

Paul Encounters Encouragement

Acts 18:1-11

Keywords and Phrases*

Aquila and Priscilla (v. 2)
Believed and were baptized (v. 8)
Claudius (v. 2)
Corinth (v. 1)
Greeks (v. 4)
Jews (vv 2, 4, 5)
Silas and Timothy (v. 5)
Synagogue (vv. 4, 7, 8)
Tentmakers (v. 3)
Titius Justus (v. 7)
Word of God (v. 11)

*Keywords may vary depending on Bible translation

Critical Thinking Questions

1. How do Paul's actions when reaching Corinth differ from those in prior cities? How are they consistent (see Acts 17, 18)?
2. What message is Paul conveying when he shakes out his garment and says, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent" (see Acts 18:6 compare Acts 13:51; Nehemiah 5:13; Ezekiel 18:13; 33:4)?
3. The theme of household salvation is frequently employed by Luke in Acts (see Acts 10:2; 11:14; 16:15; 16:31; 18:8). What message would this have conveyed to those who first read Luke's account?
4. What does the message the Lord gives to Paul (Acts 18:9-10) tell us about the context of this passage (compare 1 Kings 19:9-19; Romans 11:1-14)?

Analyzing the Scripture

Paul

- went to Corinth (v. 1).
- worked and stayed with Aquila and Priscilla (vv. 2-3).
- reasoned with the Jews and Greeks every Sabbath (v. 4).
- testified that the Christ is Jesus (v. 5).
- left the Jews to preach to the Gentiles (v. 6).
- stayed with Titius Justus (v. 7).
- received a vision of the Lord (vv. 9-10).
- remained in Corinth for one year and six months (v. 11).

Aquila and Priscilla

- provided Paul with work and lodging (vv. 2-3).

Silas and Timothy

- arrived from Macedonia to join Paul (v. 5).

Crispus

- believed in the Lord with his entire household (v. 8).

Corinthians

- many believed and were baptized (v. 8).

The Lord

- appeared to Paul (v. 9).
- encouraged Paul to continue speaking (v. 9).
- disclosed to Paul that many in Corinth were His people (v. 9).

Reflection Question

How has the Lord encouraged you during moments when you felt disheartened?

"And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people."

(Acts 18:9-10 ESV)