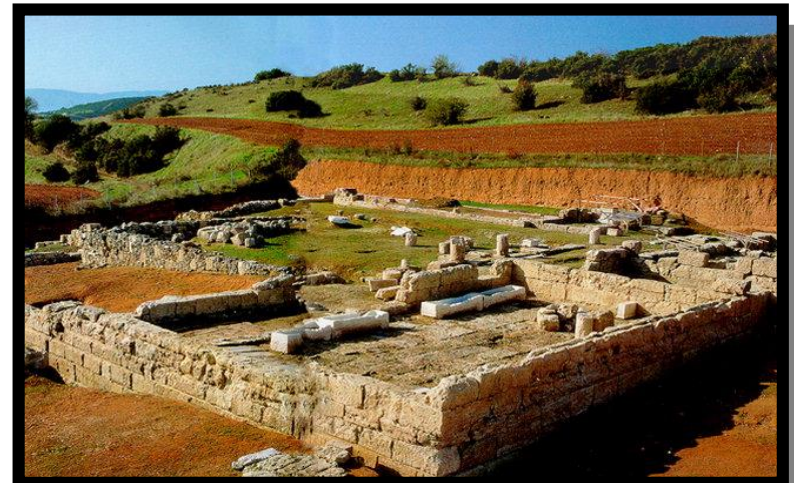
# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:1 THEY had traveled through Amphipolis ...

Amphipolis Acropolis



Amphipolis Gymnasium



Athenian colony of strategic importance, near the fruitful Strymon valley. It was founded in 437 BC. Amphipolis broke away from its mother city, Athens, & remained independent until 357 BC. later conquered by Rome (168 BC).

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:1 And Apollonia--



Apollonia, a Macedonian city about 30 miles from Amphipolis



It was situated on the Egnatian Way 30 miles from Thessalonica

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)



***Egnatian Way*** ran the breadth of Macedonia and Thrace to Black Sea, ca 500 miles.

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:1 THEY came to Thessalonica ... *Where is Luke ?*

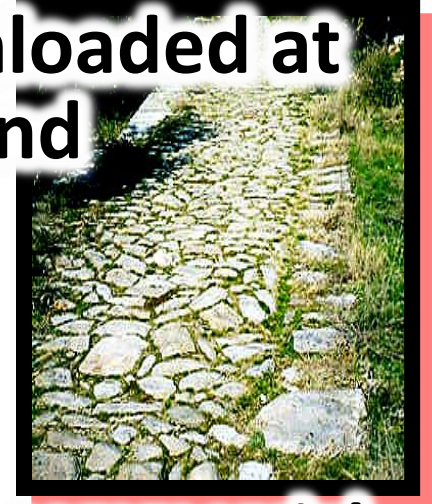
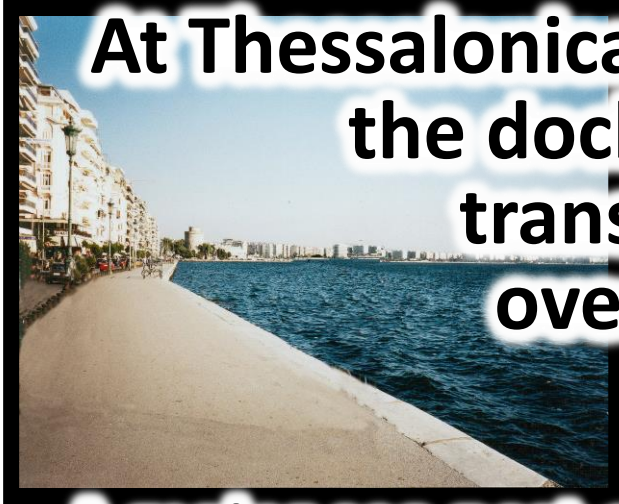


Possessing a fine harbor, and being on the Egnatian Way, the city became a strategic Roman naval station, and along with those in Corinth & Ephesus the Roman navy was able to control the Aegean Sea, the all important travel & trade route between east and west.



# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

At Thessalonica a ship's cargo was unloaded at the docks, put into wagons, and transported *East* to Rome over the *Egnatian Way*.

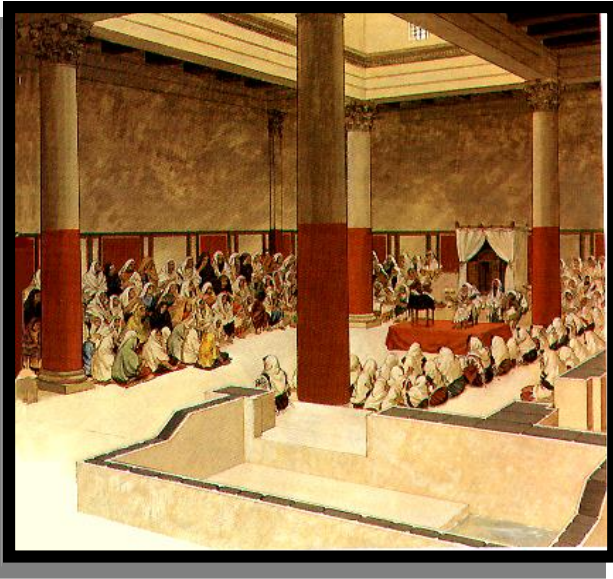


A major sea port of the Roman Empire & a commercial center of great importance. Rather than risk the dangers of sailing through the storms & rough seas around the southern coast of Greece, most cargoes being shipped by boat from east to west were brought either to Thessalonica in the north or to Corinth in the south.

