WELCOME! Friday Men's Breakfast

The Life of the Apostle Paul

1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Philippians 1:21

For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Big Idea:

Paul modeled a life *surrendered* to Jesus Christ for us to follow.

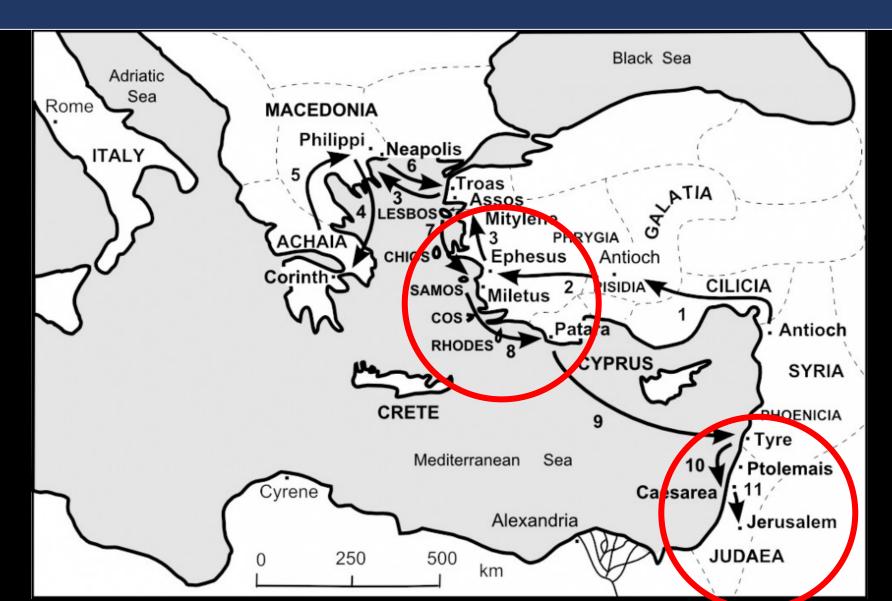


#17 – Missionary Journey #3: Returning to Jerusalem

Acts 21:1-16, 27-36

Friday Men's Breakfast – May 14, 2021

Context for Acts 21:1-16, 27-36

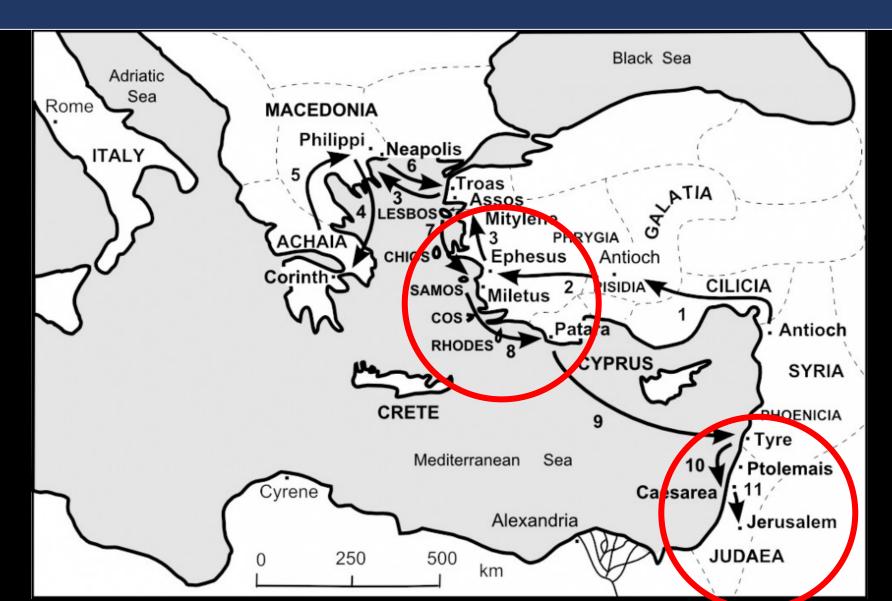


Context for Acts 21:1-16, 27-36

"Paul, however, regarded it not as a prohibition but a divine forewarning so that he would be spiritually prepared for what would happen."

