

## LESSON 4

---

### PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY (PART 4)—AND HIS THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY (PART 1)

#### A YEAR AND A HALF AT CORINTH (18:1–17)

In chapter 18, the indomitable apostle Paul was overwhelmed by fear. However, the Lord helped him conquer that fear and continue to spread the good news of Christ.

1. What was Corinth like, and how did it differ from Athens?
2. Why did Paul come to Corinth “in weakness and in fear and in much trembling” (1 Cor. 2:3)?
3. What basic pattern had developed in Paul’s work regarding responses?
4. What did God do for Paul in order to relieve him of fear?
5. What does Luke’s silence tell us about whether or not Priscilla and Aquila were Christians when they met Paul?
6. What does the phrase translated “began devoting” in 18:5 mean?
7. Who was Titius Justus?
8. Why might Paul have still struggled with negative emotions despite the recent victories of the gospel?
9. How did Jesus address all of Paul’s needs when He appeared to him in 18:9, 10?
10. Who was Gallio and why was the outcome of meeting with him potentially very significant?

11. What law did Paul's accusers say he spoke against?
12. Who might "they" refer to in 18:17?

### **PAUL RETURNS TO ANTIOCH IN SYRIA BY WAY OF EPHESUS (18:18–22)**

Verses 18 through 22 wrap up Paul's second missionary journey. After Paul's hearing, he remained many days longer in Corinth. Luke recorded no details of the apostle's work during these "many days," but we can be sure that the Lord's second promise (v. 10) was realized: As Paul continued to preach and teach, many others became Christians.

13. What seems to have been the nature of the vow Paul was keeping in 18:18?
14. Why might Paul have made such a vow if he did not believe the law still needed to be kept?

### **THE BEGINNING OF THE THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY (18:23)**

Paul **spent some time** in Antioch. Maybe he stayed there through the winter months, working with the church which had continued to encourage him in his worldwide mission. Later, possibly in the spring, when the roads were again passable, he left on his third journey. As he bid them farewell, he was unaware that he would never see their faces again.

15. Who might have been among Paul's travelling companions as he left, although they are not mentioned?
16. What was one of Paul's purposes for this journey which is prominent in the letters he wrote during the journey?

### **AN INTRODUCTION OF AN ELOQUENT PREACHER (APOLLOS) (18:24–28)**

Before writing about Paul's arrival in the city of Ephesus (19:1), Luke inserted the story of Apollos. He did so to inform us about what happened between Paul's visits to Ephesus and to prepare us for the situation Paul found when he finally got there.

17. What do we know about Alexandria, the city from which Apollos came?

18. What admirable qualities did Apollos possess?
19. How might Apollos have learned of the baptism of John without having ever heard of Jesus?
20. Did Apollos have to be re-immersed when he learned of the true baptism?