Building the church

A sermon series on the Gospel of Acts

God’s Provision for the Weary

Acts 18:1-23

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 And he found a
Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy
with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the
Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, 3 and because he
was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they
were tentmakers by trade. 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue
every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks. 5 When
Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied
with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.

6 And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his
garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I
am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” 7 And he left
there and went to the house of a man named Titius (teesh-e-us)
Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the
synagogue. 8 Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the
Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the
Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. 9 And the
Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go
on speaking and do not be silent, 10 for I am with you, and no
one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who
are my people.”

11 And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of
God among them. 12 But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia,
the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before
the tribunal, 13 saying, “This man is persuading people to
worship God contrary to the law.” 14 But when Paul was about to
open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of
wrongdoing or vicious crime, O Jews, I would have reason to
accept your complaint. 15 But since it is a matter of questions
about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves. I
refuse to be a judge of these things.”

16 And he drove them from the tribunal. 17 And they all seized
Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him in front of
the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of this. 18 After
this, Paul stayed many days longer and then took leave of the
brothers and set sail for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila.
At Cenchreae he had cut his hair, for he was under a vow. 19 And
they came to Ephesus, and he left them there, but he himself
went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. 20 When
they asked him to stay for a longer period, he declined. 21 But on
taking leave of them he said, “I will return to you if God wills,” and
he set sail from Ephesus.

22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and then went down to Antioch. 23 After spending some time there, he departed and went from one place to the next through the region of Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples.

- Acts 18:1-23

I LOVE IT WHEN A PLAN
COMES TOGETHER

Acts 18:1-23

Main Idea: Paul was weary and afraid, but God provides for His people.

God Provides:

- vss 1-3: His People
- vss 4-6: His Word
- vss 7-8: His Church
- vss 9-10: His Presence
- vss 11-18: His Providence

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling,** 4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

- 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,

- 1 Corinthians 1:23

God provides Paul with <u>His People:</u>

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, 3 and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.

- Acts 18:1-3

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-14

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

- Hebrews 10:24-25

God provides Paul with His <u>Word</u>:

4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks. 5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.

- Acts 18:4-5

6 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. . . 9 But, as it is written (citing Isaiah 64:4), “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” —

- 1 Corinthians 2:6-9

PRIVATE STUDY
BIBLE STUDY
IN COMMUNITY
CORPORATE
WORSHIP

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garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I
am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” 7 And he left
there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a
worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue.
8 Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord,
together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians
hearing Paul believed and were baptized.

- Acts 18:6-8

go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand. . . . 14 And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. 15 Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

- Matthew 10:6-15

God Provides Paul with <u>His Presence:</u>

9 And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.” 11 And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

- Acts 18:9-11

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”- Matthew 28:19-20

23 Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

- John 14:23

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth

- 1 Corinthians 1:1-2

Acts 18:1-23

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