

# New Testament Survey NTS.5

*"Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Paul's Second Missionary Journey / Acts 16 -18



# Logistics & Learning Objectives:

1. Learning Objectives. Participants will gain a high level understanding of the:
  - a. 16th through 18th chapters of Acts
  - b. Impact of Paul's Second Missionary Journey
  - c. Paul's important message to the philosophers in Athens
  - d. Philippians
  - e. 1 & 2 Thessalonians
  - f. 1 & 2 Corinthians
2. For more information please visit [www.studioscriptura.com](http://www.studioscriptura.com)



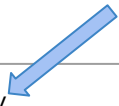
## The New Testament Survey

seeks to present Christianity's core tenets and doctrines for all that are interested in learning about Christianity. We seek to provide tools for believers to build a strong foundation and thereby help them bolster their faith in Christ. We seek to be purposeful and diligent in teaching the foundations of our beliefs, so we can earnestly contend for our faith.





c. 4 BC	Jesus' Birth	c. 52 AD	3rd Missionary Journey
c. 28 - 30 AD	Jesus' Ministry	c. 50 - 95 AD	Gospels written (or c. 65 AD?)
c. 30 - 33 AD	Jesus' Death, Resurrection, and Ascension	c. 62 AD	Journey to Rome
c. 34 AD	Paul's Conversion	c. 90 AD	John's Epistles
c. 48 AD	1st Missionary Journey	c. 95 AD	John on Patmos / The Book of Revelation
c. 49 AD	2nd Missionary Journey	?	Jesus' Return



"These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. Acts 17:6b

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. Acts 17:13

And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized. Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent; for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you; for I have many people in this city." And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. Acts 18:8b-11

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them. Acts 16:9-10

Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Philippians 16:24-25, 29-30

Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new doctrine is of which you speak?" Acts 17:16, 19  
Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you Acts 17:22-23  
And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked, while others said, "We will hear you again on this matter." Acts 17:32



*Significance & Ongoing impact of Paul's second missionary journey:*

- ❑ *Macedonian Call* - Christianity goes global
- ❑ *Paul in Athens* - Christianity takes on the philosophies of the day
- ❑ *The Corinthian Church* - Christianity addresses the issues and sins of society
- ❑ *Equipping of the Saints* - Christianity moves from adding to multiplying

0 100 km.  
0 100 miles



Acts 16 "Come over to Macedonia and help us"

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them. Acts 16:9-10

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 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." So she persuaded us. Acts 16:14-15

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. Acts 16:16

But when her masters saw that their hope of profit [commerce] was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates [courts], and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble (hate speech) our city; and they teach customs [culture] which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe. Acts 16:19-21

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Acts 16:25

And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household. Acts 16:30-31

## Acts 17 "turned the world upside down"

Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them (Thessalonians), and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ." Acts 17:2-3

But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people." Acts 17:5

But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." Acts 17:6-7

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. Acts 17:13

Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. Acts 17:16-17



An aerial photograph of Athens, Greece, taken at dusk. The city is densely packed with buildings, and the Parthenon on the Acropolis is brightly illuminated with warm yellow lights. The sea is visible in the background, with several ships and a bridge. The sky is a mix of blue and orange from the setting sun.

## Acts 17 "turned the world upside down"

Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' Acts 17:23-28

Because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." Acts 17:31



The background of the slide is a photograph of ancient ruins. In the foreground, there are stone steps and walls, some with small plants growing between them. In the middle ground, there are more stone structures, including a set of stairs leading up to a platform. In the background, a large, partially ruined temple with several standing columns is visible against a blue sky with white clouds. A large tree trunk is on the left side of the image.

## Acts 18 "Corinthians, hearing, believed"

After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them. So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers. Acts 18:1-3

Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized. Acts 18:8

And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. Acts 18:11

And he came to Ephesus, and left them there; but he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. When they asked him to stay a longer time with them, he did not consent, but took leave of them, saying, "I must by all means keep this coming feast in Jerusalem; but I will return again to you, God willing." And he sailed from Ephesus. Acts 18:19-21

So he [Apollos] began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. Acts 18:26

And  
17 als 59:17 bls  
49:2; Hos 6:5;  
Heb 4:12 cEph  
5:26; Heb 6:5

*The Letter of Paul to the*  
**PHILIPPIANS**

21  
4:12  
things a  
6:16; 2Th  
incorruption

giving  
thy, bond-servants  
in Christ Jesus  
including the  
grace to you  
and the

1:1 1Or *holy ones*  
2Lit with  
a2Co 1:1 bAc  
16:1 cRo 1:1; Gal  
1:10 dGal 3:26

