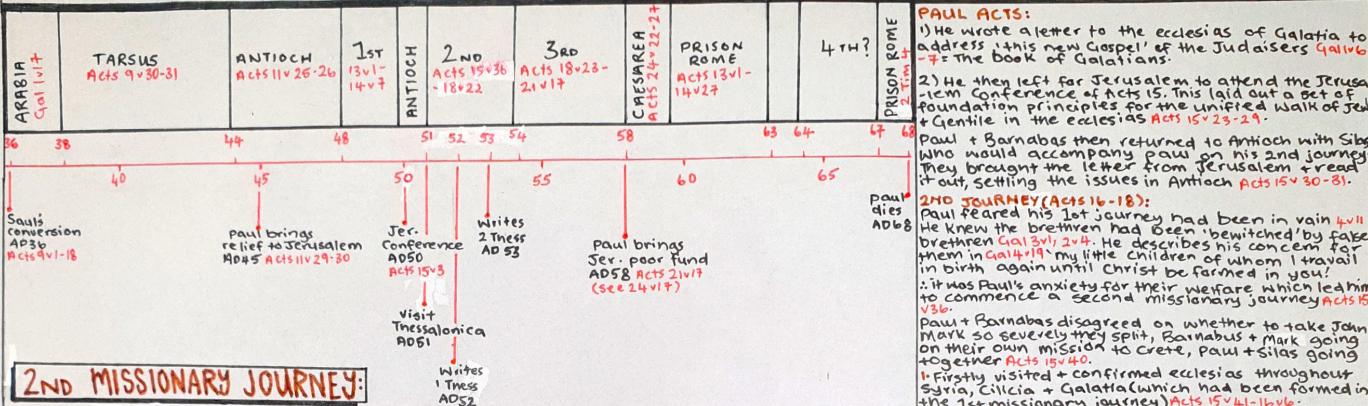


# THE EKTHOMIKI



## 2ND MISSIONARY JOURNEY:



### PAUL'S 2ND MISSIONARY JOURNEY:

1. Paul + Silas begin at Antioch Acts 15:36
2. Go through Syria + Cilicia 15v41
3. Came to Derbe + Lystra, Timothy joins them 16v1-2
4. Phrygia + Galatia 16v4-6
5. Forbidding to preach in Asia + Bithynia
6. Vision at Troas - Come over to Macedonia + help us 16v8-9
7. Samothrace + Neapolis 16v11
8. Philippi 16v12
9. Pass through Amphipolis + Mysilia
10. Arrived at Thessalonica 16v1
11. Paul + Silas sent to Berea 17v10
12. Paul brings Silas to Athens 19v15
13. Come to Corinth 19v14
14. Come to Ephesus 19v14
15. Syria, Caesarea + Antioch 18v18, 22

### MACEDONIA:

Territory first subdued by Philip of Macedon, who reigned 359-336 BC. He was Alexander the Great's father. He extended Macedonian's dominion from the Greek Peninsula down to Egypt in the South + across to India in the East. Over the next 200 years Macedonian empire disintegrated + succumbed to Roman supremacy in 168 BC becoming a Roman Province.

Thessalonica, formerly the head of one of the 4 republics of Macedonia became the capital over the entire region.

### THESSALONICA:

The battle of Philippi in 42 BC brought Thessalonica to a new status in the Roman World, when Octavian the victor of this battle named Thessalonica 'Liberae Civitates' - Free City. Thessalonica was set on a hill looking down to the sea, over the Gulf of Thessalonica + on the horizon was Mount Olympus, home of the Greek Gods that people were worshipped by the Thessalonian converts (1 Tim 1:18). Originally named Therma, after the hot springs nearby, it was the 1/2 sister of Atta. It was built on the Via Egnatia + also connected to the seasharing trade of the Aegean Sea with Corinth + Ephesus. The population was about 100,000.

As a free city, Thessalonica was able to maintain its Greek character. Local magistrates called politarchs governed the city = SW 'demas' (Acts 17v6). For Jews, the synagogue of the neighbourhood was in Thessalonica.

### THE JERUSALEM CONFERENCE (Acts 15):

Jewish opposition claiming believers had to keep aspects of the Law as Moses such as circumcision led to a major argument in the ecclesia of Antioch. Paul + Barnabas against the brethren of Judea on opposing sides (Acts 15v1-2). This issue spread.

Paul needed to 1) Revisit Galatia to correct the false teachings + 2) go to Jerusalem to address the source of the problem.

### PAUL'S STANDARD APPROACH TO PREACHING:

1. Find a Synagogue to preach in first (Acts 13v5, 14:1; 14v1)
2. Deliver a well-reasoned summary of the gospel Act 13:13 His summary would include arguments like:
  - The reading of Scripture 13v14-15
  - Highlights from Jewish history which led to the coming of the Saviour 13v16-23 \*
  - Israel's need to repent emphasised previously by John the Baptist 13v24-25
  - The Jews at Jerusalem killed Jesus fulfilling prophecy because they didn't understand it 13v27-29
  - God rejected Jesus + there were witnesses alive to prove it 13v30-31
  - Jesus' resurrection was foretold in the Jewish scriptures v32-37
  - Through this man, all who believe can have their sin forgiven - something the Law of Moses could never do 13v38-39
  - An invitation to salvation + warning against rejecting the gospel 13v26, 40-41
3. Predictably, their message inflamed some Jews + appealed unto some Gentiles (Acts 13v42-45)
4. When the envious Jews rejected Christ, Paul turned to offer the Gentiles the hope of life (Acts 13v45-46-47)
5. Almost inevitably, this led to consequences for Paul + his companions (Acts 13v50)
6. Sometimes in towns where the Jewish population was less, such as the districts of Lycaonia, Paul's evangelism differed as they countered pagan superstitions rather than Jewish prejudice (Acts 14v15-17)

