

The New Testament Epistle of Paul to the
Philippians
Introduction

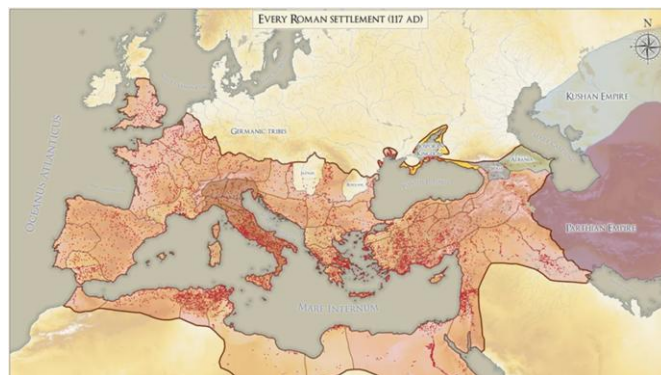


History of Phillipi, Macedonia

- Founded c. 360 BC as Crenides.
- Conquered by Phillip II in 356 BC.
- Roman conquest, 168 BC.
- Roman colony, 42 BC.
- Evangelized by Paul, c. AD 49.
- Destroyed by earthquake, AD 619.
- Abandoned after Ottoman conquest.
- UNESCO world heritage site, AD 2016.

Roman Colonies in 1st century AD

- Strategy to secure conquered lands.
- Settled by citizens, military veterans.
- Settlers granted land.
- Tasked with spreading Latin & laws.
- Right to vote.
- Municipal (urbs) governance.
- Often exempted from Roman taxes.
- Specific religious rites & ceremonies.



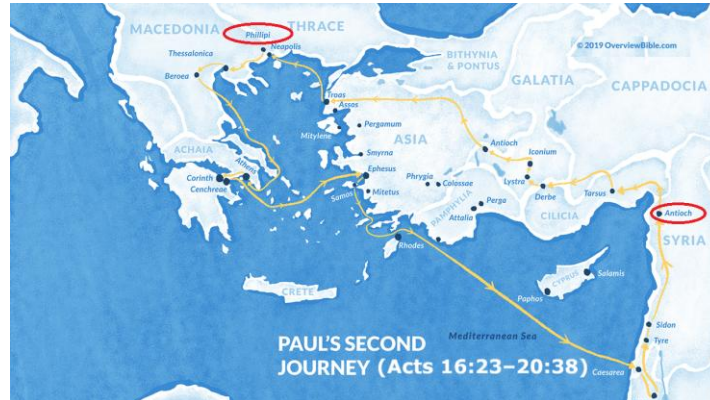
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Paul's church-planting journeys

After AD 44 and ended around AD 50: Antioch, Seleucia, Salamis and Paphos,

Around AD 50 and lasted until around AD 53: Iconium, Lystra, Derbe, Perga, Attalia, Troas, Philippi

Around AD 53 and concluded around AD 58: Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth, Ephesus, Jerusalem



Paul's imprisonments (c. five years)

- Caesarea for about two years, where he was held despite being found innocent by Governor Felix, who hoped for a bribe to secure his release.
- Paul was then sent to Rome, where he spent two years under house arrest.

Acts 16:12-40

- Purple cloth: Expensive. Wealthy.
- God-fearing: A Gentile convert.
- Python spirit: A god traditionally associated with the Delphi oracle
- Alternative: "[a] way of salvation." (Latin has no definite article 'the'.)
- Marketplace: agora, city center.
- Magistrates: Justice of the peace.
- Not lawful: Romans practiced obligatory idolatry.
- Beaten: Illegal against Roman citizens.
- Jailer: See verses 25 through 40.
- Prison: At Ephesus, Caesarea or Rome?
- Joy: Contentment in spite of troubles.
- Prayer: Jews prayed in the morning and in the evening.

Dealing with common spirits

- They do or say something unusual.
- They speak truth inaccurately.
- They seek attention from humans.
- Oppressed humans act involuntarily.
- This becomes annoying to believers.
- They submit to the Name Jesus Christ.
- They must leave when commanded.
- They move others to react adversely.