

# 61. THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE STORY MADE UP THAT THE DISCIPLES STOLE JESUS' BODY

The Louvre, Paris, France. Google Earth Coordinates: 48°51'37.06"N, 2°20'17.97"E

Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city, and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. When they had assembled with the elders and took counsel, they gave a large amount of money to the soldiers, saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will persuade him and protect you." So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day. Matthew 28:11-15 (KJV 2016)

This marble tablet was discovered in Nazareth and was acquired in 1878 by Wilhelm Frohner, a German archaeologist, then sent it to Paris. It is now on display at the Louvre, Paris. It is an edict written in Koine Greek from an unnamed Caesar that orders capital punishment for anyone who disturbs tombs and particularly those who move sepulcher sealing stones. This matches well with the post-resurrection account in the gospels. What is even more interesting is that it was reportedly found in Nazareth, the hometown of Jesus. Based on epigraphy it is dated to the 1st half of the first century. As well, we read in the gospels that at the time of Jesus' death many holy people were raised from the dead and appeared in the city of Jerusalem (Matthew 27:52-53). The reports must have come all the way to the Emperor Tiberius. In recourse, there was an official edict from Caesar that no other graves would be disturbed. It is therefore, good evidence of the gospel account that the story commonly reported among the Jews after the resurrection was that Jesus' disciples stole the body of Jesus while the guards slept.



**EDICT OF CAESAR:**  
 "...whoever ....has in any manner extracted those who have been buried, or has moved with wicked intent those who have been buried to other places, committing a crime against them, or has moved sepulcher-sealing stones...I wish that [violator] to suffer capital punishment under the title of tomb-breaker."

## The Discovery of the Nazareth Inscription in 1878



**Wilhelm Frohner**  
1834 - 1925



German Archaeologist & Curator

**Education:**

He studied at the Universities of Bonn, Freiburg and Gottingen.

**Organization/Place of Work**

He worked as the curator of Greek and Roman antiquities at the Louvre in Paris and was made a French citizen in 1866. He was as well as archaeological researcher and collector of antiquities.

**Bible Evidence:**  
Matthew 28:11-15

He received the Nazareth inscription from a dealer from Nazareth but the location of discovery is not known. The inscription was probably made in 41 AD by Emperor Claudius.



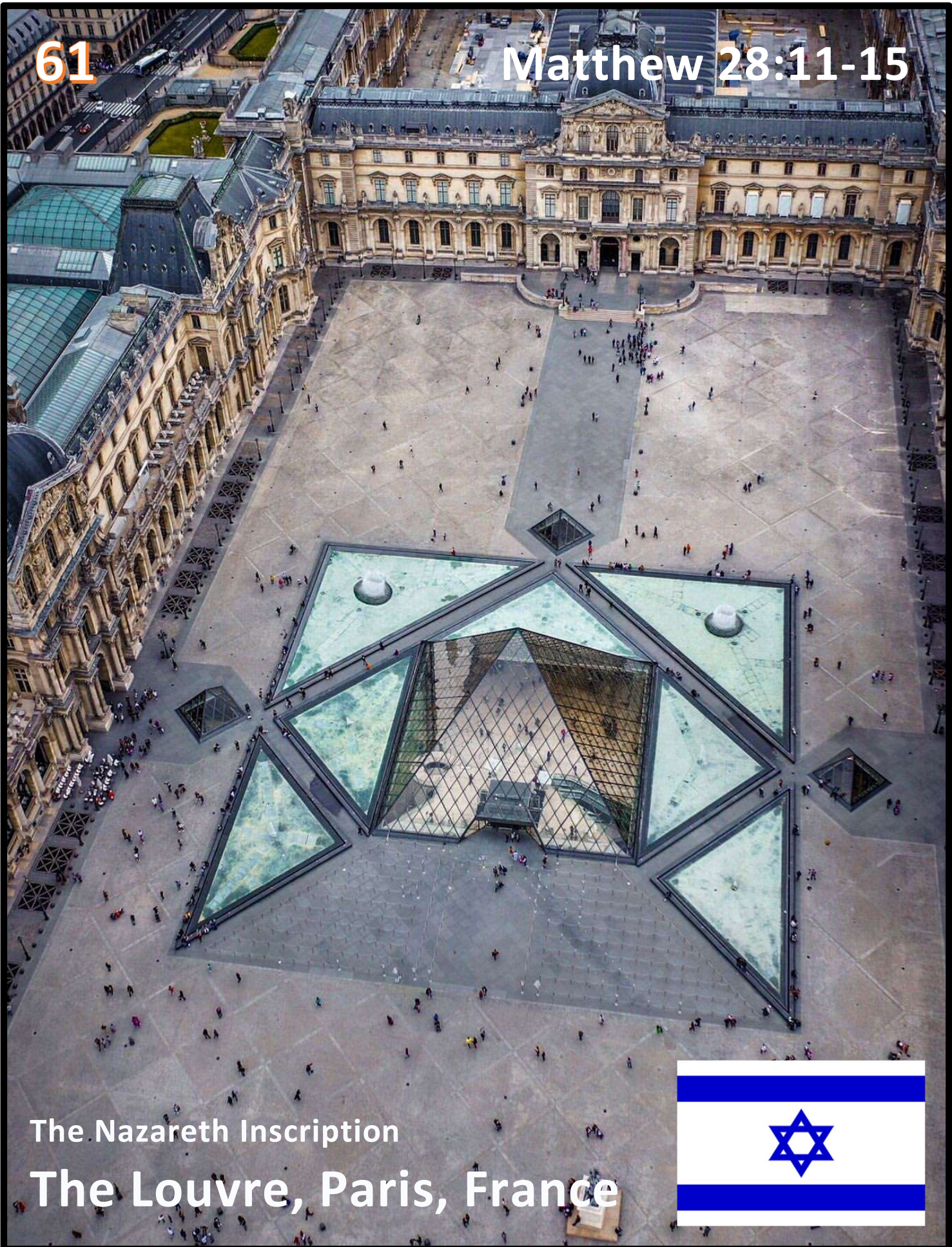
The Nazareth Inscription

Google Earth Coordinates: 32°29'45.68"N, 34°53'27.49"E

The Nazareth Inscription, Louvre, Paris

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Matthew 28:11-15



The Nazareth Inscription  
The Louvre, Paris, France



## 62. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR WHERE AKELDAMA IS LOCATED

*Gai Ben Hinnom, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'5.80"N, 35°13'59.55"E*

“Men and brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus; because he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry.” (Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is to say, The Field of Blood. Acts 1:16-19 (KJV 2016)

The soil in this area is composed of rich clay and was used in the past by potters and thus was also called the Potter's field as in Matthew 27:10. The clay also has a strong red color, thus it was also called the Field of Blood. This is the place where Judas hanged himself, his body decomposed and fell to the ground spilling his intestines. It was called field of blood since the “blood money”, which was used to pay Judas to betray Jesus, was used to buy the field, and it was at this place where Judas' blood spilled on the ground. In 1874 the Orthodox Church built the Monastery of St. Onuphrius, over the site of several tombs which date from the first century which can be seen inside. According to 16th century tradition, this was also the place where the Apostles fled to after Jesus' arrest in Gethsemane. Interestingly, this field is located in the cursed Hinnom Valley, where child sacrifice occurred. God promised that He would bring evil upon this place in Jeremiah 19:3.



*The Field of Blood where Judas Hanged Himself*



*Orthodox Church of St. Onuphrius (St. Onuphrius is depicted here)*



*Burial caves at Akeldama*

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Acts 1:16-19



Akeldama, the Field of Blood  
Gai Ben Hinnom, Jerusalem, Israel



### 63. THIS IS WHERE JESUS MET HIS DISCIPLES AFTER RESURRECTION AND RESTORED PETER

*Tabgha, Galilee, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 32°52'18.68"N, 35°33'1.44"E*

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus...Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?" Knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was risen from the dead. John 21:1-4; 9-14 (KJV 2016)

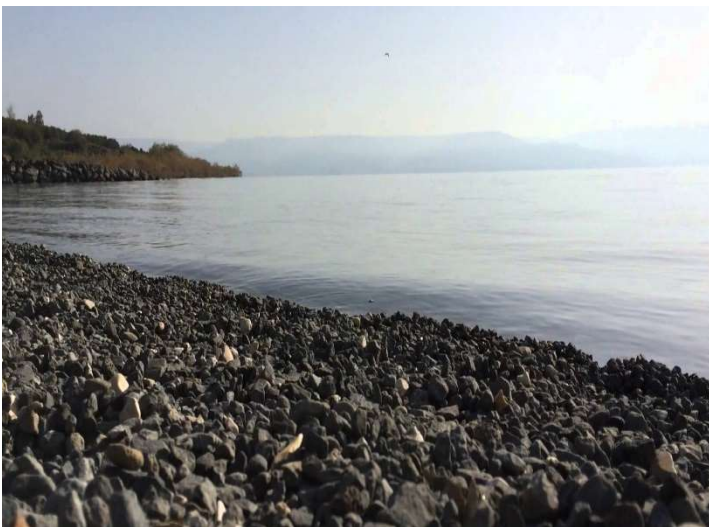
The church of the Primacy of St. Peter, built by the Franciscans in 1933 and made of black basalt, is on the site where early Christians believe Jesus said to Peter "Take care of my sheep" and reinstated him as the foremost of the apostles. This is located in Tabgha, Israel, and is built on 4th century church ruins. In the 9th century this place was called the "Place of the coals" to commemorate where Jesus had a fire of coals near this location. Jesus appeared to His disciples here in His resurrected body and thus the white limestone outcropping has a sign placed by the Franciscans: "This is a holy ground."



*Church of the Primacy of Peter, Tabgha, Galilee, Israel*



*Mensa Christi, where Jesus cooked and ate fish with His disciples*



*In this tranquil area Jesus met with His disciples in Galilee following His resurrection.*



*Fourth century church ruins are here at this site where Jesus met with His disciples, thus, is called "Holy Ground"*

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John 21:1-14



Place where Jesus reinstated Peter  
Tabgha, Galilee, Israel

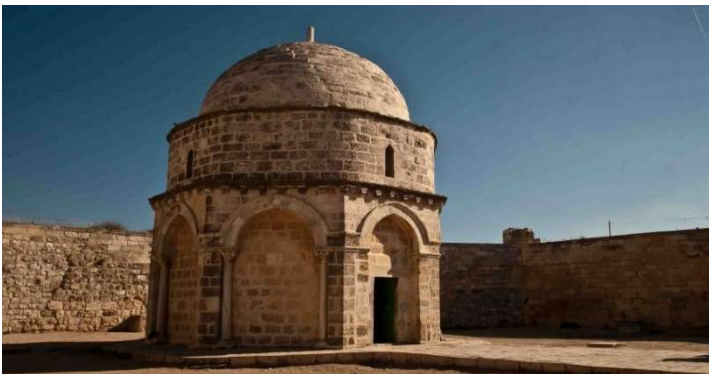


## 64. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE SITE OF JESUS' ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN

*Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'44.04"N, 35°14'42.42"E*

Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and also in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white clothing, who also said, "You men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who is taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey. Acts 1:6-12 (KJV 2016)

The prophet Zechariah foretold "I For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," The Lord came to be born as a Baby on earth. Then the prophet Hosea foretold that: "I will return again to my place." The Lord would ascend back to His place. Jesus Christ fulfilled both of these prophecies. For the first three centuries of the early persecuted church, the ascension of Jesus was celebrated in a cave part way up the mountain for safety reasons. However, by the late 4th century, Queen Helena had a circular memorial chapel built at the summit of the Mount of Olives over the site where Jesus ascended. In 384, the Spanish pilgrim Lady Egeria reported visiting the chapel of the ascension where Jesus ascended to heaven 40 days after His resurrection. Unfortunately, this chapel was destroyed in 614 AD by the Persians. Then it was rebuilt but then destroyed again during the conquest in the 10th century. Then the chapel was again rebuilt by the Crusaders in the 12th century upon the ruins of the Byzantine chapel. This octagonal chapel originally had no roof and was surrounded by pillars. In 1187 Saladin converted this chapel into a mosque complete with a mihrab, showing the direction of Islamic prayer. Since then, although the land is under Islamic jurisdiction, Christians are permitted to come and worship here. In 1835 the walls were filled in and a domed roof added. Inside the chapel is a rock where tradition holds Jesus left His right footprint in the stone as He ascended into heaven bodily. Christians come and worship their risen and ascended Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ of Nazareth in this place.



