

Acts 17:1-18:22

“The Second Missionary Journey - Part II”

Summary

- Paul preaches in Greece
- Paul returns to Antioch, finishing the Second Missionary Journey

Outline

- I. To Thessalonica on the Via Egnatia - vs. 1
 - A. Paul preaches in Thessalonica - vs. 2-4
 - B. Trouble arises - vs. 5-9
- II. Paul in Berea - vs.10
 - A. The character of the Christians - vs. 11-12
 - B. Trouble follows - vs. 13
 - C. Paul sent to Athens - vs. 14-15
 - D. Athens - leading Greek city, center of Greek world
- III. Paul in Athens
 - A. Paul preaches in Athens - vs. 16-17
 - B. To Mars' Hill - vs. 18-21
 - C. Paul's sermon - vs 22-31
 - D. The reaction - vs. 32-34
- IV. At Corinth
 - A. Corinth - Chapter 18:1
 - B. Aquila and Priscilla - vs. 2-3
 - C. Preaching to the Jews - vs. 4-8
 - D. The Lord's message to Paul - vs. 9-10
 - E. The eighteen month stay - vs. 11
- V. Before Gallio
 - A. Gallio - Roman proconsul of Achaea, brother of Seneca - vs. 12
 - B. The charge - vs. 13
 - C. Gallio's judgment - vs. 14-17
- VI. The Return Trip to Antioch
 - A. Cenchrea - vs. 18
 - B. In Ephesus - vs. 19-21
 - C. From Caesarea to Antioch, probably visiting Jerusalem - vs. 22

Notes on Mar's Hill

- Mar's Hill - place of court, debate, philosophy
- vs. 18 - Epicureanism teaches that the greatest good is to seek modest pleasures in order to attain a state of tranquillity, freedom from fear ("ataraxia") and absence from bodily pain ("aponia"). Believed gods were too remote to intervene in earthly affairs. Did not believe in life after death.
- vs. 18 - Stoicism teaches the development of self-control and fortitude as a means of overcoming destructive emotions (think Spock on Star Trek). Believed god(s) existed in everything.
- vs. 22 - "superstitious" was a term used to describe those that went beyond the normal in religious practice and devotion
- vs. 23 - Similar altars to the "unknown god" altar have been found

Notes on Places

- Ampipholis
 - On the Via Egnatia
- Apollonia
 - midway between Ampipholis and Thessalonica
 - On the Via Egnatia and a north-south trade route to the Balkans
- Thessalonica
 - Named after a half-sister of Alexander the Great
 - port city, major trade hub
- Berea
 - Small town west of Thessalonica
 - Home of a wealthier Jewish population
- Athens
 - The greatest city of ancient Greece
 - Had fallen out of favor with Rome and was not a capital
 - Was the center for Greek philosophy
- Corinth
 - On narrow isthmus
 - Major port and commercial center of Greece
 - seat of Roman government in southern Greece
- Cenchrea
 - eastern port of Corinth
 - northern, “sister port” was Lechaion
 - Ships could be hauled across four miles of land to the other port
- Ephesus
 - Paul will visit here on the Third Missionary Journey