e2Co 1:1; Col 1:2  
fAc 9:13 gAc  
16:12 hAc 20:28  
iTi 3:16; Ti 1:12  
jTi 3:8

with the  
9 And the  
about  
know



## VIA EGNATIA

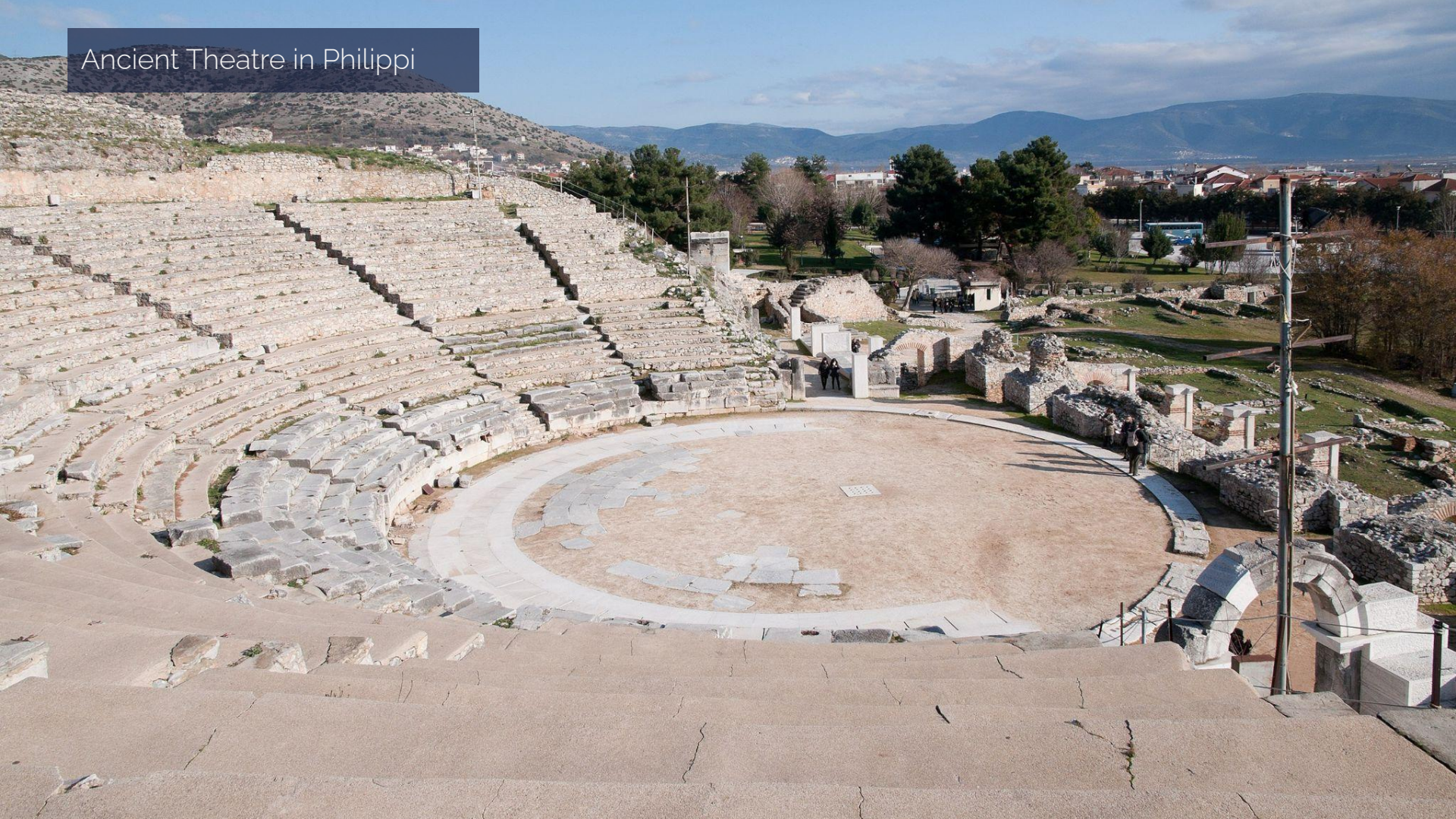
-  Via Egnatia
-  Via Appia
-  secondary course



Entrance area to Theatre in Philippi



# Ancient Theatre in Philippi



The background of the slide is a photograph of an ancient archaeological site. In the foreground, three tall, weathered stone columns stand in a row, each with a flat, square capital. They are set on a low stone platform. To the left, a low stone wall runs across the frame. In the background, more ruins are visible, including a larger structure with a lattice-like facade. The sky is clear and blue, and distant mountains can be seen on the horizon.

## Philippians

- When Paul wrote this letter, he was a prisoner (1:7, 13, 17). He recognizes that death might be the outcome of his predicament (1:20; 2:17).
- Paul places the passage in Chapter 2 into his argument urging the Philippians to be Christlike, joyful, and specifically to live in humility. It is pointed out that *this hymn*, as commonly understood, is the earliest example known to us of Christ's preexistence, his life on earth, and his exaltation to heaven.
- The passage in Chapter 2 is often taken as a solemn doctrinal pronouncement of the apostle and made the basis for *kenotic* theories of the incarnation. In more recent times close attention has been given to its form, and it is now widely agreed that we should see it both as poetry and as liturgy—in short, *as a hymn*.

An Introduction to the New Testament by D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo

## Philippians

- Although the Philippian church appears to be, in general, a spiritually thriving Christian community, there were some problems. The believers there faced at least some challenges from outsiders (1:28–30), and Paul recognizes their need for unity (2:1–4) and specifically pleads with two women to be at peace with each other (4:2). His exhortation to wholehearted service (1:27–2:18) may be connected with a recognition that all is not well.
- Paul offers warnings against false teachers (3:2–4), those who are “enemies of the cross of Christ” (3:18).
- Many of Paul's letters exhibited the need to set things right in a given church, to oppose false teaching, or to correct lax practice. But to the Philippians we have a letter to a church of Paul's own foundation with which he is, on the whole, well pleased.

An Introduction to the New Testament by D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo





The background image shows three tall, weathered stone columns standing in a field of ancient ruins. The columns are arranged in a line, receding into the distance. The ground is a mix of dirt and sparse grass with some small yellow flowers. In the background, there are more ruins, a stone wall, and distant mountains under a clear blue sky.