*The Ascension Edicule*



*The place believed by early Christians where Jesus ascended to heaven*



*The stone upon which it is believed Jesus left his footprint*



*Although the area is walled in and on the grounds of a mosque, Christians are still permitted to come and worship there.*

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Acts 1:6-12

The Place of the Ascension of Jesus Christ  
**Mount of Olives, Jerusalem**





## 65. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE PLACE OF MARTYRDOM OF ST. STEPHEN

*St. Stephen's Basilica, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°47'4.78"N, 35°13'46.06"E*

When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked up gazing into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, "Behold! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" Then they shouted out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and threw him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and shouted out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Acts 7:54-60 (KJV 2016)



St. Stephen was a Hellenist Jew who had a Greek name which means "wreath" or "crowned". He was a deacon who was chosen to minister to the Greek-speaking Christian widows who were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. He was falsely accused of blasphemy against Moses and the law and that he said that Jesus of Nazareth would destroy the holy place, the temple, and change the customs that Moses handed down. He was brought to the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem where he made his lengthy defence. He began with the life of Abraham and went through the history of Israel, concluding with the prophets and accused the religious leaders of always resisting the Holy Spirit. Upon hearing this, the leaders condemned him to death, taking him outside the city and stoned him. French archaeologists Louis-Hugues Vincent and Felix-Marie Abel placed the site of the stoning to be to the North of the city. At this site, the Empress Eudocia built a structure at the site, where she was later buried. The chapel was destroyed by the Persians in 614 AD. Then in 638 AD a small church was built by St. Sophronius, was enlarged by the crusaders, but then destroyed. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, French Dominicans built this church at the site which was completed in 1900. The Northern Gate, now called the Lion's Gate, was called St. Stephen's Gate many years ago, owing to the tradition that St. Stephen was martyred outside the gate. If the place is also Golgotha, where Jesus Christ was crucified, it would make sense that this place was a place of execution: crucifixion by the Romans and stoning by the Jews



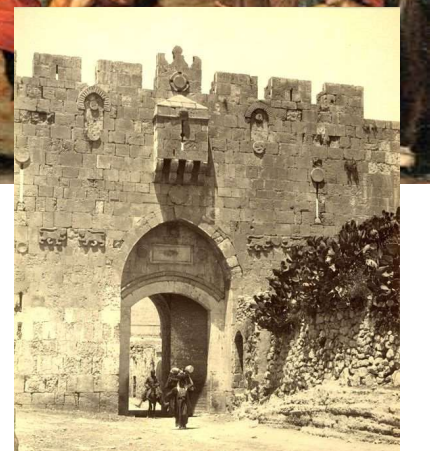
*Traditional Site of St. Stephen's Martyrdom*



*The Stoning of St. Stephen*



*Coin of the Empress Eudocia*



*St. Stephen's Gate, Jerusalem*

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Acts 1:6-12

The Place of Martyrdom of St. Stephen  
Jerusalem, Israel



## 66. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE HOUSE OF ANANIAS IN DAMASCUS

*House of Ananias, Damascus, Syria. Google Earth Coordinates: 33°30'41.32"N, 36°19'2.53"E*

Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And he was without sight for three days, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Behold, I am here, Lord." So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, because behold, he is praying. And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." Acts 9:8-12. (KJV 2016)

Straight Street is the main street that runs East-West across the city of Damascus, one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities. At the end of the street lies the Home of Ananias. In 1921, Eustache de Lorey, a French archaeologist, excavated beneath the home of Ananias in Damascus. He found remains of a Byzantine church from the 5th or 6th centuries. He also found a piece of an altar dedicated to a pagan god from the 2nd or 3rd Centuries. In the early 2nd century, the Emperor Hadrian ordered that Pagan temples be placed over the main holy Christian sites to keep Christians away from this site and to erase their memory. This is evidence that this was the very place where Ananias was praying, heard God, then brought Saul back to his house to baptize him. Inside the house are 2 rooms with pictures that depict scenes from the life of St. Paul.



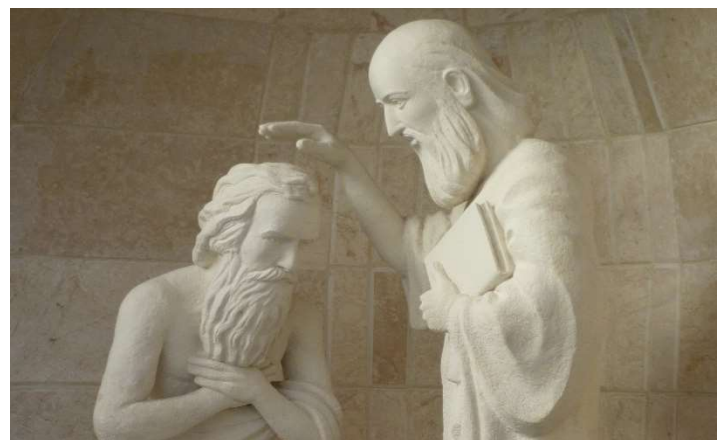
*Straight Street Damascus*



*The House of Ananias, Damascus*



*Chapel of St. Ananias, Damascus*



*Statue of Saul being Baptised by Ananias*

66

Acts 9:8-12



The House of Ananias  
**Damascus, Syria**



## 67. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE KISAN GATE IN DAMASCUS

*The Bab Kisan, Damascus, Syria. Google Earth Coordinates: 33°30'23.79"N, 36°18'55.92"E*

Now after many days were past, the Jews plotted to kill him. But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him. Then the disciples took him and let him down by the wall in a basket. Acts 9:23-25 (KJV 2016)

Nearby to the house of Ananias is the Bab Kisan, one of the seven ancient city gates in Damascus, built in the Roman era and was dedicated to Saturn. It was near this gate in the city wall where it is believed the new converted Paul was let down by ropes and basket to escape capture.



*The Bab Kisan, Damascus*



*The Chapel within the Bab Kisan, Damascus*

67

Acts 9:23-25



The Bab Kisan (Kisan Gate)  
Damascus, Syria



## 68. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR A FIRST CENTURY CAVE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH

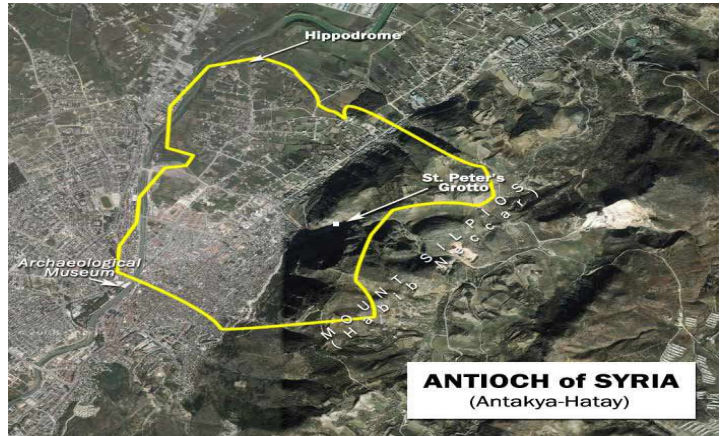
*Antakya, Hatay Province, Turkey. Google Earth Coordinates: 36°12'32.73"N, 36°10'42.02"E*

Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek for Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for an entire year they assembled with the church and taught many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Acts 11:25-26 (KJV 2016)

The prophet Isaiah foretold: The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name (Isaiah 62:2). The Name of the Lord Jesus was becoming known throughout the Roman world and beyond in fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. In Antioch they were called by a new name now, Christians. By tradition, this is the site where Paul went to teach and strengthen the disciples for a whole year. It is an ancient cave church, with a stone facade built by the Crusaders in 1100, and is carved out of Mount Starius. The oldest surviving parts of the cave church date from the 4th or 5th century but were probably in use in the first century. There are floor mosaics and frescoes to the right side of the altar. Every year thousands of people go to see this place - one of the oldest churches in the world.



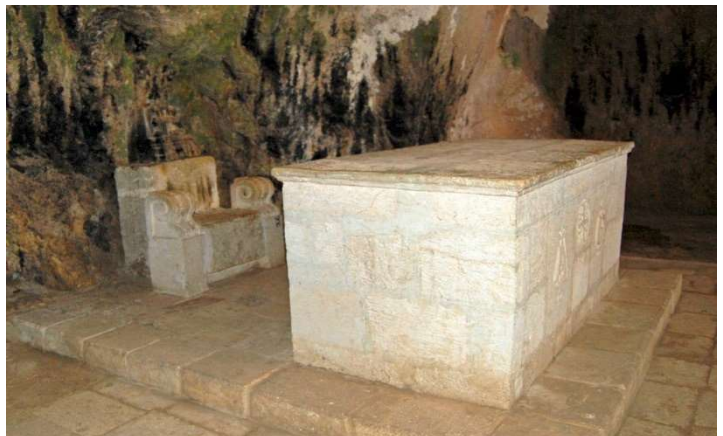
*Exterior of the Church of St. Peter with 12th century facade*



*Syrian Christians are seriously persecuted today*



*Interior of the church showing ancient stonework*



68

Acts 11:25-26



Church of St. Peter  
Antakya, Hatay Province, Turkey





## 69. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR PAUL BEFORE SERGIUS PAULUS IN CYPRUS

*Panagia Chrysopolitissa Basilica, Paphos, Cyprus. Google Earth Coordinates: 35° 8'28.66"N, 32° 48'44.07"E*

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they departed to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as their assistant. Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar Jesus, who was with the proconsul of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. Acts 13:4-7 (KJV 2016)

The Prophet Isaiah foretold the time when foreign countries would see God's glory. He wrote: Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. The Apostle Paul and Barnabas fulfilled this prophecy and came to the Island of Cyprus to the city of Paphos where they encountered the Roman proconsul Sergius Paulus and his attendant Elymas the sorcerer. According to tradition Sergius Paulus commanded Paul to be tied to the column and beaten for preaching the message of Jesus. This pillar still stands today. In the 4th century a church was built around the pillar called the Panagia Chrysopolitissa Basilica marking the place where St. Paul preached and Sergius Paulus was converted. This makes Cyprus the very first country to be governed by a Christian – the Light had truly come to Cyprus.



*This Ayia Kyriaki Chrysopolitissa Church was built around 1500 AD on the site of an older church that dates back from the first century. This church is known as the "Church by St. Paul's Pillar".*

*The Pillar of St. Paul, where Paul was chained and beaten according to tradition*

69

Acts 13:4-7



Church by the Pillar of St. Paul

Paphos, Cyprus



# 70. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR SERGIUS PAULUS, CONVERT AND PROCONSUL OF CYPRUS

Soli, Cyprus. Google Earth Coordinates: 35° 8'28.66"N, 32°48'44.07"E

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they departed to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as their assistant. Now when they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar Jesus, who was with the proconsul of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. Acts 13:4-7 (KJV 2016)

On Paul's first missionary journey with Barnabas, a native of Cyprus, they came to the ancient port city of Salamis then went to the town of Paphos. Paphos was the capital of Cyprus and from there the Proconsul Sergius Paulus governed Cyprus around 44 AD the time of Paul's visit. The Proconsul was a provincial governor who was appointed to serve for a year by the Roman senate. Evidence for Sergius Paulus was found in 1877 by General Louis di Cesnola, who was an Italian-born Colonel during the US Civil War. As he excavated he found an inscription in blue-gray marble found in the city of Soli, not far from Paphos, dated to 54 AD, with the name "Proconsul Paulus". This inscription is now located at the Metropolitan Museum in New York of which Cesnola became the first director.



