

# Acts of the Apostles 18:1-23 \_ Lesson 42

## *The Jews in Corinth*

### 1. Acts 18:1-4 – Certain Jews: Aquila and Priscilla

- a. Each chapter chronicles the apostle Paul going to Jews and their response to him
- b. Berea/Athens = noble → Thessalonica/Corinth = base, weak, unwise -1Cor 1:26-29
- c. “*a certain Jew*” –Aquila/Priscilla become Paul’s helpers -1Co 16:19,2Ti 4:19,Ro 16:3
- d. “*they were tentmakers*” –Paul’s job supplied ministry → 1Th 2:9,2Th 3:8-9,Ac 20:35
- e. 18:4 – Perhaps here Aquila/Priscilla first heard the gospel of grace

### 2. Acts 18:5-6 – Paul Utters Condemnation

- a. “*Paul was pressed in the spirit*” perhaps by their arrival Paul starts writing epistles.
  - i. 1 Thess → 1Th 1:7-8, 3:1,6; Galatians → Gal 1:6, Acts 15:41, 16:6, 18:23
  - ii. Paul stayed in Corinth 1.5 yrs - Acts 18:11; Ephesus for 2yrs – Acts 19:10
- b. “*shook his raiment*” – Declaration of judgment, finished duty,fallen,cut off, unclean
- c. 3x Paul utters such a condemnation –1– Acts 13:46, 51 –2– 18:6 –3– 28:28
- d. Israel being declared fallen/condemned not a Jewish/ kingdom gospel (Israel’s rise)
- e. “*henceforth*” = from now on (in Corinth); he went to Gentiles already - 14:27, 15:23

### 3. Acts 18:7-11 – Paul Baptizes

- a. Justus, a follower of Judaism, is not Titus – see Acts 18:7-8, Gal 2:1-3, Col 4:11
- b. Crispus, a chief Jewish ruler, and many others – see 1 Cor 1:14-16, 16:15
- c. “*Why did Paul baptize?*” Yes, why did he? Baptism was Jewish. Like shaking dust.
  - i. Not for Mark 16:16, and not Matt 28:19 b/c of 1 Cor 1:17
  - ii. If Christ sent him not to baptize Christ had a different sending after Act 2:38
- d. The contentions about water baptism were not from Paul → 1 Cor 1:11-14
- e. 1 Cor 1:13-14 “*I thank God*” shows that Paul’s message was not John’s or Peter’s
- f. Did Paul water baptize? He says... “I baptized none of you, but... [a few]”
- g. At his conversion (Acts 9) Jesus said –“I will appear unto thee” - Acts 26:16
- h. Christ appeared to Paul in Acts 18:9, right after the last time he baptized in 18:8
- i. 18:11 - What did Paul teach? Read 1 Thess, Gal, 1 Cor, Romans – find baptism

### 4. Acts 18:12-17 – Jewish Insurrection Against God’s Apostle

- a. “*one accord*” - What did these unbelieving Jews agree on? Against Paul.
- b. What did they say about Paul’s teaching? It was “contrary to the law”
- c. “*no man shall hurt thee*” fulfilled in 18:14-16 and the church grows 18:18
- d. Sosthenes → No indication he is here saved, but later we read 1 Cor 1:1
- e. Paul was not an enemy of the Jews

### 5. Acts 18:18-23 – Paul Travels Freely

- a. He travels to Cenchrea, Ephesus, Caesarea, Antioch, Galatia, Phrygia.
- b. Where he gives none offence so that they may be saved – 1 Cor 9:20, 10:32-33