## Philippians 1

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ Philippians 1:3-6

So that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Philippians 1:13-14

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. Philippians 1:21

Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me. Philippians 1:27-30

## Philippians 2

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:5-11

That you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, Philippians 2:15

Timothy & Epaphroditus



Salvation is by grace through faith in the crucifixion & resurrection of Jesus Christ and asking HIM to be Lord of your life!

## Philippians 3

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe. Philippians 3:1

For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. Philippians 3:3-6

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death. Philippians 3:7-10

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, Philippians 3:20

Salvation is NOT by one's own religious efforts?

The background of the slide is a photograph of an ancient archaeological site. In the foreground, three tall, weathered stone columns stand in a row, each topped with a flat, rectangular capital. The columns are set on a low stone platform. To the right, the ground is covered with more ruins, including stone walls and scattered blocks. In the distance, there are trees and a range of mountains under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

## Philippians 4

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:6-9

Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: Philippians 4:11

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household. Philippians 4:21-22

First Letter of Paul to the  
**THESSALONIANS**

*These Believers*  
and Timothy,  
Thessalonians  
the Lord Jesus  
face.

always for  
you in  
in  
of

1:1 a2Th 1:1  
b2Co 1:19 cAc 17:1  
16:1 dAc 17:1  
eRo 1:7  
2 aRo 1:8; 2Th  
1:3 bRo 1:9

3 1Or persever-  
ance 2Lit of  
Jn 6:29 b1Co  
13:13 cRo 13:4

of us and of the  
the word in  
joy of the  
became the  
in



Acts 17:1-9

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ."

4 And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas. 5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

6 But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. 7 Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." 8 And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. 9 So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

# Thessalonica today





## THESSALONIANS

- Modern Salonika. Situated on one of the best natural harbors in the northern Aegean and the meeting place of four major roads
- Second-largest city in Greece, with over one million inhabitants in its metropolitan area, and the capital of the geographic region of Macedonia
- Considered to be Greece's cultural capital
- Founded in 315 BC by Cassander of Macedon, who named it after his wife Thessalonike, daughter of Philip II of Macedon and sister of Alexander the Great
- In 2014 Financial Times declared Thessaloniki as the best mid-sized European city of the future for human capital and lifestyle
- Thessaloniki was also one of the early centers of Christianity



## THESSALONIANS

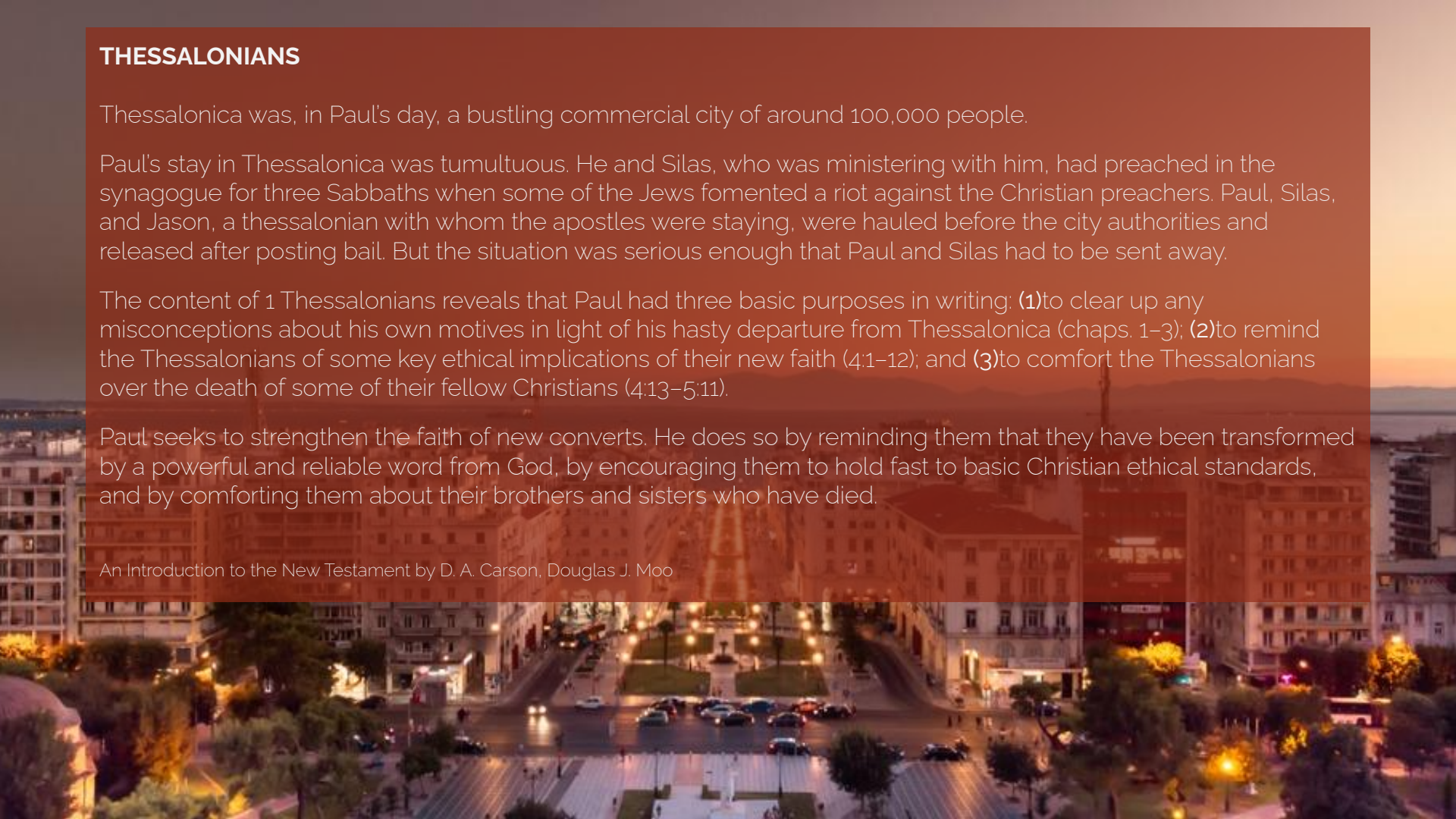
Thessalonica was, in Paul's day, a bustling commercial city of around 100,000 people.