The Sergius Paulus Inscription

Ruins of Soli, Cyprus, where inscription was found

### The Discovery of the Sergius Paulus Inscription in 1877



**General Louis di Cesnola**  
1832 - 1904



**Italian General and Archaeologist**

**Education:**  
He graduated from the Royal Military Academy at Cherasco, Italy, in 1851.

**Organization/Place of Work**  
He came to New York in 1858 where he taught Italian and French. He then founded a private military school for officers. He served in the civil war and was made commander of a cavalry brigade.

**Bible Evidence:**  
Acts 13:6-12

He was appointed U.S. consul at Larnaca in Cyprus (1865-1877). While there he carried out excavations around Cyprus, especially around the site of Kourion. While excavating at Soli, he discovered this inscription

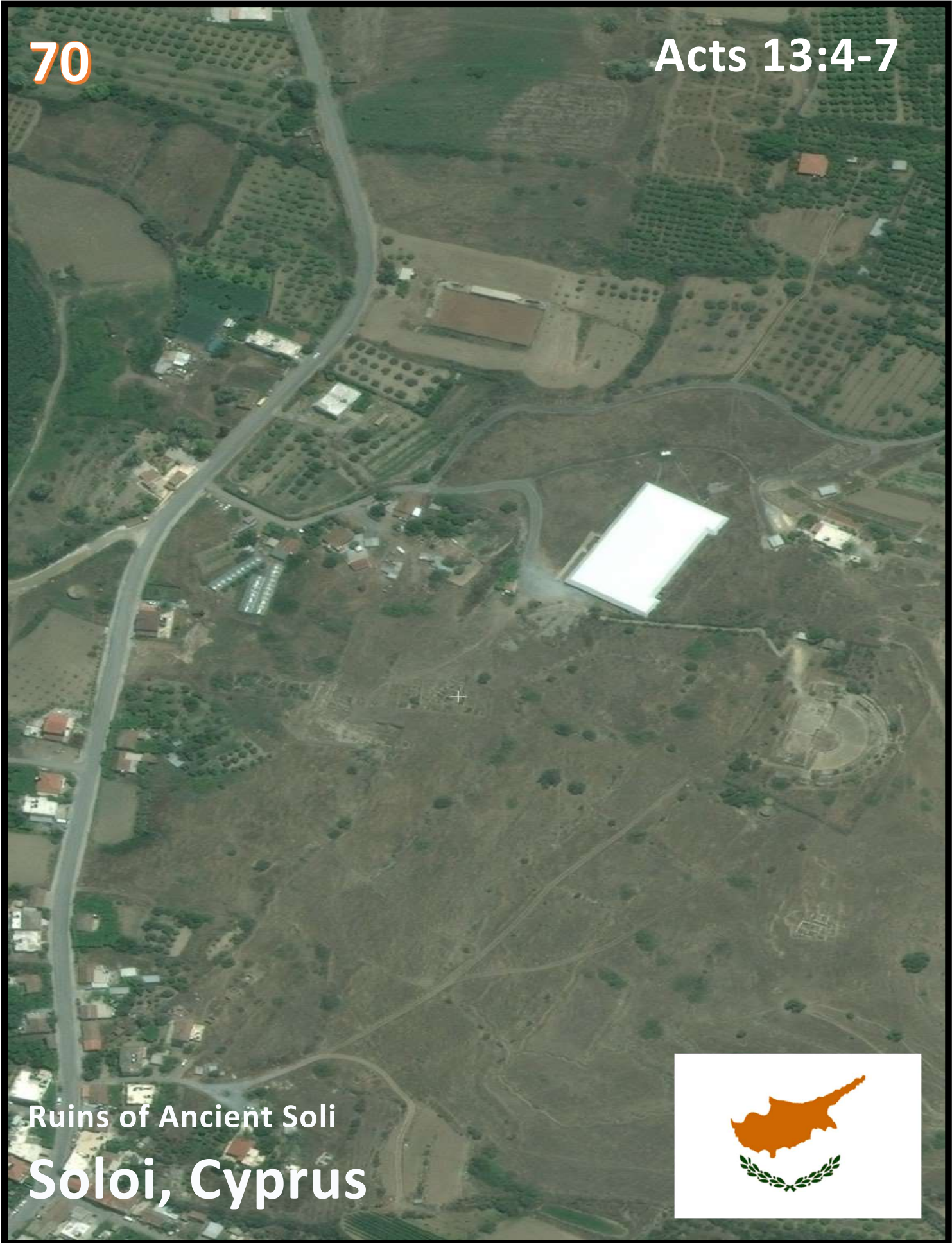


Google Earth Coordinates: 35° 8'28.66"N, 32°48'44.07"E



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Acts 13:4-7



Ruins of Ancient Soli  
**Soloi, Cyprus**

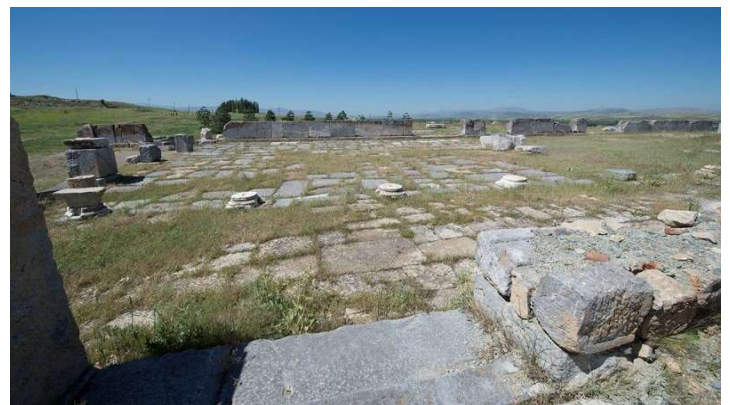


## 71. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE SYNAGOGUE WHERE PAUL PREACHED IN PISIDIAN ANTIOCH

1 km NE of Yalvac, Ispala, Turkey. Google Earth Coordinates: 38°18'23.53"N, 31°11'14.57"E

But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. And after the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, "You men and brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say on." Then Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said, "Men of Israel, and you who reverence God, pay attention: The God of this people Israel chose our fathers, and lifted up the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He brought them out of it.....And the next Sabbath day almost the entire city came together to hear the word of God. Acts 13:14-44 (KJV 2016)

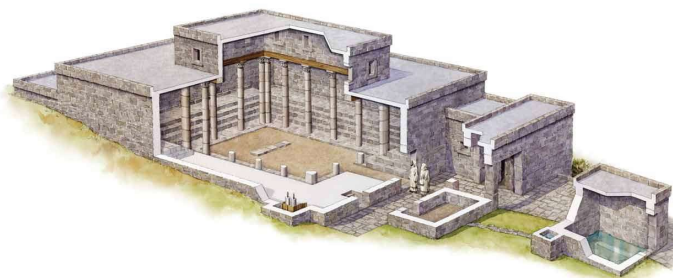
Paul and Barnabas both came to Pisidian Antioch on Paul's First Missionary journey where they came and preached in the synagogue in approximately 46 AD. In 1833, British antiquarian and Chaplain Francis Arundell surveyed Pisidian Antioch and was the first person to define and study the city. He discovered the church of St. Paul, located in the western part of the city near the ramparts and was built in 325 AD on the site of the 1st century synagogue where St. Paul first preached to the Gentiles in 46 AD. It is one of the largest churches ever discovered in Asia Minor complete with an apse, a nave, two side aisles separated from the nave by 13 columns on each side and a mosaic floor which is still visible today.



4th century Church of St. Paul in Pisidian Antioch



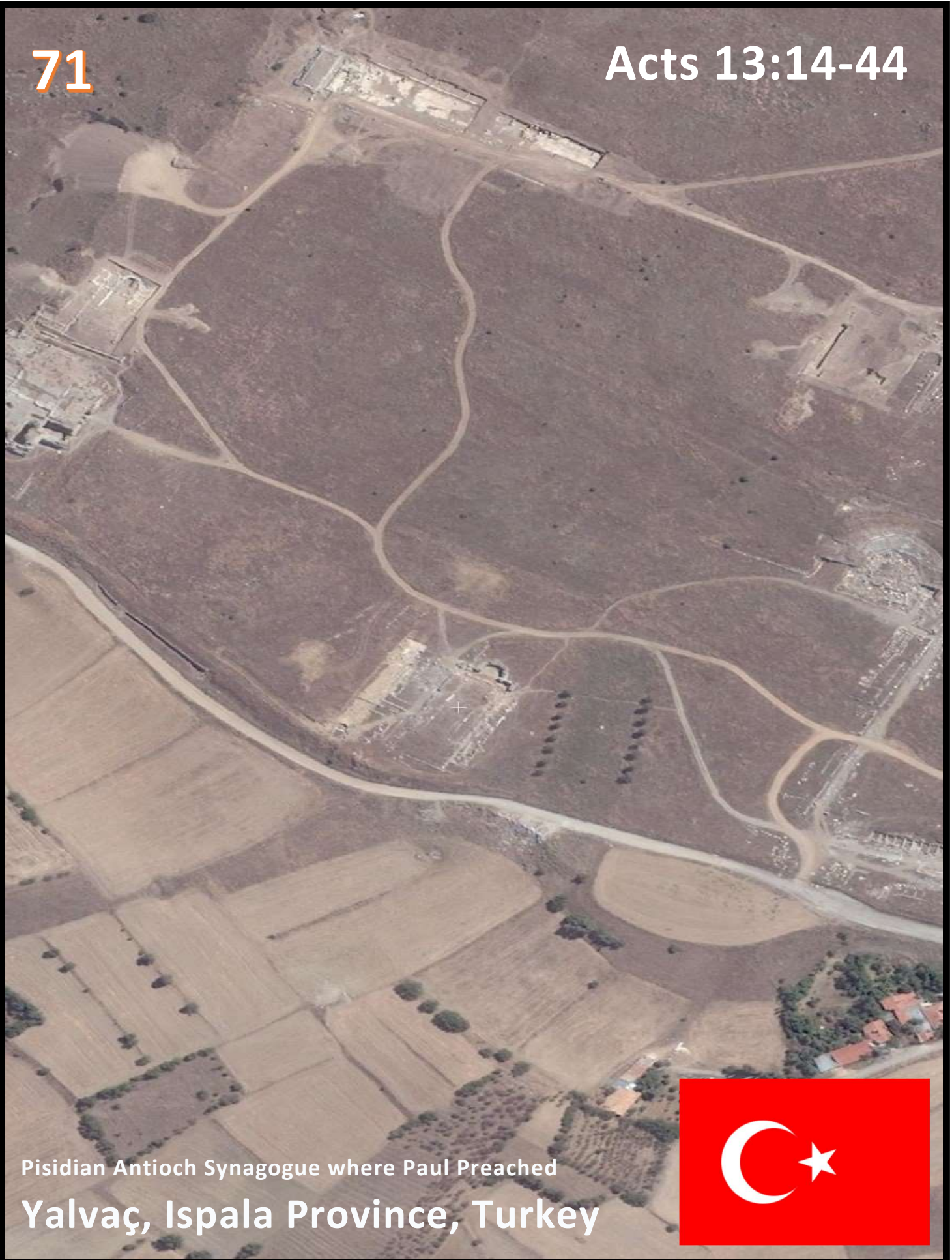
The Apse of the Church of St. Paul



Reconstruction of the Synagogue in the first century

71

Acts 13:14-44



Pisidian Antioch Synagogue where Paul Preached  
Yalvaç, Isparta Province, Turkey



