

This was home to the great *Isthmian festival*, which athletes & delegates from the *whole Greek-speaking world attended*. Trainers, directors, and the athletes, prior to the contest had to swear *on the Altar of Poseidon* that they would perform their offices according to the rules and *would use no unlawful means to obtain victory*.

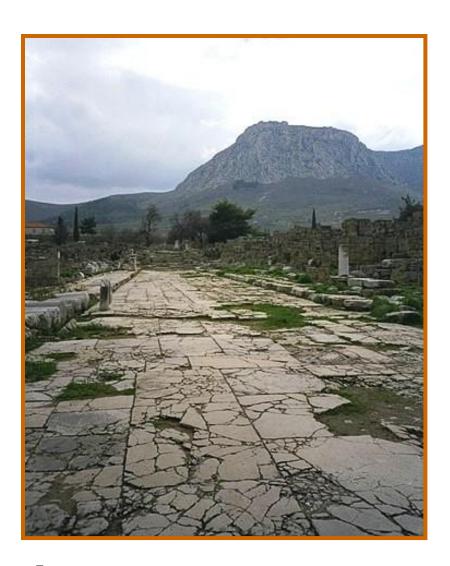
The Corinthian canal is only four miles in length— & joins

the Adriatic and Aegean Seas.

It was completed between 1882 and 1893. Nero attempted the building of a canal in this place but his efforts met with failure.

Poseidon, chief god of the Isthmus, was ruler of the sea & earthquakes. The Isthmus, has more earthquakes than any other part of the Greek peninsula. The worship of Poseidon goes back to the eighth century B.C





Paul traveled from Athens to Corinth & stayed with Aquila and Priscilla. (18:1)

At Corinth Paul made his living by making *Tents*. (Acts 18:3)

Here, Paul wrote the Letter of <u>1 Thessalonians</u> to the Christians at Thessalonica. (See Acts 18:5)

18:1 After these things he left Athens...

After minimal success with intellectuals (17:34)

and went to Corinth...

Roman colony, known for wealth, luxury, immorality.

It also had a large Jewish population



18:2 <u>He found a Jew named Aquila</u>.. Recently come from Italy with his wife <u>Priscilla</u>

Paul formed a *friendship* with this couple that lasted the rest of his life (Rom 16:3-4) AD 57-58.

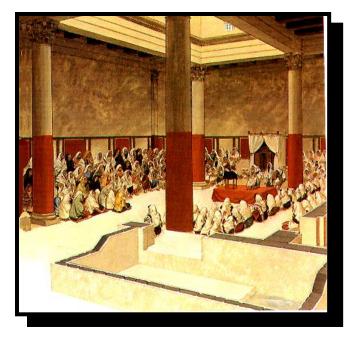
18:3 Because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them .. they were tentmakers



Not Christians yet or it would have been mentioned.

18:4 He was reasoning in the Synagogue every Sabbath.. trying to persuade Jews & Greeks

(Acts 17:1-2) According to Paul's custom ...



Paul was an apostle, not a Sabbatarian.

- Paul was by birth, a Jew. (Acts 22:3)
- He was sent by Christ to Jews & Greeks (Acts 9:15)
- He showed the suffering Messiah was Jesus (18:5b)
- It gave him an immediate audience & church core.

CORINTH was the keeper of the temple of **VENUS**, the Goddess of sexual love.

Some prostitutes would engrave on the soles of their sandals "FOLLOW ME"

If a young girl went bad, she was said to have: "CORINTHIZIED"

Having little success in the Intellectual Capital he went to the Political & Commercial Capital, THE CITY OF IMMORALITY.