- Homer Kent, Jerusalem to Rome

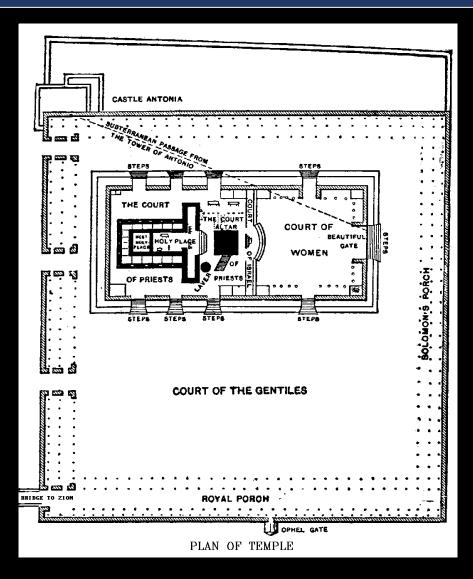
Context for Acts 21:1-16, 27-36



Acts 20:22-23

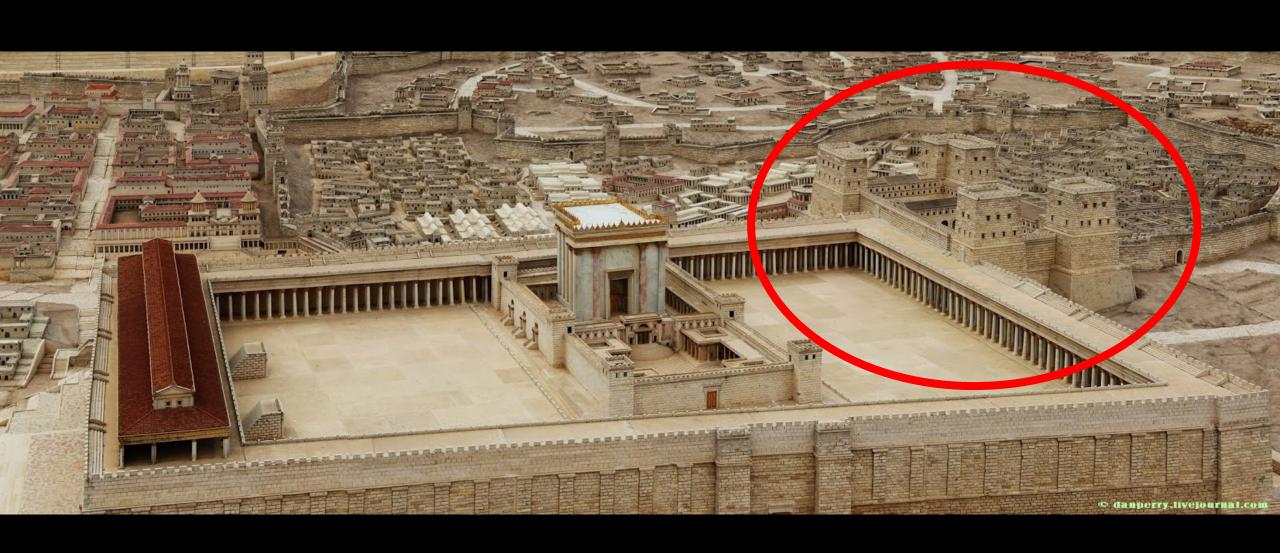
"And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that <u>imprisonment and afflictions await me</u>."

The Temple in Jerusalem





The Fortress of Antonia



"One thing Rome insisted on — civil order. A riot was an unforgivable sin both for the populace who staged it and the commander who allowed it."

- William Barclay

APPLICATION:

God accomplishes His purposes through the *suffering* of His people.

Jesus' Passion and Paul's Suffering Compared:

- Determined to go to Jerusalem.
- Accused of throwing away the Law of Moses.
- Accused of profaning the temple.
- Three-fold predictions that they would suffer.
- Plot by the Jews to hand them over the Gentiles.
- Endured violent crowds.
- Surrendered to God's will.

APPLICATION:

God accomplishes His purposes through the *suffering* of His people.

1) Jesus suffered.

Jesus Suffered

Luke 24:26

"Was it not necessary that the *Christ should suffer* these things and enter into his glory?"

Hebrews 2:10

For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should <u>make</u> the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Jesus Suffered

Ephesians 2:13-14

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

APPLICATION:

God accomplishes His purposes through the *suffering* of His people.

- 1) Jesus suffered.
- 2) Paul suffered.

Paul Suffered

Acts 9:15-16

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him *how much he must suffer* for the sake of my name."

Paul Suffered

2 Timothy 4:6-7

For *I am already being poured out as a drink offering*, and *the time of my departure has come*. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Philippians 1:21

For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

APPLICATION:

God accomplishes His purposes through the *suffering* of His people.

- 1) Jesus suffered.
- 2) Paul suffered.
- 3) We suffer.

We Suffer

1 Peter 2:21

For to this you have been called, because *Christ also suffered* for you, leaving you an example, so *that you might follow in his steps*.

1 Peter 4:19

Therefore let those who <u>suffer according to God's will</u> entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

We Suffer

Romans 5:3-5

Not only that, but <u>we rejoice in our sufferings</u>, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

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Big Idea:

Paul modeled a life *surrendered* to Jesus Christ for us to follow.

Discussion Questions

- 1) How has God used suffering in your life to accomplish His purposes?
- 2) What difficult calling is God preparing you for? Are you trying to avoid it so you will avoid having to suffer?

Next Week (May 21st):

Journey to Rome #1: Paul before Felix (Acts 24:1-21)

Friday Men's Breakfast