## 72. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR LYSTRA WHERE PAUL WAS STONED AND LEFT FOR DEAD

Gökyurt, Konya, Turkey. Google Earth Coordinates: 37°39'52.89"N, 32°12'38.39"E

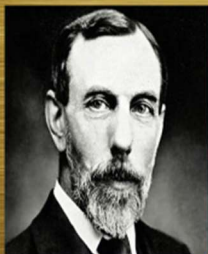
And when a violent attempt was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse them, and to stone them, they were aware of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region. And they preached the gospel there. And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. This man heard Paul speaking, who observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked. Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" ..... Then certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; who persuaded the people, and having stoned Paul, dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe. Acts 14:5-20 (KJV 2016)

In 1907, Scottish archaeologist Sir William Mitchell Ramsay discovered the ancient town of Lystra, the hometown of Saint Timothy. At the beginning of his career he was highly skeptical of the accounts in the book of Acts. "He therefore set out to put the writer of Acts on trial. He devoted his life to unearthing the ancient cities and documents of Asia Minor. After a lifetime of study, however, he concluded: 'Further study ... showed that the book could bear the most minute scrutiny as an authority for the facts of the Aegean world, and that it was written with such judgment, skill, art and perception of truth as to be a model of historical statement'..., 'You may press the words of Luke in a degree beyond any other historian's and they stand the keenest scrutiny and the hardest treatment...' (The Bearing of Recent Discovery, p. 85, 89).




Lystra today is an unexcavated mound

### The Discovery of the Ancient City of Lystra in 1907



**Sir William M. Ramsay**  
1851 - 1939




Scottish  
Archaeologist

**Bible Evidence:**  
Acts 14:5-20

He became the foremost scholar of New Testament archaeology and confirmed the account of Luke in the book of Acts time and again in his discoveries.

**Education:**  
He studied at the University of Aberdeen then went and received his education at Oxford.

**Organization/Place of Work**  
Knighted in 1906 to mark his distinguished service to the world of scholarship, Ramsay also gained three honorary fellowships from Oxford colleges, nine honorary doctorates from British, Continental and North American universities and became an honorary member of almost every association devoted to archaeology and historical research. He was one of the original members of the British Academy, was awarded the Gold Medal of Pope Leo XIII in 1893 and the Victorian Medal of the Royal Geographical Society in 1906.



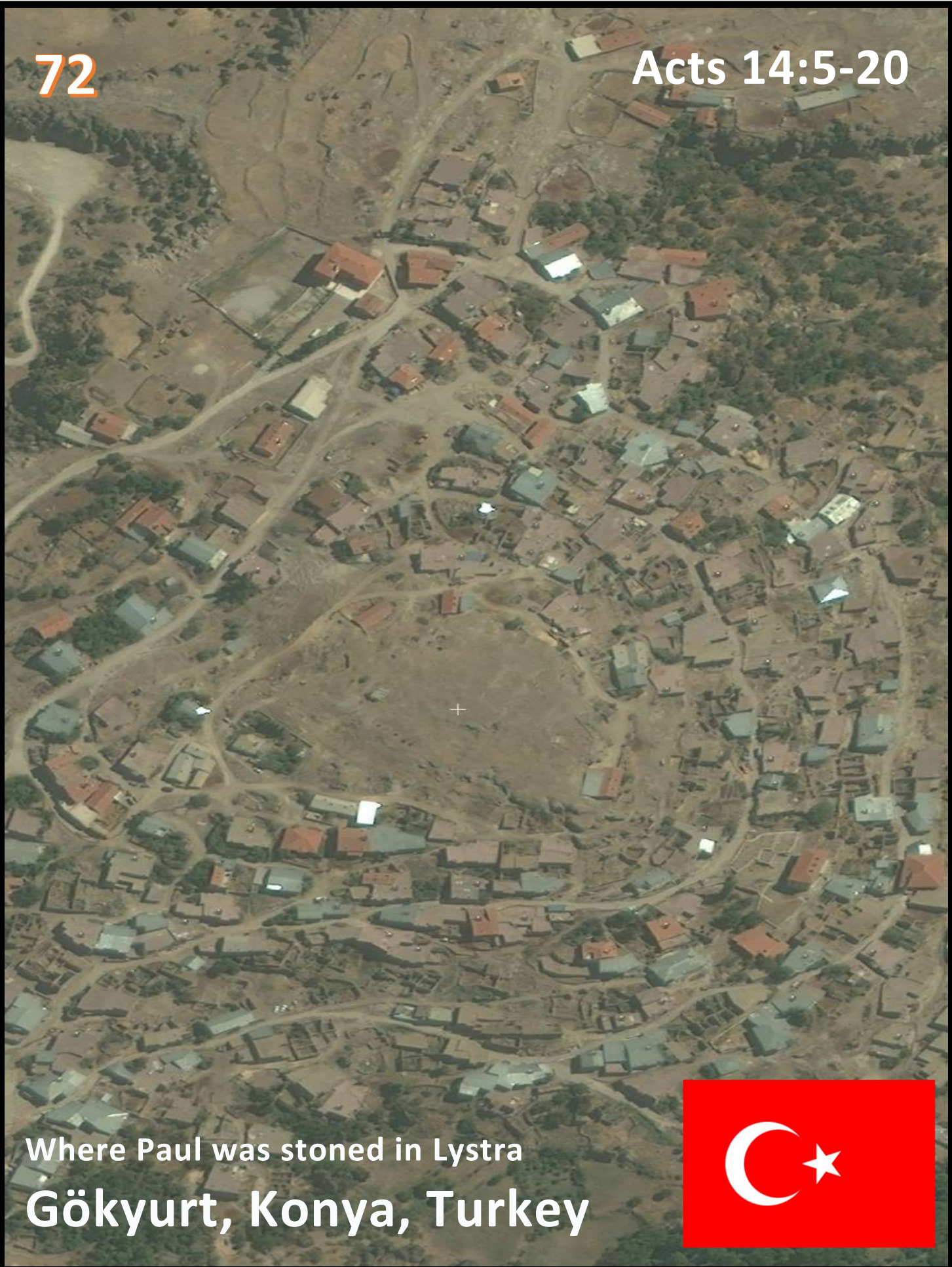
Google Earth Coordinates: 37°39'52.89"N, 32°12'38.39"E



Parts of the Ancient Ruins of Lystra

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Acts 14:5-20



Where Paul was stoned in Lystra  
**Gökyurt, Konya, Turkey**





### 73. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE PLACE WHERE LYDIA WAS BAPTIZED NEAR PHILIPPI

On Krenides River, Near Ancient Philippi (Filipos) Kavala, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 41° 1'14.36"N, 24°16'34.35"E

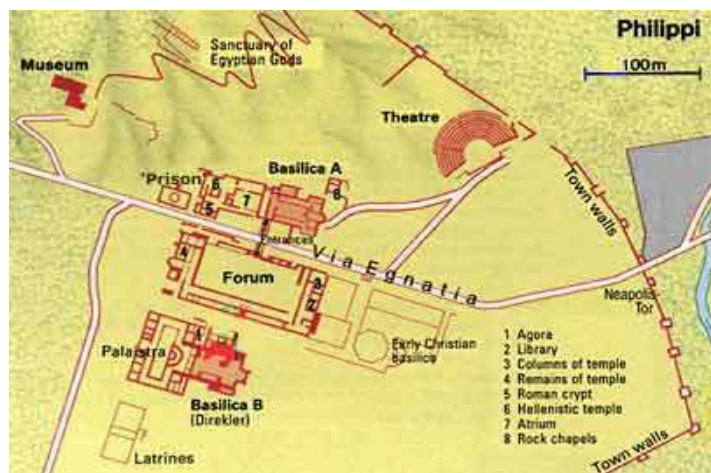
Therefore, untying from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia and a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. And on the Sabbath we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things that were spoken by Paul. And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay there." So she persuaded us. Acts 16:11-15 (KJV 2016)



The prophet Malachi foretold "For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; In every place incense shall be offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the LORD of hosts. The Name of the Lord Jesus was becoming known throughout the Roman world and beyond in fulfillment of Malachi's prophecy. In 49-50 AD Paul went on his second missionary journey with Silas and came to Macedonia. As there was no synagogue in Philippi, they went to a place of prayer out of the city by the Krenides River. As they were meeting, Paul and Silas met with Lydia, a seller of purple cloth, shared the gospel, she received Jesus Christ and was baptized. The location of Lydia's baptism is the Krenides River, outside the Philippi city limits. At this place is St. Lydia's Baptistry, a Greek Orthodox church, built in the early 1900s commemorates the spot on the river where the first European convert, a woman, was baptized.



Krenides River outside Philippi – The Place of Prayer



Ancient Philippi



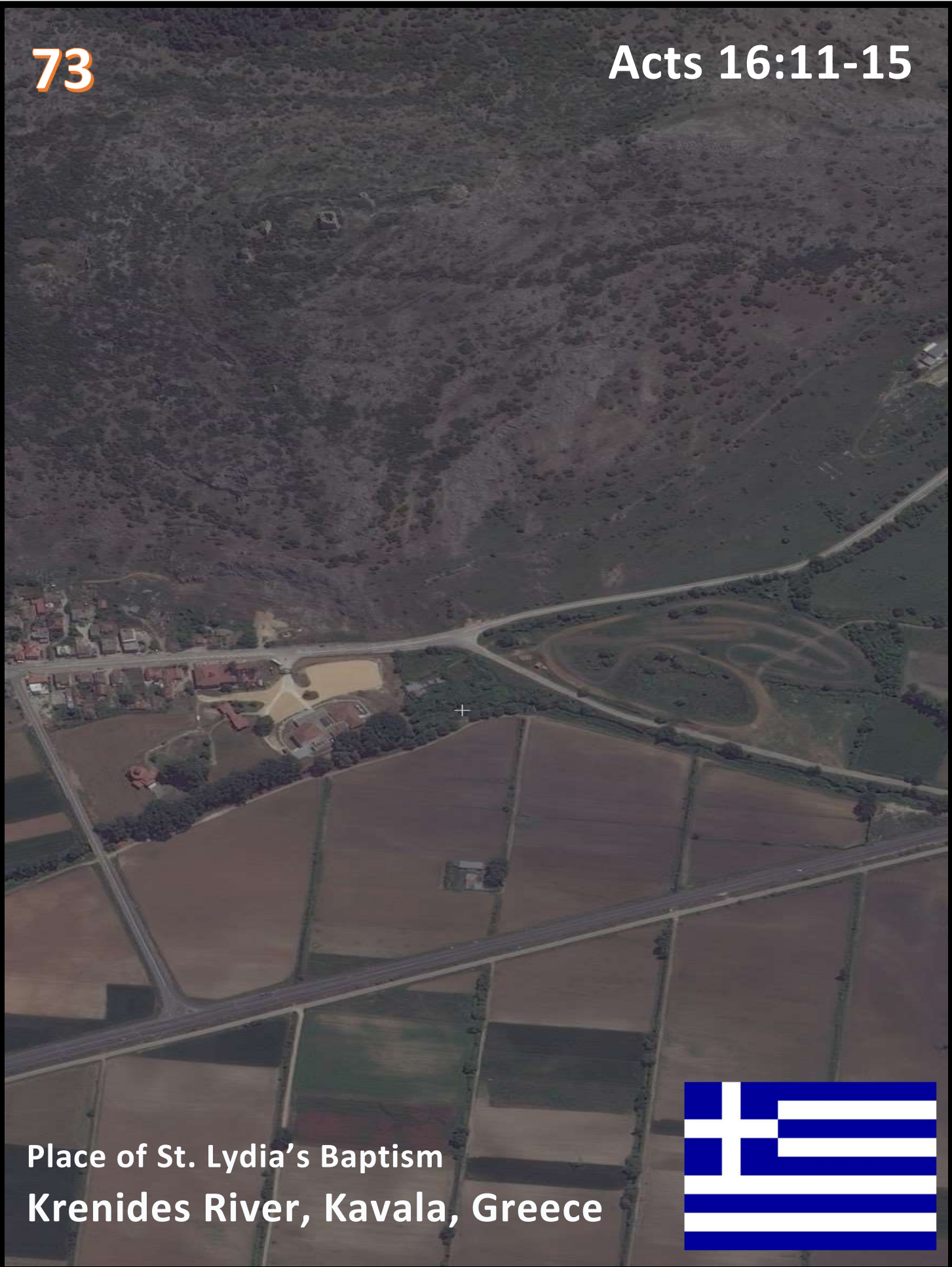
Modern Baptismal



St. Lydia's Baptistry

73

Acts 16:11-15



Place of St. Lydia's Baptism  
Krenides River, Kavala, Greece



## 74. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE PRISON OF PAUL AND SILAS IN PHILIPPI

*Ancient Philippi (Filipos) Kavala, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 41° 0'48.18"N, 24° 17'1.40"E*

