

Saul, Saul and Acts

Exploring who, where and when in ACTS

3rd Journey Return to Jerusalem

Review Acts 20 – Offering to the poor saints at Jerusalem

Macedonia (20:1) Greece (20:2) Macedonia (20:3-6)

- Where did Paul go?
 - Paul went into Macedonia (those parts: Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea? Illyricum Rom 15:19)
 - Came into Greece (Corinth, Cenchrea, Athens?)
 - Organized a group to deliver an offering to the poor saints in Jerusalem (Rom 15:14-33)
- Whom did he meet?
 - Them v.2 (Macedonian followers of Paul?)
 - Those where he abode in Greece v. 3
 - Jews who laid wait for him (a good thing or a bad thing?) v.3
 - THOSE who were going to Jerusalem with him:
 - Sopater of Berea
 - Aristarchus and Secundus of Thessalonica
 - Gaius and Timotheus of Derbe
 - **Tychicus and Trophimus of Asia (Ephesus)... EPH 6: 20-24**
 - Luke from Philippi v.5,6
- How long was he there?
 - Time to go over Macedonia
 - Three months in Greece (Corinth)
 - 5 days in Philippi and 7 days in Troas (in ASIA)

Macedonia (20:1) Greece (20:2) Macedonia (20:3-6)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

➤ Much exhortation v. 2

➤ He wrote the Book of Romans in verse 3

➤ Acts 19:21 Plan to go to Rome (and Spain) via Jerusalem first

➤ 1 Cor 9:1-5 (Is this not Timothy and Erastus?)

➤ Rom 15:22-16:4 READ 16:1-5 Phebe delivers the letter to the Romans

➤ Looks like Priscilla and Aquila are back in Rome by Acts 20:3, and they have a house church: Rom 16:3-5

➤ ONTO Jerusalem and Rome and Spain via Troas, Miletus, Tyre and Caesarea

Troas (20:7), Assos (20:13-14) ... Miletus (20:17-38)

➤ Where did Paul go?

- Going to Jerusalem and then is going to turn around and go to Rome (Acts 19:21) and Spain (Rom 15:24,28)
- Departing from Philippi (picked up Luke) : Troas
- Walked by land to Assos (his travel companions sailed from Troas to Assos)
- Sailed to Miletus (port of Ephesus) via land touches : Mitylene, Chios, Samos and Trogyllium
- Paul was focused on getting to Jerusalem by Pentecost and so met the elders of Ephesus at Miletus, a sea port south of and close to Ephesus



Act 20:4-16 KJV - 4 And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and Trophimus. 5 These going before tarried for us at Troas. 6 And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days. 7 And upon the first [day] of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. 8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. 9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead. 10 And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing [him] said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him. 11 When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. 12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted. 13 And we went before to ship, and sailed unto Assos, there intending to take in Paul: for so had he appointed, minding himself to go afoot. 14 And when he met with us at Assos, we took him in, and came to Mitylene. 15 And we sailed thence, and came the next [day] over against Chios; and the next [day] we arrived at Samos, and tarried at Trogyllium; and the next [day] we came to Miletus. 16 For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted, if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost.

Troas (20:7), Assos (20:13-14) ... Miletus (20:17-38)

➤ Whom did he meet?

- Disciples at Troas
- Young man named Eutychus (in Troas)
- Those he met walking from Troas to Assos
- Those he met on the sail to Miletus
- The elders of the church at Ephesus

➤ How long was he there?

- 5 days sailed to Troas
- Stayed at Troas 7 days
- Walking time to Assos (21 miles as crow flies, maybe 35 - 40 miles walking)
- Sailing to Mitylene (half a day's sail?)
- 1 day's sail to Chios
- 1 day's sail to Samos
- 1 day's sail to Trogyllium
- After a "tarry" at Trogyllium, 1 day's sail to Miletus
- Same day? Meeting with elders

Troas (20:7), Assos (20:13-14) ... Miletus (20:17-38)

➤ What did he say or preach?