18:5 But when Silas and Timothy came down from

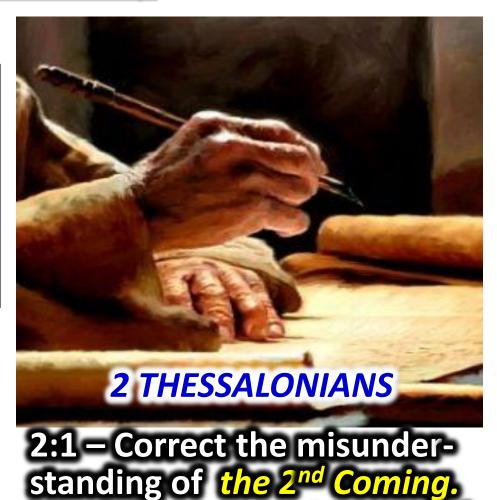
Macedonia

Here Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians

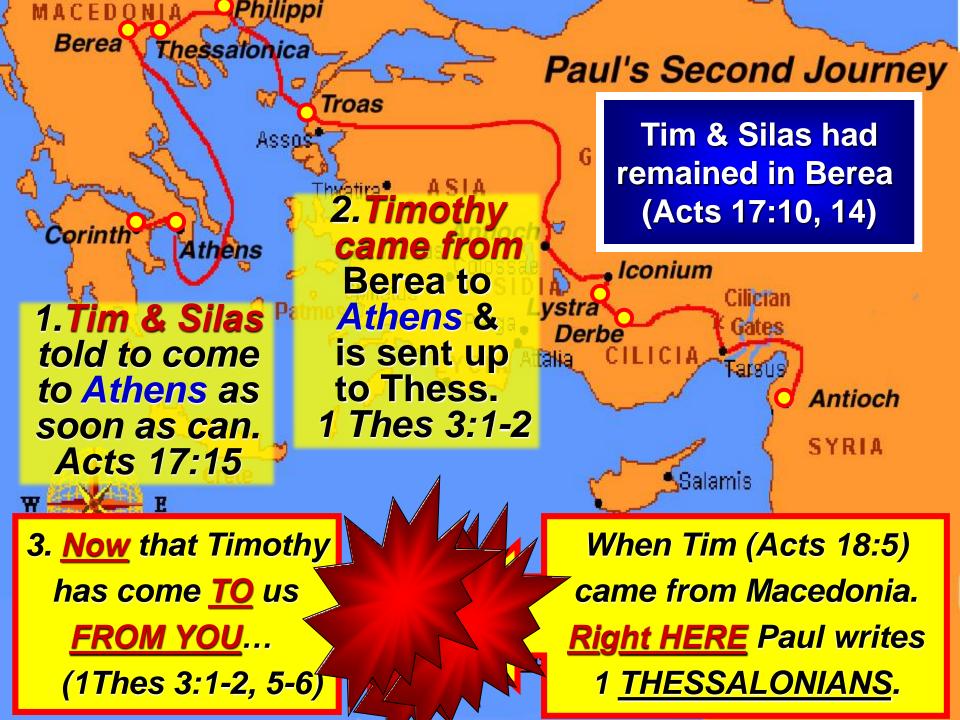
In Corinth when
Timothy came down.
Proof = on next slide!

1 THESSALONIANS

- 1-3 Personal feelings
- 4 Reason for writing
- **5 Exhortations**



Won't be soon, get to work!



18:6 they resisted and blasphemed.. He shook out his garments and said your BLOOD be upon your own heads

Your are responsible! (Ezk 3:17-21; Acts 20:26-27)

- 18:7 Departed from there and went to the house of Titus Justus a worshiper of God whose house was next to the synagogue.
 - This man was a gentile <u>half-proselyte</u>, not yet described as a disciple—but sympathetic to Paul.
 - But he, (and now Paul) lived RIGHT NEXT DOOR to the Jewish antagonists. Scary!

18:8 And <u>Crispus the leader of the synagogue</u> believed in the Lord with all his household...

Paul <u>baptized</u> him (1 Cor 1:14). A man of confident sincerity, around whom a congregation could be built.

18:8^b And *MANY* of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized.

- Intellectuals & the rich usually aren't converted.
- · Are we looking for prospect among right people?
- · Are we fearful? Paul was! (Acts 18:9; 1 Cor 2:3)

- 18:9-10 And the Lord said in a vision "Do not
 - be afraid any longer for I am with you and no man will attack you...

Happens two more times:

- Acts 23:11 Lord said, "Take courage..."
- Acts 27:23-24 Angel said "Do not be afraid Paul.."

18:11 And he settled there <u>a year and six months</u> teaching the word of God among them..

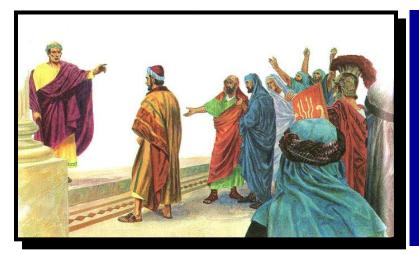
2 Thess written here in Corinth. (18:11)

2 Thes 1:1 Same Men are together

2 Thes 2:1 Same Problems exist

Acts 18:11 Sufficient <u>Time</u> exists

18:12-13 While Gallio was proconsul of Achaia..

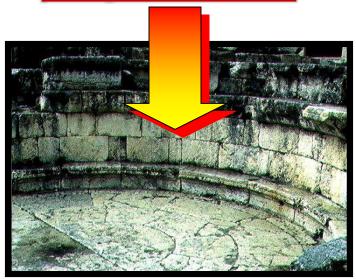


Seneca, (Gallio's brother)
says of him: "Even those
who love my brother Gallio
to the utmost of their power
do not love him enough."