But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, greatly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us to receive or to observe being Romans." Then the crowd rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to beat them. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such an order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing praises to God, and the prisoners listened to them. Then suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and would have killed himself. But Paul shouted with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, because we are all here." Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you and your household will be saved." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Acts 16:16-40 (KJV 2016)

The prophet David, King of Israel, wrote: Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles, And sing praises to Your name. This was fulfilled when Paul and Silas sang praise to God in the Philippi prison that day. The ancient city of Philippi was excavated and researched from 1914 to 1938 by the French School of Archaeology at Athens. Among their discoveries was the Marketplace of Philippi. This is where Paul and Silas were brought before the magistrates of Philippi. Then they were put in prison nearby. Archaeologists are unsure but this place may have been the site during the first century where Paul and Silas were placed in an inner prison and where an earthquake set them free.



*The Marketplace [4] and Prison [3] in Ancient Philippi*



*Marketplace where Paul and Silas appeared before magistrates*



*Possible prison where Paul and Silas Jailed*



*Possible inner prison cell where Paul and Silas Jailed*

74

Acts 16:16-40



Prison of St. Paul and Silas  
Filipos, Kavala, Greece



## 75. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE ANCIENT CITY OF THESSALONICA

Thessaloniki, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 40° 38' 14.03"N, 22° 56' 45.78"E

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbath days reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is Christ." And some of them believed; and a large multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas. But the Jews who did not believe, becoming envious, took some of the wicked men of a vulgar sort, and gathering a mob, set the entire city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, shouting, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here also. Acts 17:1-6 (KJV 2016)

Today much of present-day Thessaloniki covers the ancient ruins of Thessalonica. However, recently Roman remains were unearthed (as seen below). Interestingly the "rulers of the city", or *politarches*, was a term inscribed on the city's gates. The Jewish community was quite vibrant for nearly 2 millennia. In Paul's day, he visited the Synagogue which has not been discovered yet to my knowledge. Tragically, nearly 60,000 of the Jews living in Thessalonica were deported by Hitler's Nazi and nearly all died in concentration camps. Today the Jewish population is only 1200.



First century Bath House discovered in Thessaloniki



Thessalonian Roman Market



The Vardar Gate, Thessalonica



The "Politarches" Inscription, from the Vardar Gate, now in the British Museum

75

Acts 17:1-6

Ancient Thessalonica,  
Thessaloniki, Greece

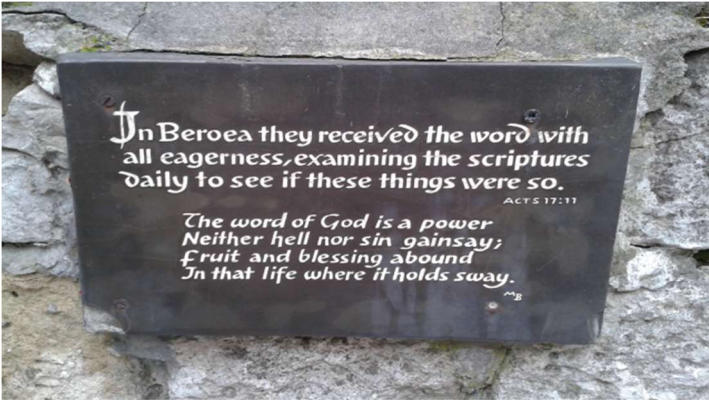


## 76. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE ANCIENT CITY OF BEREA

Veria, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 40°31'24.70"N, 22°12'18.20"E

Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily whether these things were so. Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men. But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds. And then immediately the brethren sent Paul away, to go as it were to the sea; but both Silas and Timothy remained there. Acts 17:10-14 (KJV 2016)

According to tradition, the Apostle Paul came to Berea and preached to the Bereans at this place where the present monument stands.



Inscription in Berea



Monument to Paul's Mission to Berea



76

Acts 17:10-14

Ancient Berea  
Veria, Imathia, Greece





## 77. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE AREOPAGUS IN ATHENS

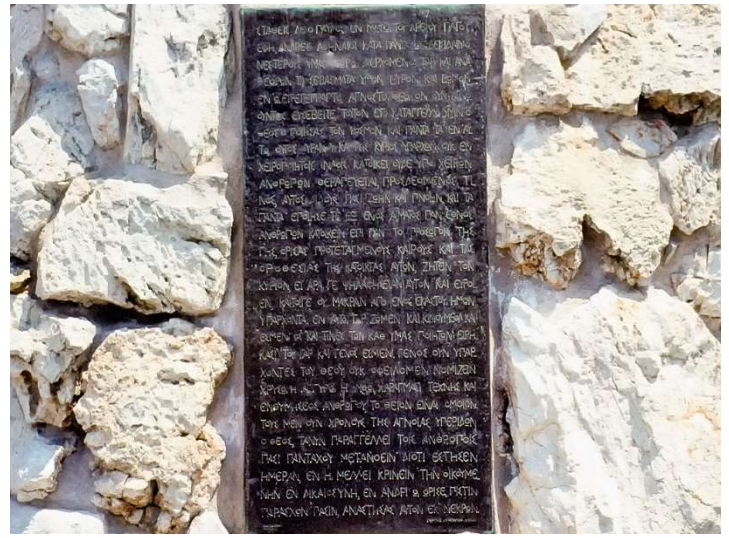
Athens, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 37°58'20.31"N, 23°43'24.05"E

And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new doctrine is of which you speak? Because, you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean.” Because, all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else except to tell or to hear something new. Then Paul stood in the midst of the Mars’ Hill and said, “You men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are too superstitious; because, as I was passing by and considering the objects of your worship, I found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you ignorantly worship, Him I proclaim to you: Acts 17:19-22 (KJV 2016)

In ancient times, the Areopagus was a place in Athens where those accused of murder would stand trial. It was the place where the council or court of justice met in the open air on the hill. Later on the Romans renamed it Mars Hill after Mars, the Roman god of war. It was here that Paul preached his sermon to the Athenians and proclaimed to them about the “unknown god”, that this God was the Creator of all things and preached the gospel to them.



The Areopagus in Athens



St. Paul's entire Sermon in Greek at site



Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey

77

Acts 17:19-22



Place where St. Paul Preached  
Areopagus, Athens, Greece

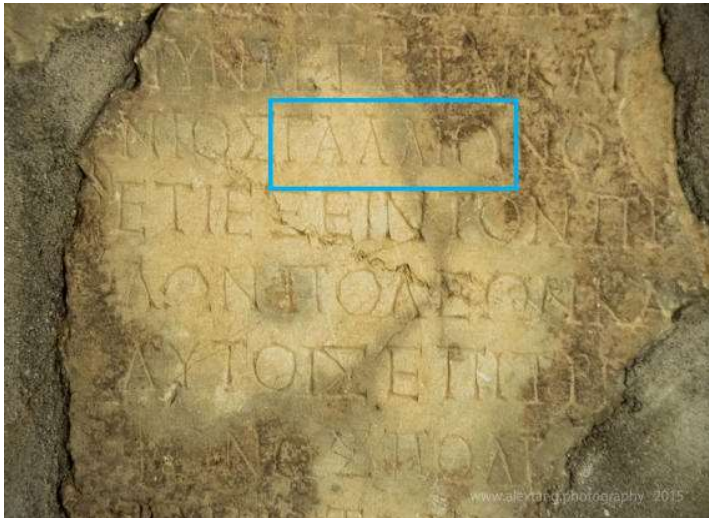


## 78. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR GALLIO, PROCONSUL OF ACHAIA

Now in Delphi Museum, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 38°28'49.23"N, 22°29'59.11"E

When Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him to the judgment seat, saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law." And when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of wrongdoing or wicked crimes, O Jews, there would be reason why I should bear with you. But if it is a question of words and names and your own law, look to it yourselves; because I do not want to be a judge of such matters." And he drove them from the judgment seat. Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. But Gallio took no notice of these things. Acts 18:12-17 (KJV 2016)

In 1903, a collection of 9 fragments of writing were discovered in Delphi, Greece, in the Temple of Apollo, by Emile Bourguet, French archaeologist and a team of French archaeologists from the École Française d'Athènes. They were written by the Emperor Claudius and in the inscription, it says: "my friend Gallio, Proconsul." This find fully confirms the Biblical account in Acts 18:12-17

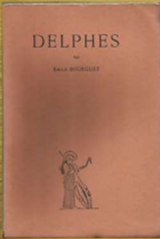


The Gallio Inscription

### TRANSLATION:

Tiber[us Claudius Cae]sar Augustus Ge[rmanicus, invested with tribunician po]w[er] [for the 12th time, acclaimed Imperator for t]he 26th time, F[ather of the Fa]ther[land...]. For a l[ong] time have I been not onl]y [well-disposed towards t]he ci[ty] of Delph[i], but also solicitous for its pro]sperity, and I have always guard[ed] th]e cul[t of t]he [Pythian] Apol[lo]. But] now [since] it is said to be destit[ute] of [citi]zens, as [L. Jun]ius Gallio, my fri]end] and proconsul. [recently reported to me, and being desirous that Delphi] should retain [inta]ct its for[mer rank, I] ord[er] you (pl.) to in]vite well-born people also from [ot]her cities [to Delphi as new inhabitants...]


**The Discovery of the Gallio Inscription in 1903**



**Emile Bourguet**  
1868 - 1939

Google Earth Coordinates: 38°28'57.60"N, 22°30'7.63"E


Now in Delphi Museum, Greece

 French Historian

**Organization/Place of Work**  
He worked as a historian of antiquities at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes, director of Epigraphy and Greek studies.