Paul's stay in Thessalonica was tumultuous. He and Silas, who was ministering with him, had preached in the synagogue for three Sabbaths when some of the Jews fomented a riot against the Christian preachers. Paul, Silas, and Jason, a thessalonian with whom the apostles were staying, were hauled before the city authorities and released after posting bail. But the situation was serious enough that Paul and Silas had to be sent away.

The content of 1 Thessalonians reveals that Paul had three basic purposes in writing: **(1)**to clear up any misconceptions about his own motives in light of his hasty departure from Thessalonica (chaps. 1–3); **(2)**to remind the Thessalonians of some key ethical implications of their new faith (4:1–12); and **(3)**to comfort the Thessalonians over the death of some of their fellow Christians (4:13–5:11).

Paul seeks to strengthen the faith of new converts. He does so by reminding them that they have been transformed by a powerful and reliable word from God, by encouraging them to hold fast to basic Christian ethical standards, and by comforting them about their brothers and sisters who have died.

An Introduction to the New Testament by D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo

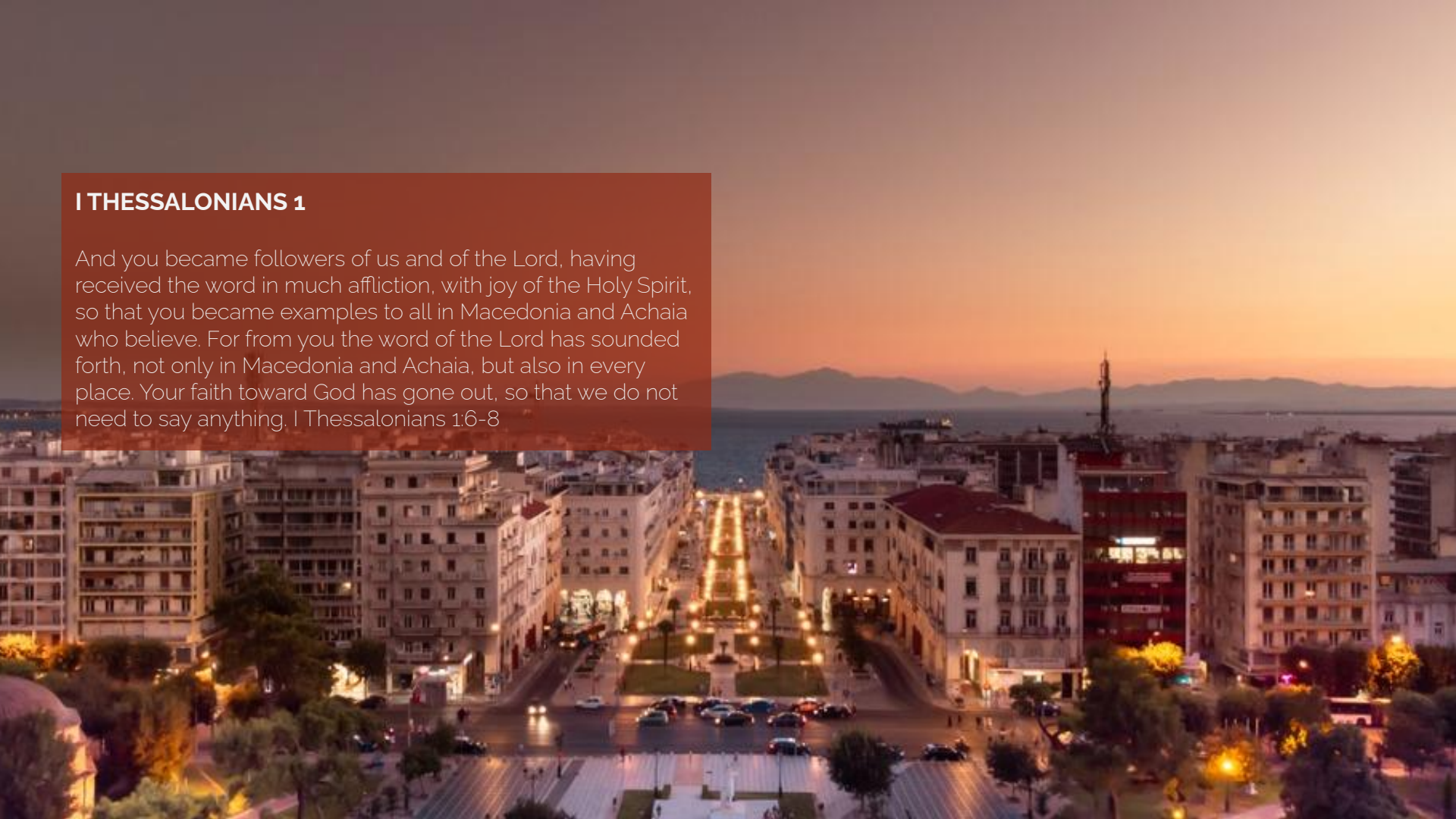




Thessalonica  
Today

## I THESSALONIANS 1

And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. I Thessalonians 1:6-8



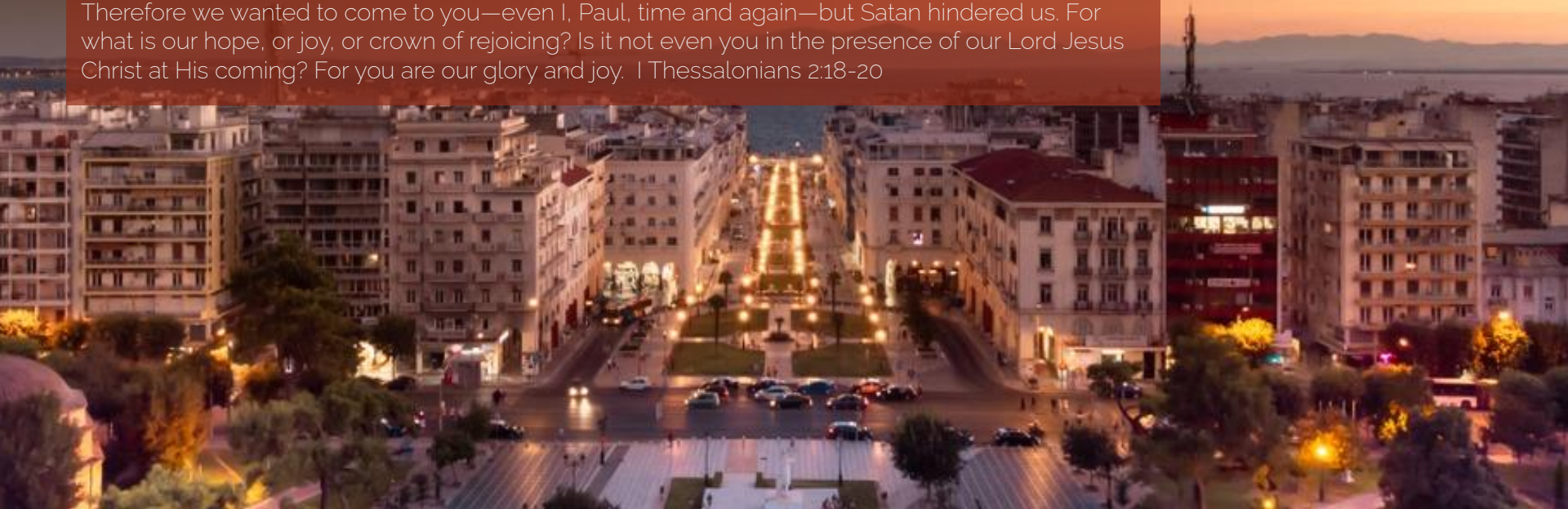
## I THESSALONIANS 2

But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. |  
Thessalonians 2:7

For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a  
burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. | Thessalonians 2:9

As you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his  
own children. | Thessalonians 2:11

Therefore we wanted to come to you—even I, Paul, time and again—but Satan hindered us. For  
what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus  
Christ at His coming? For you are our glory and joy. | Thessalonians 2:18-20



## I THESSALONIANS 3

Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, I Thessalonians 3:1-2

But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also to see you. I Thessalonians 3:6



## I THESSALONIANS 4

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. I Thessalonians 4:3-6

That you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you, that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing. I Thessalonians 4:11-12