### THE PATTERN...

Preach the gospel to the Jew first + then to the Gentile. The Jews would be incited to envy + oppose his preaching. He would be cast out of the synagogue + take up an alternative centre of operations in the city, from whence he would teach all who came to hear, Jew + Gentile. Continue so until it was time to move on or else moved out by force / oppression from the rulers of that city.

Having established his O.T. foundation, Paul would go on to contend that Jesus of Nazareth was the perfect candidate for the Messiah.

### PAUL ACTS:

- 1) He wrote a letter to the ecclesiastas of Galatia to address 'this new gospel' of the Judaizers Gal 1:6-7 = The book of Galatians
- 2) He then left for Jerusalem to attend the Jerusalem Conference of Acts 15. This laid out a set of foundation principles for the unified walk of Jew + Gentile in the ecclesiastas Acts 15:23-29.

Paul + Barnabas then returned to Antioch with Silas who would accompany Paul on his 2nd journey. They brought the letter from Jerusalem + read it out, settling the issues in Antioch (Acts 15v30-31).

**2ND JOURNEY (Acts 16:1-18):** Paul feared his 1st journey had been in vain 4v11 He knew the brethren had been 'bewitched' by false brethren Gal 3v1; 2v4. He describes his concern for them in Gal 4:19 'my little children of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be farmed in you.'

This is Paul's anxiety for their welfare which lead him to commence a second missionary journey (Acts 15v36).

Paul + Barnabas disagreed on whether to take John Mark so severely they split; Barnabas + Mark going on their own mission to Crete, Paul + Silas going together (Acts 15v40).

1. Firstly visited + confirmed ecclesiastas throughout Syria, Cilicia + Galatia which had been formed in the 1st missionary journey (Acts 15v41-16v6).

2. Secondly Paul intended to head west into Asia Minor (western Turkey) but he was 'forbidden by the HS' to preach there! Instead he looked North to Bithynia, but the Spirit suffered him not 'it' denied Paul headed North-West to Troas. When he arrived he received a vision from Christ confirming this was the way to go (Acts 16v8-10).

This is the first 'tangible' assurance from Christ that he actually wanted Paul to conduct this 2nd journey even if doors seem closed it doesn't mean God doesn't approve, you should give up. This highlights the importance of prayer & seeking God's direction every step of the way.

### PHILIPPI (Acts 16):

Philippi was a hostile environment for any religion that was associated with sewing because it was largely populated by Roman veterans recently loyal to Caesar. At the time of Paul's arrival in AD 51, the Jews had been exiled from Rome (Act 18v2) + a spirit of antisemitism amongst the Roman population of Philippi existed. There was no synagogue here, they were met with harsh opposition here + cast into prison (Acts 16v2).

### FORMATION OF THE ECCLESIA THESSALONICA:

We are not told how long the journey from Philippi to Thessalonica took, but they stopped at Philippi + Apollonia along the way. These 4 towns on the Egnatian Way are about 1 day's journey apart (50-60 km). So, a 3-day journey seems likely.

It would have been an arduous 160 km walk for Paul + Silas, their backs raw from the Roman beating in Philippi (Acts 16v23-33). Arriving in Thessalonica in such a state would have made an impression upon those responsive to their message (1 Thess 2:2).

Despite his physical condition, Paul was not held back + commenced preaching (Acts 17v1).

### ACTS 17v1-10:

1. No synagogue is mentioned in Philippi, Amphilis or Apollonia, it seems the synagogue at Thessalonica was the centre of Jewish life for the wider District.

The reception Paul received in Thessalonica was much different to Philippi. The character of both towns was very different after the Battle of Philippi.

PHILIPPI ACTS 16	THESSALONICA ACT 17
Type of city	Roman colony v12
Governance	Procurator (Latin) (Ck = strat) v26, 22, 35, 36, 38
Rights + privileges of Roman citizenship	No reference as it was a CK city v37-8, as it was a Roman colony where citizenship mattered greatly
Synagogue	None (CP) is because Rome was hostile to Jews at this time CP 18v2
Jewish population	Very small/antisemitic v20
Loyalty to Rome	Staunch patriotism being Romans v21
persecuted by	pagan masters v19 + Roman authorities v20
	v20 Large then + through out history - trade anxious to show themselves 'Caesar's friends' v7-8
	Jewish + CK mob v5 CP 17 mess 2v14-18; 3v5

### V3: A Summary of Paul's argument.

1. Paul's MESSAGE ACTS 17:1 O.T.
2. 1sa 53v10 pleased Yahweh to bruise him.
3. Psal 110v1 Thou wilt not leave my soul in hell.
4. Psa 110v1-2 Yahweh said to my Lord, Sit thou at my Right Hand.

The servant of God must die.

The candidate of Yahweh would be resurrected.

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The Messiah would be heir to David's throne as King over all.