**Bible Evidence:**  
Acts 18:12-17

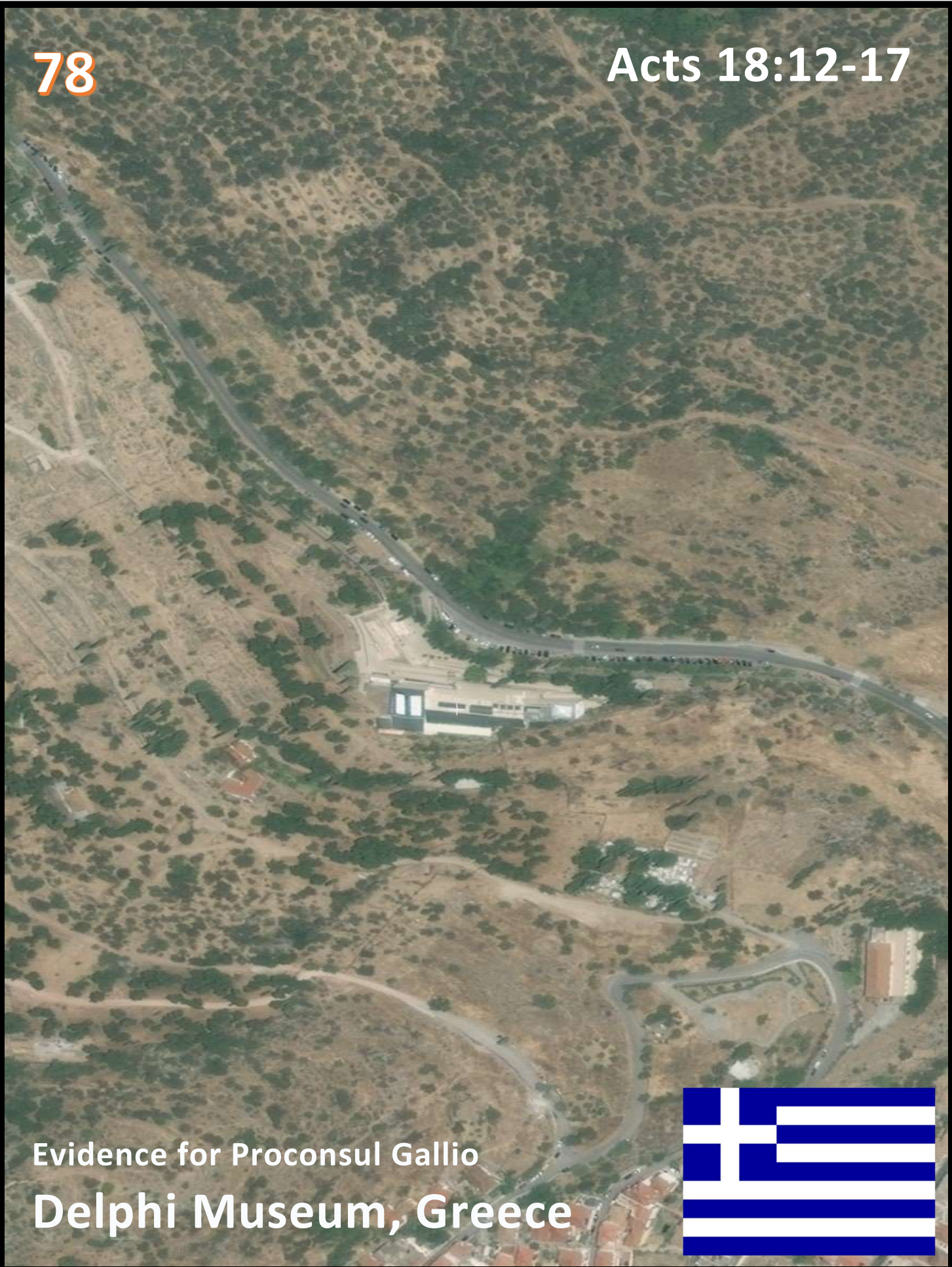
The inscriptions were found by the French team. Bourguet later published the findings.




Temple of Apollo at Delphi

78

Acts 18:12-17



Evidence for Proconsul Gallio  
Delphi Museum, Greece



# 79. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE BEMA SEAT AND JEWISH PRESENCE IN CORINTH

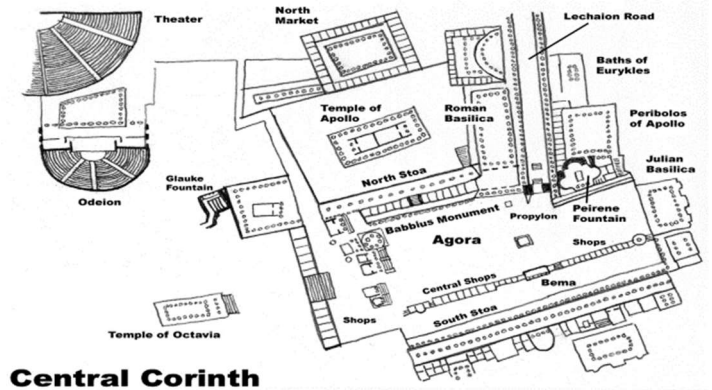
Archaea Korinthos, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 37°54'20.53"N, 22°52'45.84"E

When Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him to the judgment seat, saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law." Acts 18:12-13 (KJV 2016)

In 1929, American archaeologist Dr. T.L. Shear conducted excavations and discovered the main judgment seat of Corinth right next to the Agora. The Apostle Paul stood right before the judgment seat but before he could give his defense, Gallio the Proconsul of Achaia refused to hear the matter and the case was dismissed. Then a synagogue inscription was found that gives evidence of a synagogue from the 5<sup>th</sup> century.



The BEMA judgment seat in Ancient Corinth where Paul stood




Central Corinth




The BEMA Seat

**The Discovery of the BEMA Seat in 1929**



**Dr. T. L. Shear**  
1880 - 1945




American Professor and Archaeologist

**Education:**  
He attended Collegiate school in New York and New York University. He earned his doctorate at John Hopkins University in 1904.

**Organization/Place of Work**  
He became associate professor of Greek at Columbia University then professor of classical archaeology at Princeton University.

**Bible Evidence:**  
Romans 16:23  
He directed the archaeological dig at Corinth from 1925 - 1931 where the Erastus inscription and the BEMA seat was uncovered in 1929.



Google Earth Coordinates: 37°54'25.59"N, 22°52'38.93"E



Marble relief from the remains of the synagogue in Corinth

Synagogue Lintel Inscription from Corinth (5<sup>th</sup> century AD). It reads "GOG EBR = [SYNA]GOG EBR[AION]. It gives proof of a Jewish community in the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD. The Menorahs found also date to the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD.

79

Acts 18:12-13



Judgment Seat where Paul Stood  
Ancient Corinth, Greece



## 80. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR ERASTUS IN CORINTH

Archaea Korinthos, Greece. Google Earth Coordinates: 37°54'25.59"N, 22°52'38.93"E

Gaius, my host and the host of the entire church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus, a brother. Romans 16:23 (KJV 2016)

In 1929, American archaeologist Dr. T.L. Shear directed excavations in ancient Corinth and discovered an inscription which clearly gives the name Erastus. It reads: "Erastus in return for his aedile ship, laid the pavement at his own expense". An aedile means that he was responsible for public buildings and festivals and for enforcing public order. This is evidence that Erastus was a city official in Corinth and Dr. Shear believed that it was almost certainly the Erastus mentioned by Paul in the book of Romans.



The Erastus Inscription: It reads: "Erastus in return for his aedileship laid the pavement at his own expense" (Latin: ERASTVS. PRO. AED. S. P. STRAVIT).

### The Discovery of the Erastus Inscription in 1929

American Professor and Archaeologist

**Education:**  
He attended Collegiate school in New York and New York University. He earned his doctorate at John Hopkins University in 1904.

**Organization/Place of Work**  
He became associate professor of Greek at Columbia University then professor of classical archaeology at Princeton University.

**Bible Evidence:**  
Romans 16:23  
He directed the archaeological dig at Corinth from 1925 – 1931 where the Erastus inscription was uncovered in 1929. The Erastus inscription confirmed that Erastus was a 1<sup>st</sup> Century official in the city of Corinth.

**Dr. T. L. Shear**  
1880 - 1945

Google Earth Coordinates: 37°54'25.59"N, 22°52'38.93"E



80

Romans 16:23



Erastus Inscription  
Ancient Corinth, Greece





## 81. THIS IS THE THEATRE IN EPHESUS AND SHRINES OF DIANA

Selcuk, Izmir, Turkey. Google Earth Coordinates: 37° 56'27.76"N, 27° 20'32.48"E

And about that time there arose no small commotion about the Way. Because, a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen, whom he called together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: "Men, you know that we have our wealth by this trade. Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. So that not only is this trade of ours in danger of becoming disgraced, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence shall be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship." Now when they heard these words, they were full of wrath and shouted out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" So the entire city was filled with confusion, and having seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians, Paul's travel companions, they rushed into the theater with one accord. Acts 19:23-29 (KJV 2016)

Paul's travel companions Gaius and Aristarchus were taken into the Great Theatre in Ephesus which could seat 25,000 people. It was the largest in the Province of Anatolia. The theatre was used for concerts and plays, religious and philosophical discussions and for gladiator and animals fights. The city of Ephesus had an estimated 250,000 people. Today only about 10% of the city has yet been excavated. As well, coins have been found which depict the silver shrines that were made by the silversmiths in the city of Ephesus during the time of the Apostle Paul. This theatre itself and the coins which depict the silver shrines of Diana give evidence of the events which took place in Acts 19:23-29.



The Theatre in Ephesus



Model of the Temple of Diana in Ephesus, one of the wonders of the ancient world, now in ruins



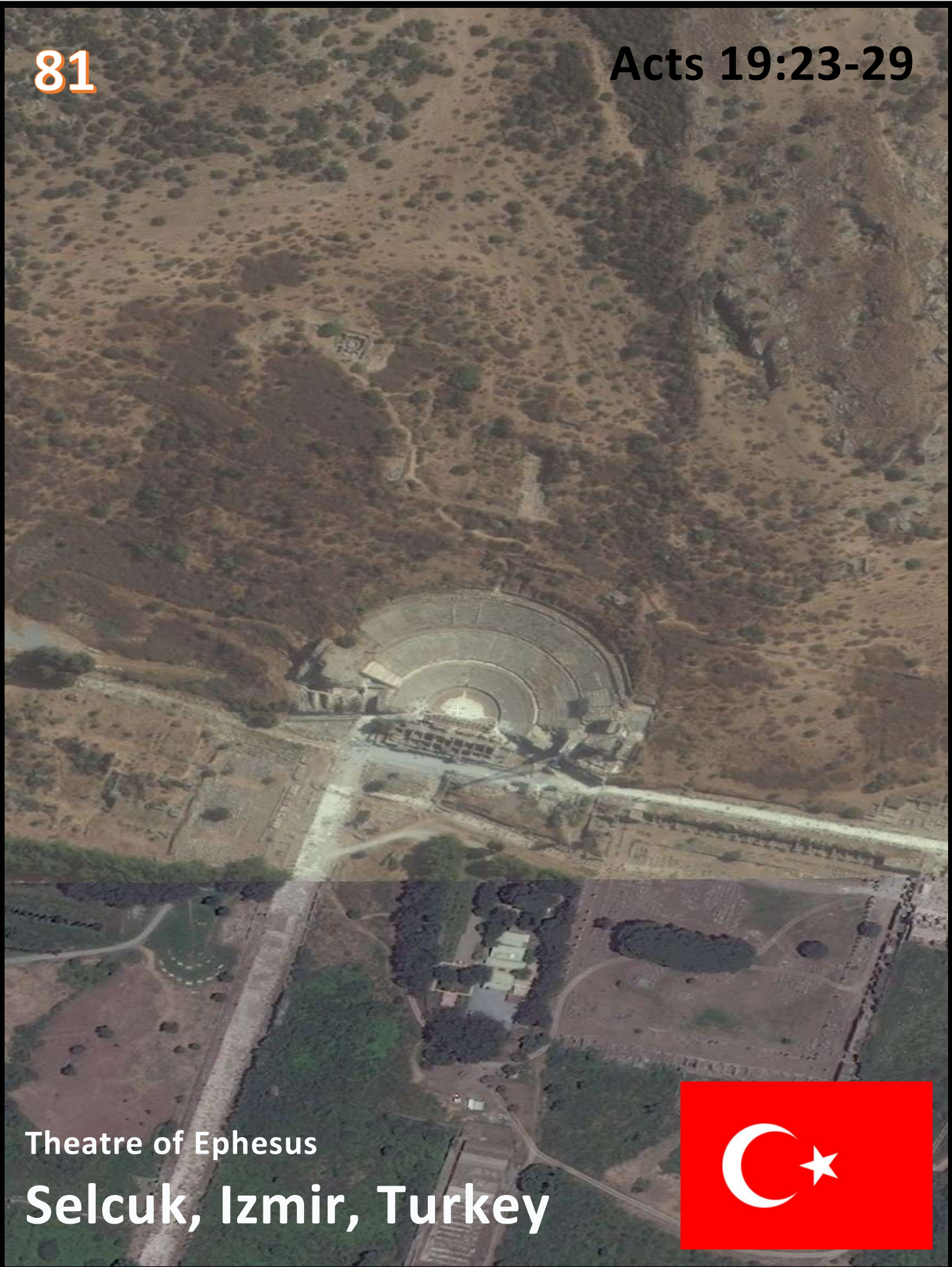
Coin depicting the Silver Shrines of Diana of Ephesus



Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey

81

Acts 19:23-29



Theatre of Ephesus  
Selcuk, Izmir, Turkey

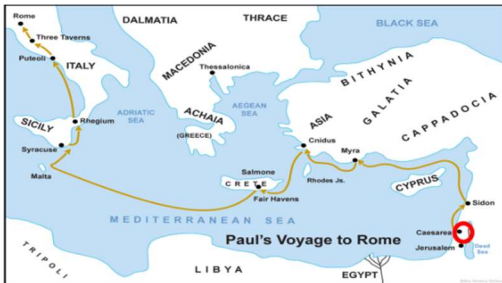


## 82. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR CAESAREA MARITIMA WHERE PAUL WAS IMPRISONED

Caesarea, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 32°30'3.92"N, 34°53'32.32"E

"For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar... Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, "You have appealed to Caesar? To Caesar you shall go!" Acts 25:11-12.... So the next day, when Agrippa and Bernice had come with great pomp, and had entered the auditorium with the commanders and the prominent men of the city, at Festus' command Paul was brought in." Acts 25:23 (KJV 2016)

In 1976, Dr. Ehud Netzer directed systematic excavations of the Promontory Palace grounds, uncovering the ruins of a magnificent structure. In the center of the Palace was a large rock-cut pool which measured 35 X 18m. The historian Josephus describes an exquisite palace complex for Herod, which was since destroyed. Excavations proceeded to 1994 and continued to reveal many structures of Herod's Palace. In 58 AD, the Apostle Paul, accused of having caused a riot, was sent to Caesarea to be tried by the governor. Being a Roman citizen, Paul demanded to be heard at the Emperor's court. He said: "I appeal to Caesar". He then sailed to Rome from Caesarea's harbor. There he was tried and a few years later executed. This hall, below may very well have been the place where the Apostle Paul appealed to Caesar and he may have been imprisoned for nearly 2 years in the Promontory Palace grounds.



- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| A Theater            | E Lighthouse   |
| B Palace             | F Aqueduct     |
| C Temple of Augustus | G Amphitheater |
| D Harbor (Sebastos)  | H Hippodrome   |



The Apostle Paul spent 2 years here



Herod's Palace Complex in Caesarea Maritima



Herod's Promontory Palace ruins

82

Acts 25:11-23



Herod's Palace where Paul Imprisoned  
Caesarea Maritima, Israel

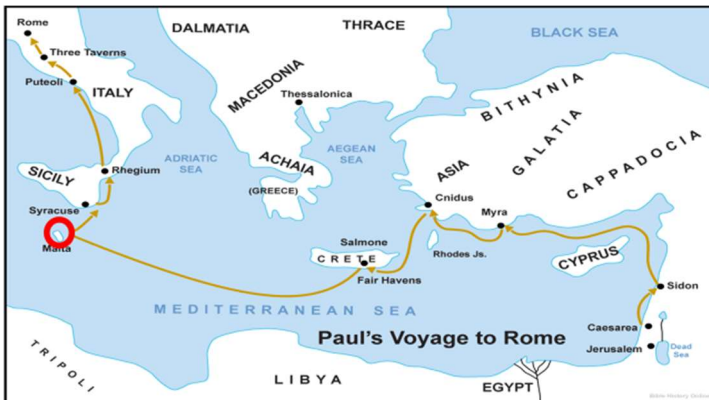


## 83. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR PAUL'S GRAIN SHIPWRECK IN MALTA

Salinas Bay, Malta. Google Earth Coordinates: 35°57'35.50"N, 14°26'17.90"E  
 Now at Malta Maritime Museum, Google Earth Coordinates: 35°53'16.72"N, 14°31'14.79"E

And there the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing to Italy, and he put us on board. And when we had sailed slowly many days, and arrived with difficulty off Cnidus, the wind not permitting us to proceed, we sailed under Crete off Salmone. And passing it with difficulty, we came to a place called The Fair Havens, near the city of Lasea. Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, and said to them, "Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives.....And in all we were two hundred and seventy six persons on the ship. So when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship and threw out the wheat into the sea. And when it was day, they did not recognize the land; but they observed a bay with a beach, onto which they planned to drive the ship if possible. And when they had taken up the anchors, they committed themselves to the sea, untied the rudder ropes, hoisted the mainsail to the wind, and made for shore. And striking a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the front stuck fast and remained immovable, but the back part was being broken up by the violence of the waves. And the soldiers' instructions were to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim away and escape. But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, kept them from their purpose, and commanded that those who could swim should throw themselves first into the sea and get to land, and the rest, some on boards and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it was that they all escaped safely to land. Acts 27:6-10; 37-44 (KJV 2016)

On April 25, 2005, while diving off the Northern coast of Malta, Mark Gatt, a Maltese volunteer firefighter and florist, discovered a large metal anchor. This anchor was 2.3 m in length and weighed 700 kg. It was found at a depth of 36 m of water in Salina Bay, Malta. The inscription on the anchor were the deities ISIS and SERAPIS. This indicates that this ship was constructed in Egypt, where ISIS was one of the chief deities and Serapis was a Greco-Egyptian god. In Acts 27, Luke tells us that the ship was Alexandrian, so this is evidence that this could have belonged to this extremely important ship carrying 276 passengers that ran aground in the same area of Malta. The anchor is now on display at the Malta Maritime Museum in Vittoriosa, Malta.



Pope Benedict views the Anchor in Malta



### The Discovery of St. Paul's Ship Anchor in 2005



**Mark Gatt**



Maltese Firefighter, Florist & Diver

**Bible Evidence:**  
 Acts 27:6 and 38-41

While diving at 36 m in 2005 Mark Gatt discovered an ancient anchor fitting the description of St. Paul's shipwrecked boat in 60 AD.

**Contact Email:**  
 divers@maltanet.net

**Education:**  
 Mark did his diver's training in Malta in the 1980s.

**Organization/Place of Work**  
 He has been a Civil Protection Department volunteer firefighter/rescuer for over 30 years and also runs a small flower shop.

Google Earth Coordinates: 35°57'35.50"N, 14°26'17.90"E

Now at Malta Maritime Museum



The Malta Maritime Museum, Vittoriosa

83

# Acts 27:6-44



*The Place where the Anchor was found in Salinas Bay*



*A modern 300-Passenger Vessel to give size perspective*



*What the anchor may have originally looked like*



*The Anchor is now on display at the Malta Maritime Museum, Vittoriosa, Malta*

## 84. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR THE MAMERTINE PRISON IN ROME

*Ancient Rome, Italy. Google Earth Coordinates: 41°53'35.69"N, 12°29'4.19"E*

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the afflictions for the gospel according to the power of God....For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing. 2 Timothy 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:6-8 (KJV 2016)

The Mamertine prison was a place where criminals accused of serious crimes would spend short stays prior to their execution. Many died within the cell which was initially a water cistern, converted to a jail cell perhaps in the 7th century BC, when it was the only prison, and used until the 4th century AD. The ancient historian Sallust said that it was 12 feet below the ground and "neglect, darkness and stench made it hideous and fearsome to behold." According to tradition both the Apostles Peter and Paul both spent time in the Mamertine prison in Rome prior to their execution. Church legend records that Peter was kept here and his fellow prisoners were converted to Christ. Then miraculously a spring began to flow on the cell floor and he then baptized the new converts inside the cell. Then he was crucified upside-down around 62 AD under the Emperor Nero believing that he was not worthy to die in the same way as Jesus Christ. The Apostle Paul was taken to Rome following the shipwreck, stood trial before the emperor, but was under house arrest. He was later released then arrested again and brought to prison in Rome. It was probably here where he wrote the Second Epistle to Timothy knowing that the time of his death was imminent. Paul was beheaded later on order of Nero around 65-67 AD.



*Golden engraving of St. Peter baptizing fellow prisoners*



*The Mamertine Prison in Rome*



*The Round Prison Cell (With St. Peter's upside down cross altar)*



*The Apostles Peter then Paul were chained to this column*

84

2 Timothy 4:6-8



Mamertine Prison  
Rome, Italy





## 85. THIS IS EVIDENCE FOR MARY'S HOME IN EPHESUS

*Orman Yolu Park, Turkey. Google Earth Coordinates: 37°54'43.14"N, 27°19'57.65"E*

Therefore, when Jesus saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. John 19:26 (KJV 2016)

Tradition holds that the Apostle John took care of Mary as he fled from Palestine following intense persecution under King Agrippa I. John fled to Ephesus with Mary, became a pastor, served there and took care of Mary in his own home. In 1881, Father Julien Gouyet, a French Roman Catholic priest discovered a small stone building dating to the Byzantine period and further excavations revealed a first century dwelling with a small bedroom on the side believed to be Mary's bedroom. It is located on a mountain near the ancient ruins of Ephesus overlooking the Aegean Sea. It was realized that this small stone building without a roof had been venerated by the early church and was frequented by people nearby who were descendants of the original faithful Ephesian Christians whose ancestors the Apostle John served as leader. Today pilgrims who come to this home can visit the chapel and write prayers and wishes and attach them to a wishing wall on the grounds of Mary's home. As well, a spring of water flows underneath the home and pilgrims come and drink its waters. It is believed that these waters have curative properties.