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. I Thessalonians 4:13

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. I Thessalonians 4:16-17



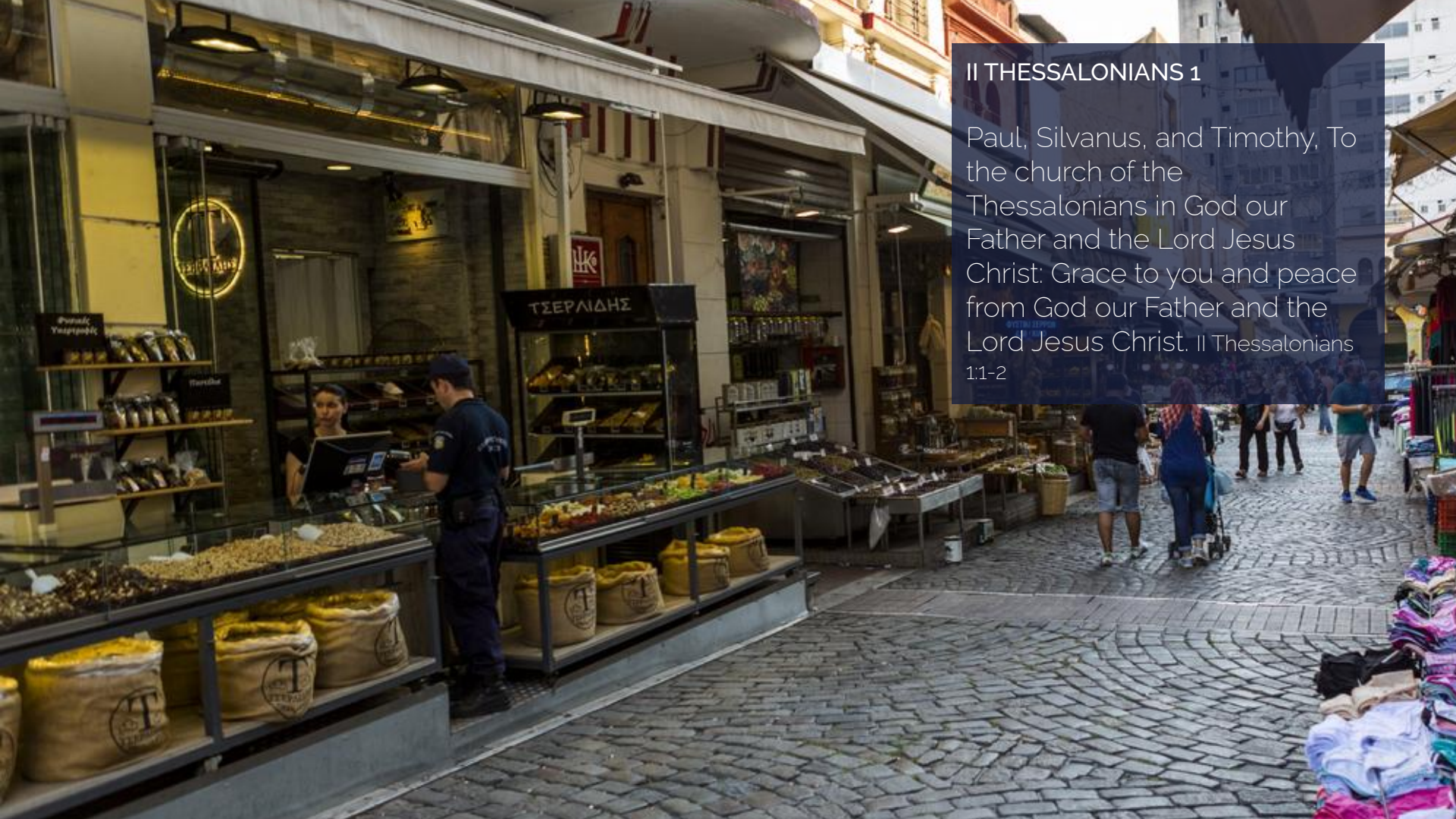
## I THESSALONIANS 5

For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. |  
Thessalonians 5:2-3

Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. |  
Thessalonians 5:6

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. | Thessalonians 5:16-18





## II THESSALONIANS 1

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. II Thessalonians 1:1-2

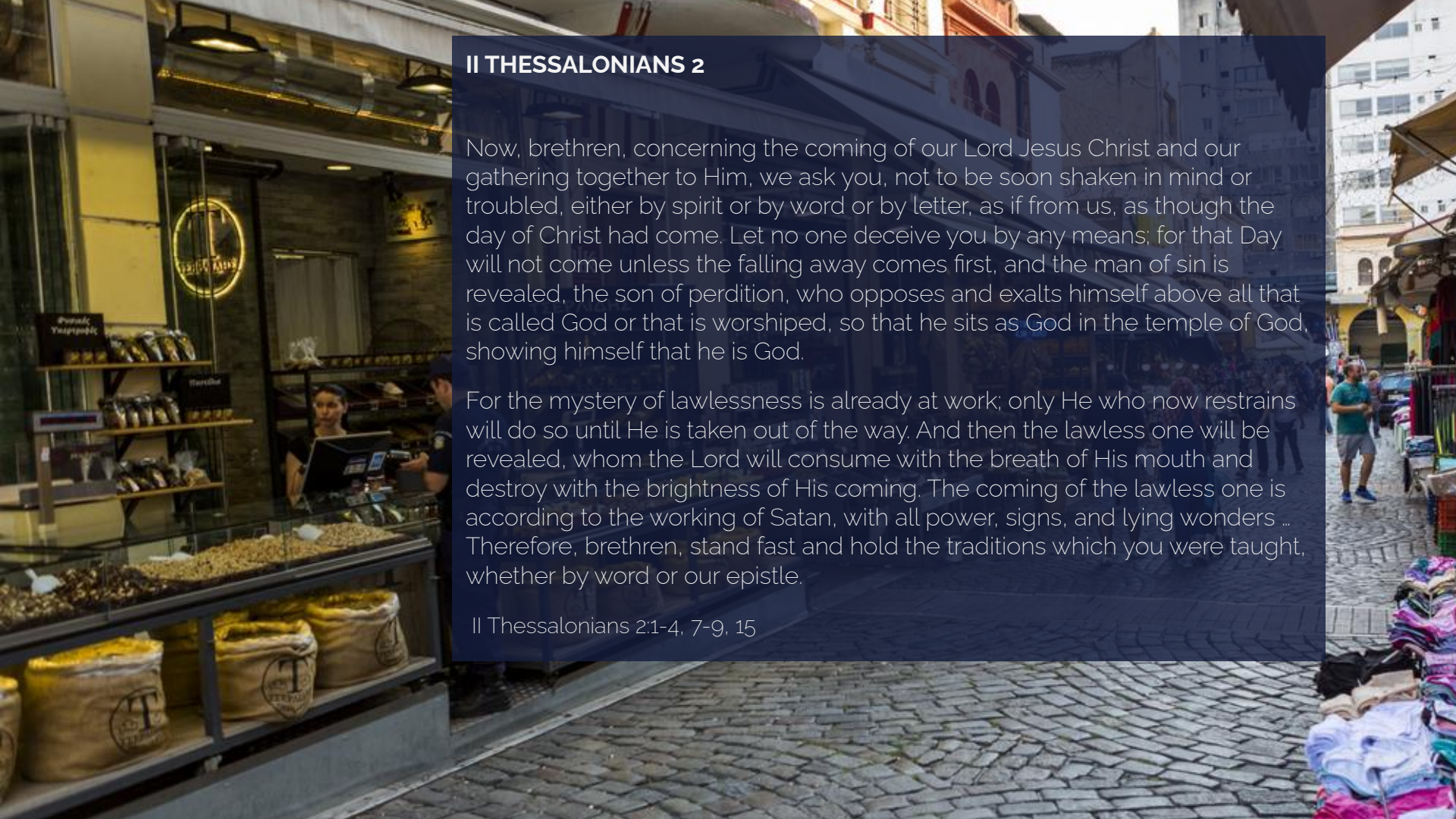


## II THESSALONIANS 2

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders ... Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