Estimates of travel was 30 miles a day for the postal system on fresh horses or 5-6 miles on foot for most people.

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:1 THEY came to Thessalonica where there was a *synagogue of the Jews*..



Being the (1) capital city of the area; (2) a major military station (3) and a commercial center, Thessalonica was host to people from all over the Roman Empire: Roman officials, soldiers, sailors, shippers, merchants, travelers & visitors, plus Gentiles in great numbers as well as Jews.

This was the type of city Paul sought for a prolonged period for preaching the gospel.

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:2 According to Paul's custom..

Start with the Jews first (Acts 13:14; 14:1)

17:2-3 Reasoned from the scriptures

- Explaining & giving evidence
- Christ had to *suffer & rise again*



(Isa 53:2-10) Christ would be: Despised and be forsaken, Die with the wicked, He will see his offspring and prolong his days.

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

v. 4 Some were persuaded and joined Paul & Silas, along with a great multitude of God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women.

Paul asked nothing of them working with his own hands night & day. (1 Thess 2:9)


- **Some Jews** – *But not the majority*
- **God-fearing Greeks** – *Half-proselytes, they worshipped God, renounced idols & attended the synagogue, but not circumcised. Rabbis called them proselytes of the gate. Barnes*

12 • **Leading women:** *female proselytes of distinction*

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:5 Jews becoming jealous taking some of the wicked men from the market place..

- Upset – their synagogue just got decimated !
- But their charge was **deliberately misleading!**



v.6 These men who have upset the world have come here also. They cause mob violence.

v.7 They all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar saying that there is another king, Jesus.

This would be a **HUGE PROBLEM** for the city.  
Rome will not tolerate treason & social disorder

# Paul in Thessalonica (Acts 17 : 1-9)

17:6 Formed a mob and set the city in an uproar

But the Jews caused the uproar & blamed it on Paul ! v.7

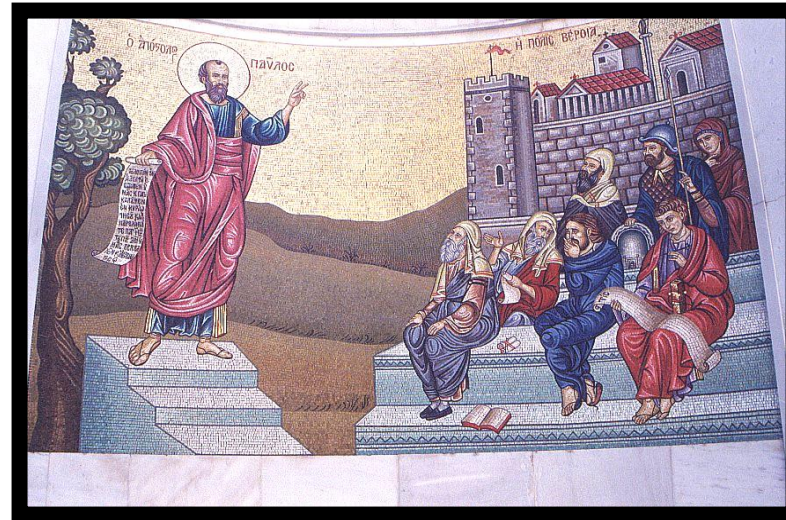
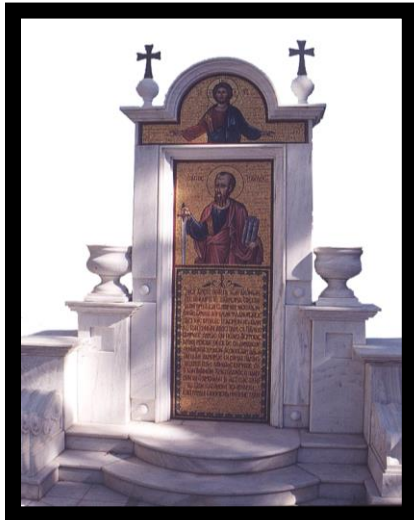
17:6 They began dragging Jason & some of the brethren before the civil authorities.

- Jason welcomed them (v. 7)  
*ie. into his house*
- Received a pledge from Jason & the others (v.9) *a bond which would be forfeited in case of further trouble*



# Paul in Berea (Acts 17 : 10-15)

17:10 Immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea.. and when they arrived they went into a synagogue of the Jews



50 mi SW of  
Thessalonica

Ancient Berean synagogue foundation where modern mosaics have been placed in honor of the visit by Paul