- **Troas** – length of his preaching focused on
 - He preached till midnight (v 7)
 - Was long preaching (v 9)
 - Talked a long while, even till break of day (v 11)
 - By the way – he rose Eutychus from the dead
 - Disciples at Troas were **“not a little comforted”** (v 12)

Act 20:17-31 KJV - 17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. 18 And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, 19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: 20 [And] how I kept back nothing that was profitable [unto you], but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, 21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. 22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. 24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. 25 And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. 26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I [am] pure from the blood of all [men]. 27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. 28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Act 20:32-38 KJV - 32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. 33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. 34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. 35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive. 36 And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all. 37 And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him, 38 Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more. And they accompanied him unto the ship.

Troas (20:7), Assos (20:13-14) ... Miletus (20:17-38)

➤ **What did he say or preach? In Miletus**

- Paul determined (v 16), bound in the Spirit (v 22) *in less than 30 days*
- He had been away 3 plus months from Ephesus after silversmith's uproar (20:3; 19:23-42)

➤ **Paul's last words to Ephesian elders**

- Reminded them of his first time in Ephesus (Acts 19:8 ff) / his 3 years with them (v31)
- Service, suffering from the Jews (v 19)
- Profitable education to the elders
- HIS MESSAGE: repentance toward God and faith toward Jesus Christ (v 21)
- HIS RECEIVED MINISTRY from Lord Jesus: the **gospel of the grace of God** (v 24)
- HIS PREACHING to the ELDERS:
 - The kingdom of God (v 25)
 - All the counsel of God (v 27)
- HIS ADVICE:
 - Feed the church of God (v

Troas (20:7), Assos (20:13-14) ... Miletus (20:17-38)

➤ Paul's last words to Ephesian elders (cont'd)

➤ HIS WARNING to the Elders

➤ Take heed to feed the church of God (v 28)

➤ God's grace is able to build you up, give an inheritance to the sanctified

➤ Support the weak : **More blessed to give than receive** (v34-35)

➤ He said he warned them for 3 years because WHAT PAUL KNEW:

➤ Bonds and afflictions awaited him in Jerusalem (v23)

➤ All the elders would see his face no more (v 25)

➤ Grievous wolves shall enter in among you, not sparing the flock (v 29)

➤ Some of the elders present would perversely draw away disciples (v30)

➤ He paid his way among them (v 34)

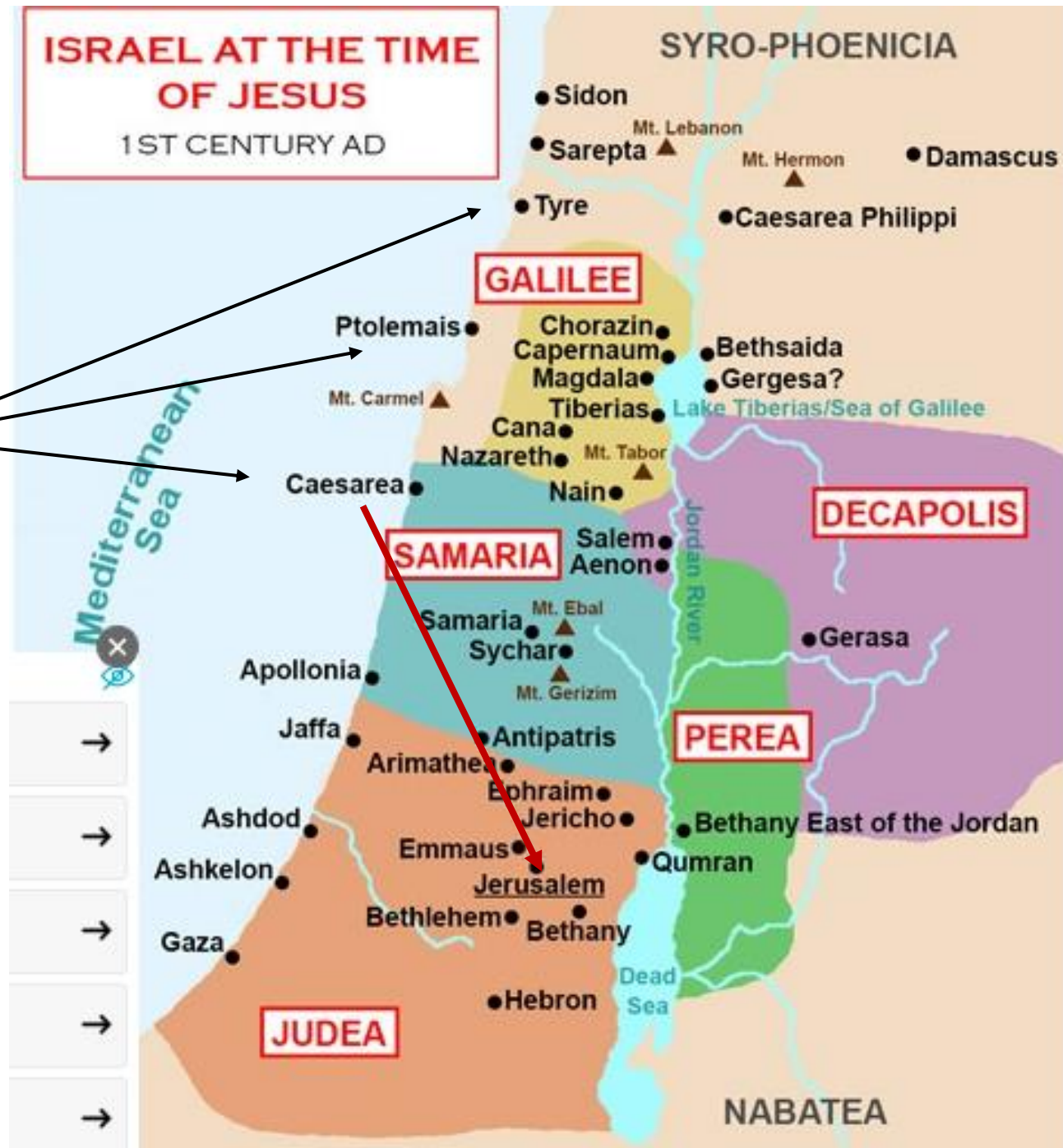
From Miletus to Jerusalem (21:1-17)