II Thessalonians 2:1-4, 7-9, 15



# What Did Jesus Say About the End of the World

From:  
*Survey of Christian  
Theology.9*

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14:3

And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." Acts 1:10-11

Don't be deceived and don't establish detail timelines when studying the end times.  
"And Jesus answered and said to them: 'Take heed that no one deceives you.'  
Matthew 24:4

"If it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matthew 24:24

"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only." Matthew 24:36

**Be ready for a significant change in society:**

"And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold."  
Matthew 24:12

**Be ready for persecution:**

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake." Matthew 24:9

**HIS return:**

Indefinite Timing

Personal / Bodily

Visible

Unexpected

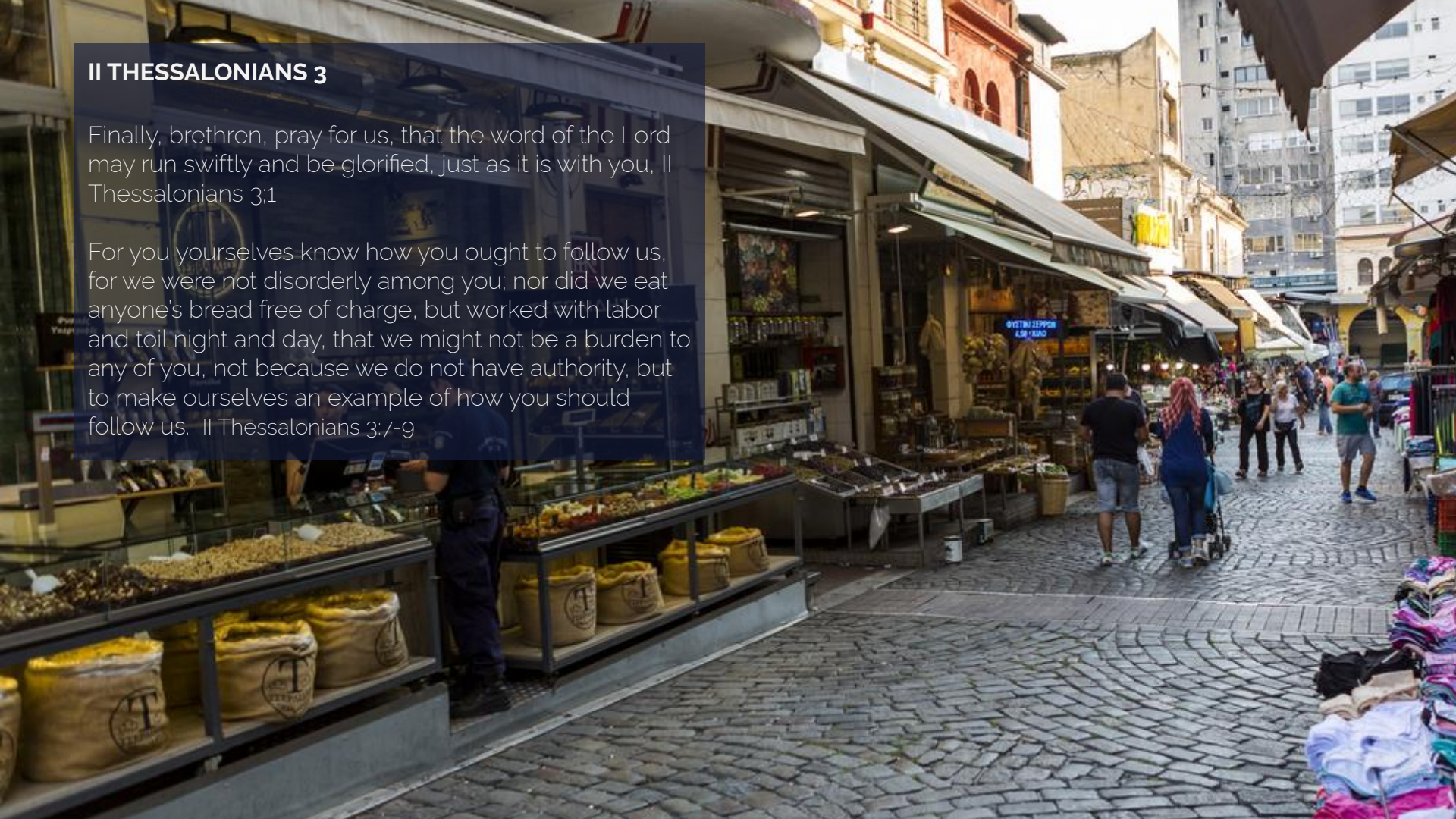
Triumphant

Imminent

## II THESSALONIANS 3

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you. II Thessalonians 3:1

For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. II Thessalonians 3:7-9





14  
2; 2Ti  
Early mss do  
not contain this v

16:25  
11:25; 1  
2:2; 4:3;  
27 aRo 11:3

# 1st First Letter of Paul to the CORINTHIANS

to Unity  
an apostle of Jesus  
will of God, and

which is at  
been sanc-  
calling.  
on the  
their

1:1 1Lit through  
aRo 1:1 bRo 1:10;  
2Ti 1:1 cAc 18:17  
dAc 1:15

2 1Or holy ones  
a1Co 10:32 bAc  
18:1 cRo 1:7;  
8:28 dAc 7:59

3 aRo 1:7

4 1Two early  
do not com  
aRo 1:8

5 12

my name. 16 Now  
a household of s  
do not know  
other. 17  
baptiz  
tel

An aerial view of an ancient city, likely Corinth, showing a large stadium on the right and a grid street pattern. A semi-transparent orange box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