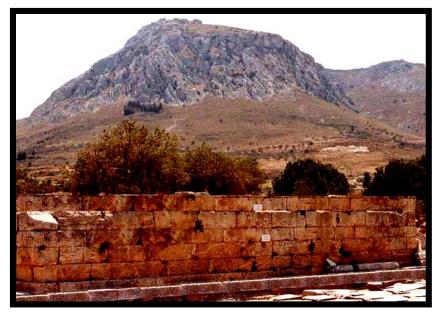
<u>PROCONSUL</u>- over provinces able to be held peacefully. He exercised purely civil functions, but *had no power over life and death*. He had neither sword nor wore the military dress. It was customary, when any one's consulate expired, to send him as a *proconsul into some other province*.

18:12 The Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the

judgment seat



A Judgment seat – but not Corinth's

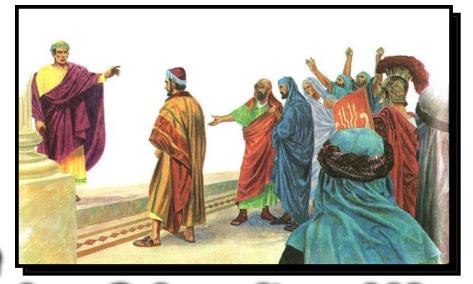


Judgment seat - in Corinth & Acro Corinth

18:13 saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law."

Acts 18:14 "But when Paul was about to open his mouth.."

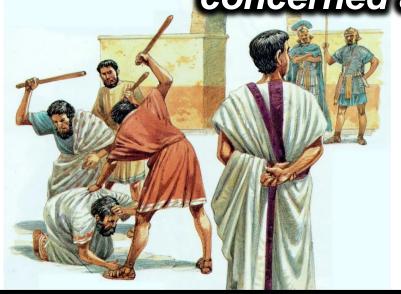
Acts 18:14 ... Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a



of wrong or of vicious crime, O Jews, it would be reasonable for me to put up with you. v15 but if there are questions about words & names and your own law, look after it yourselves; I am unwilling to be a judge of these matters." v16 And He drove them away from the judgment seat.

18:17 And they all took hold of <u>Sosthenes</u> the leader of the synagogue & began <u>Beating him...</u>"

Acts 18:17 And Gallio was not concerned about any of these things.



- The *replacement* for leader, Crispus (18:8)
 - The <u>judgment</u> seat was an open air court
- The *gentile* spectators attending, beat Sosthenes *McGarvey, Barnes, JFB, Matt Henry*

Paul's Return to Antioch (Acts 18: 18-22)

18:18 Paul having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria with Priscilla and Aquila

Heading E. for Ephesus! (Acts 18:19)



Elafonissos

In Cenchrea he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow (18:18b)

Similarity to a Nazarite vow. Real Nazarite vow had to give up grape juice forever. (Num 6:3-4)

Paul's Return to Antioch (Acts 18: 18-22)

18:19 They came to *Ephesus..* and he left them

Aquila & Priscilla there. He entered a synagogue

and reasoned with the Jews.



Acts 18:22 He landed at <u>Caesarea</u>, greeted the church (at Jerus.) and went down to <u>Antioch</u>

2nd Missionary Journey ends

Review Cities of the 2nd Journey ~ chap 16

1. Antioch (yria) Paul & Silas begin journey

2. Syria-- Pass thru the Syrian Gates

3. Cilicia— Pass thru the Cilician Gates

4. Derbe-- Where he had converted many

5. Lystra-- Picked up Timothy as helper

6. Galatia (Pisidia) Paul got sick here and preached

7. Phrygia--

8. Troas-- Picked up Luke, Macedonian call

9. Samothrace-- Agean Island, one night stopover

10. Neapolis-- Seaport

11. Philippi-- Drop Luke, Paul/Silas beaten, Convert Lydia, Jailer

Review Cities of the 2nd Journey ~ chap 17-18

12. Amphipolis

Having left Philippi

13. Appolinia

14. Thessolanica--

15. Berea--

16. Athens--

Drop off Timothy

Drop off Silas

Paul sends for Tim & Silas

17. Corinth--

18. Cenchrea--

19. Ephesus--

20. Caeserea--

21. Jerusalem--

22. Antioch--

Meet Aquila / Priscilla, write 1 Thess.

Seaport Vow

Drop off Aquila & Priscilla

Seaport Cornelius was there

Greets the church

2nd journey ends