*The place believed to be the home of Mary in Ephesus*



*Pope Benedict at the Home of Mary*



*Pilgrims come and drink from Mary's Spring*



*A woman ties a petition on the wishing wall*



*The adjoining room of Mary*

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John 19:26



Home of Blessed Mary  
Orman Yolu Park, Turkey

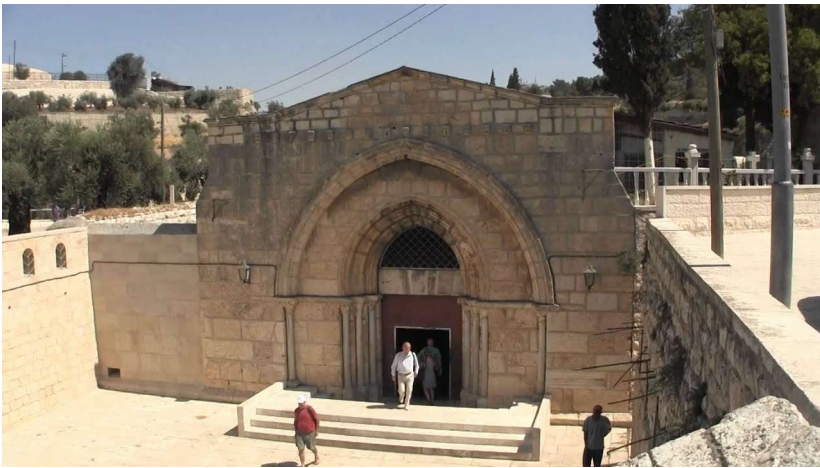


## 86. EVIDENCE FOR THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF MARY MOTHER OF JESUS (41 AD)

*The Tomb of the Blessed Mary, Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31° 46' 48" N, 35° 14' 23" E*

Therefore, when Jesus saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. John 19:26 (KJV 2016)

According to tradition, Mary the mother of Jesus travelled to Ephesus along with the Apostle John, who was commissioned with caring for her by Jesus Himself. She lived in Ephesus for some time before returning to Jerusalem and dying in and around the year 41 AD. Her body was then taken to the Tomb of the Virgin Mary in Jerusalem. Catholic and Orthodox believers believe that she was resurrected (the assumption) on the 3rd day and later ascended to heaven; so her tomb was empty. This tomb is found at the foot of the Mount of Olives near the Garden of Gethsemane. In 1972, Bellarmino Bagatti, a Franciscan friar and archaeologist, excavated the site and found a 1st century cemetery. A small place of worship – an edicule – was built over the original site of the tomb of Mary. Then a larger octagonal church was built over this in the 5th century but was destroyed by the Persian invasion of 614 AD. The site was rebuilt and destroyed several times and in the year 1130 the tomb was rebuilt by the Crusaders but then later destroyed by Saladin. Finally in the year 1757, Greek Orthodox clergy expelled the Franciscans. Now the site has been continued to be cared for by the Armenian Orthodox and the Greek Orthodox church of Jerusalem.



*The Tomb of the Virgin Mary, Jerusalem, Israel*



*Entrance to the Tomb*



*The Tomb of the Virgin Mary (an Empty Stone Bench)*

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John 19:26



Tomb of the Virgin Mary  
Jerusalem, Israel

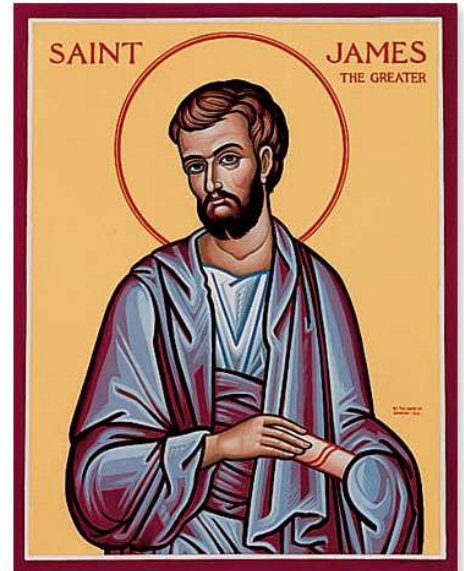


## 87. EVIDENCE FOR THE DEATH OF ST. JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE (44 AD)

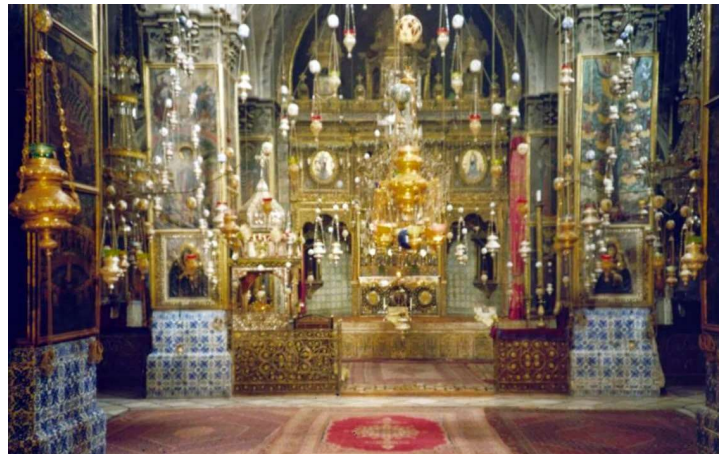
Place of Death: Jerusalem, Israel. Google Earth Coordinates: 31°46'27.48"N, 35°13'44.08"E

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; **James the son of Zebedee**, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. Matthew 10:1-4 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out *his* hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. Acts 12:1-2 (KJV 2016)

James, son of Zebedee, was a fisherman by trade working in Capernaum when Jesus called him to a lifetime of ministry. He and his brother John were nicknamed Boanerges or Sons of Thunder. He was a strong leader of the church, and by order of Herod Agrippa I, in 44 AD, James was beheaded in Jerusalem. The Roman officer who guarded James watched amazed as James defended his faith at his trial. Later, this officer walked beside James to the place of execution. Overcome by conviction, he declared his new Christian faith to the judge and knelt beside James to accept beheading as a Christian. This took place in the location that is now St. James Church in Jerusalem.



The Cathedral of St. James, Jerusalem



Altar (place of death) inside the Cathedral of St. James, Jerusalem



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Acts 12:1-2



*The Beheading of St. James*



The Cathedral of St. James  
Jerusalem, Israel

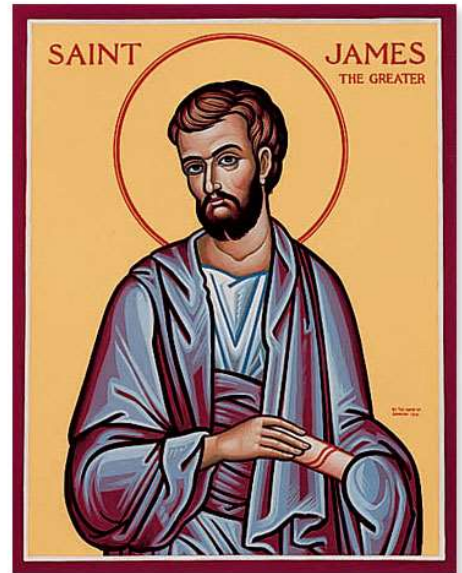


## 88. EVIDENCE FOR THE BURIAL OF ST. JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE (44 AD)

Place of Burial: Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Google Earth Coordinates: 42°52'50.17"N, 8°32'39.76"W

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain." John 12:24 (KJV 2016)

Some traditions hold that James had gone previously to preach the gospel in Iberia (modern Spain), so his decapitated body was transferred by believers from Jerusalem to the tomb within what is now in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, Spain. In Spanish, James is Santiago, and he is the Patron Saint of Spain. Many Christians from around the world make a 800 km pilgrimage on the "Camino de Santiago" from a small town in France to just beyond Santiago de Compostela remembering the life of that faithful apostle James, or Santiago, who is the patron saint of Spain.



Pilgrims on the The Camino de Santiago



Altar within Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, Spain



Altar within Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, Spain



The Camino de Santiago

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John 12:42



Spanish Christians



The Burial Place of St. James  
Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela  
Santiago de Compostela, Spain

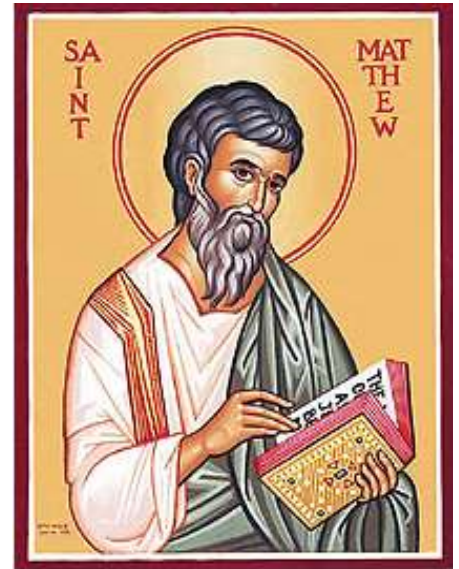




## 89. EVIDENCE FOR THE DEATH OF ST. MATTHEW (60 AD)

*Place of Death: Jebel Barkal, Karima, Northern State, Sudan. Google Earth Coordinates: 18°32'10.12"N, 31°49'42.74"E*

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and **Matthew the tax collector**; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. Matthew 10:1-4 (KJV 2016)



St. Matthew (or Levi) son of Alpheus was a tax collector by profession and sat and received taxes from his place of occupation in Capernaum. As a tax collector he was literate in both Aramaic and Greek. He invited Jesus to his home for a feast with other tax collectors and “sinners”. According to Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria, Matthew preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Jews living in Judea following the ascension of Jesus Christ before going to other countries. It was Matthew who was credited to writing the first gospel according to Papias of Hierapolis (100-140 AD). Ethiopian Church tradition states that Matthew along with Bartholomew came to Ethiopia for a mission that lasted 3 months. Tradition holds that King Hirticus had Matthew killed because he wished to marry a convent abbess named Iphigenia and the Apostle Matthew forbade it as she was dedicated to Christ. It was in Ethiopia or Kush that the Apostle Matthew was martyred for his faith by being killed with the halberd in the city of Nadabah (as recounted in Foxe’s Book of Martyrs) in 60 AD. It would make sense that it was in Napata because this was the capital of the Kush Kingdom and it was here that the King of Kush reigned. In 1916, American archaeologist and Harvard Professor of Egyptology George A. Reisner made excavations of the city of Napata, Capital of the Kush Kingdom, and uncovered the Royal Palace from which the King who killed Matthew reigned.



*Reisner’s Excavations of Palace in Napata, Kush Kingdom (1916)*



*Ruins in Jebel Barkal, Sudan (Napata, Kush Kingdom)*

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# Matthew 10:1-4



*The Martyrdom of Matthew*



Ancient Napata  
Jebel Barkai, Karina  
Northern State, Sudan

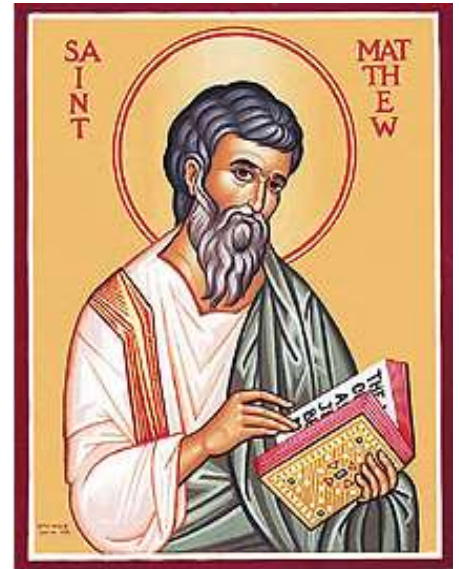


## 90. EVIDENCE FOR THE BURIAL OF ST. MATTHEW (60 AD)

Place of Burial: Salerno Cathedral, Salerno, Italy. Google Earth Coordinates: 40°40'48.38"N, 14°45'36.69"E

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain." John 12:24 (KJV 2016)

Matthew was killed by halberd in Napata, the capital of the Kish Kingdom. Then his remains were transported in 1084 AD and interred in a crypt in the Salerno Cathedral in Italy. The Salerno Cathedral is richly decorated in gold with many depictions of the life of Jesus Christ as told in the gospel of Matthew and is a major tourist attraction..



Salerno Cathedral



St. Matthew's Crypt inside church



The Tomb of St. Matthew in the basement of the Salerno Cathedral, Salerno, Italy

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John 12:24



Sudanese Christians

Tomb of St. Matthew  
St. Matthew's Salerno Cathedral  
Salerno, Italy