Act 21:1-17 KJV - 1 And it came to pass, that after we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto Coos, and the [day] following unto Rhodes, and from thence unto Patara: 2 And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth. 3 Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden. 4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem. 5 And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till [we were] out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed. 6 And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again. 7 And when we had finished [our] course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day. 8 And the next [day] we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was [one] of the seven; and abode with him. 9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy. 10 And as we tarried [there] many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. 11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver [him] into the hands of the Gentiles. 12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem. 13 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. 14 And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done. 15 And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem. 16 There went with us also [certain] of the disciples of Caesarea, and brought with them one Mnason of Cyprus, an old disciple, with whom we should lodge. 17 And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.



ISRAEL AT THE TIME OF JESUS
1ST CENTURY AD

Coastal cities of Tyre, Ptolemais and Caesarea before going inland up to Jerusalem.



From Miletus to Jerusalem (21:1-17)

➤ Where did Paul go?

- Paul sailed from Miletus to Tyre via Coos, Rhodes, Patara, Phenicia around Cyprus
- Sailed along the coast from Tyre to Ptolemais and then by land (?) to Caesarea
- Land journey from Caesarea up to Jerusalem

➤ Whom did he meet?

- Sail companions along the way
- Disciples at Troas (with wives and children (v 5))
- Brethren at Ptolemais
- Philip the Evangelist (One of the 7 – not 1 of the 12, Acts 6:5) in Caesarea
- Philip's 4 prophetess daughters
- Certain prophet from Judea named Agabus
- Disciples from Caesarea and Mnason of Cyprus
- Brethren from Jerusalem

➤ How long was he there?

- Time to sail from Miletus to Tyre (7 days?)
- 7 days in Tyre, 1 day in Ptolemais, many days in Caesarea
- Walking to Jerusalem (60 miles)

From Miletus to Jerusalem (21:1-17)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

➤ **In Tyre**

- Personal with families, who told Paul not to go to Jerusalem (the gossip)
- Kneeled on the shore and prayed, departing

➤ **In Ptolemais**

- Saluted the brethren

➤ **In Caesarea**

- Prophet tells him not to go to Jerusalem
- Paul ready to die at Jerusalem in the name of the Lord Jesus

Some Observations of 3rd Journey Return narrative

- **Gospel of Grace of God is stated by Paul as his ministry ...**
- **... but he taught the elders “the kingdom” (Acts 20:24-25)**
- **Romans written in Acts 20:3**

- **His lengthy preaching is mentioned above the details of his message**

- **His prophesied suffering is highlighted rather than any of the conversation details**