## Corinth

Corinth was one of the largest and most important early churches.

Paul visited c.51AD / Paul wrote c.53AD

Corinth was a wealthy city due to its commerce, ports, and population. It was colonized under the direction of Julius Caesar in 44 BC; and many military personnel retired there. Hence it was a city with an educated and disciplined management class that drove commerce under its hierarchical orientation.

Skilled tradesmen also settled there due to nearby raw materials. It became known for entrepreneurial pragmatists and success. It was a well equipped, prosperous, and self-sufficient business city with a focus on market forces.

The culture was known for an obsessive focus on (a)winning, (b)reputation, (c)status, and (d)success in business.

There was an attitude of (1)self-promotion to gain applause and influence, (2)ambition to succeed often by manipulating networks of power, and (3)personal autonomy.

Paganism and religious pluralism were well entrenched.

## 1 & 2 Corinthians

Corinth was located on the isthmus that connects the Peloponnese with the rest of Greece. Ideally situated to control trade.

Romans dominated the society with their laws, culture, and religion. Because there was no landed aristocracy in the new Corinth, there arose a new aristocracy of wealth.

Here was a city where one could make one's fortune, rise in power and wealth and honor. The endless game of carefully calibrated self-promotion, inevitably it was laced with corruption.

A notorious reputation that "to Corinthianize" could mean "to fornicate," and "Corinthian girl" was a way of referring to a prostitute.

An Introduction to the New Testament by D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo  
<https://a.co/bKgJ4Ho>



## 1 & 2 Corinthians

Both Corinthian epistles are occasional letters, that is, they are addressed to specific people and *occasioned* by concrete issues.

Paul received reports from “some from Chloe’s household” about the ugly factionalism in Corinth. When Timothy arrived in Corinth, he found the situation beyond his ability to manage.

Underlying problems of the Corinthian church was its reliance on the Sophist movement. It was characterized by rhetors whose skill in oratory attracted public admiration, not to mention students to their schools. The particular philosophy held by rhetors was relatively incidental. Their influence was enormous, not least in Corinth. They thought of themselves as the purveyors of wisdom.

The church members became slightly contemptuous of an apostle who is much less interested in impressing people with his eloquence than in conveying the burning message of Christ crucified.

No part of the Pauline corpus more clearly illuminates the character of Paul the man, Paul the Christian, Paul the pastor, and Paul the apostle than do these epistles.

An Introduction to the New Testament by D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo <https://a.co/bKgJ4Ho>





## 1 & 2 Corinthians

These two letters speak volumes to contemporary Western Christianity, which often prides itself in its orthodoxy but is far more comfortable with twenty-first-century secularism.

These two epistles constitute the most telling condemnation of arrogance, self-promotion, boasting, and self-confidence. conversely, they describe in practical terms the nature of Christian life and witness, emphasizing service, self-denial, purity, and weakness as the matrix in which God displays his strength.

An Introduction to the New Testament by D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo <https://a.co/bKgJ4Ho>

## 1 & 2 Corinthians - The *ISSUES*

- ❑ Leadership & lack of unity in the Church
- ❑ Defence of Paul's Apostolicity / Authority
- ❑ False leaders & teachers
- ❑ Relationships & marriage
- ❑ Roles of men & women
- ❑ Extramarital sex & divorce
- ❑ Sexual immorality
- ❑ Disagreements resulting in litigation amongst believers
- ❑ Food sacrificed to idols - paganism
- ❑ Abuses at the Lord's table
- ❑ Understanding and proper exercise of spiritual gifts
- ❑ Spiritual warfare
- ❑ Abuse of Christian liberty
- ❑ Wavering on the resurrection

### *Paul's Response*

- ❑ Challenge & rebuke
- ❑ Call to repentance
- ❑ Comfort and exhortation
- ❑ Course of action
- ❑ Collection for poor Christians
- ❑ Accountability - *And when I come I Corinthians 16:3*

## 1 Corinthians

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all [d]speak the same thing, and that there be no [e]ldivisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are [f]contentions among you. 1 Corinthians 1:10-11

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

But we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, 1 Corinthians 1:23

And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:1

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16



## 1 Corinthians

We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now. 1 Corinthians 4:10-13

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. 1 Corinthians 5:1-2

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. 1 Corinthians 6:12

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18

But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. 1 Corinthians 8:9

Now all these things [i.e., the Old Testament] happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 1 Corinthians 10:11

## 1 Corinthians

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 1 Corinthians 11:23-28



## 1 Corinthians

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many. 1 Corinthians 12:13-14

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1Corinthians 13:13

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. 1 Corinthians 14:33

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 1Corinthians 15:3-5

And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. 1 Corinthians 15:17-19

## 2 Corinthians

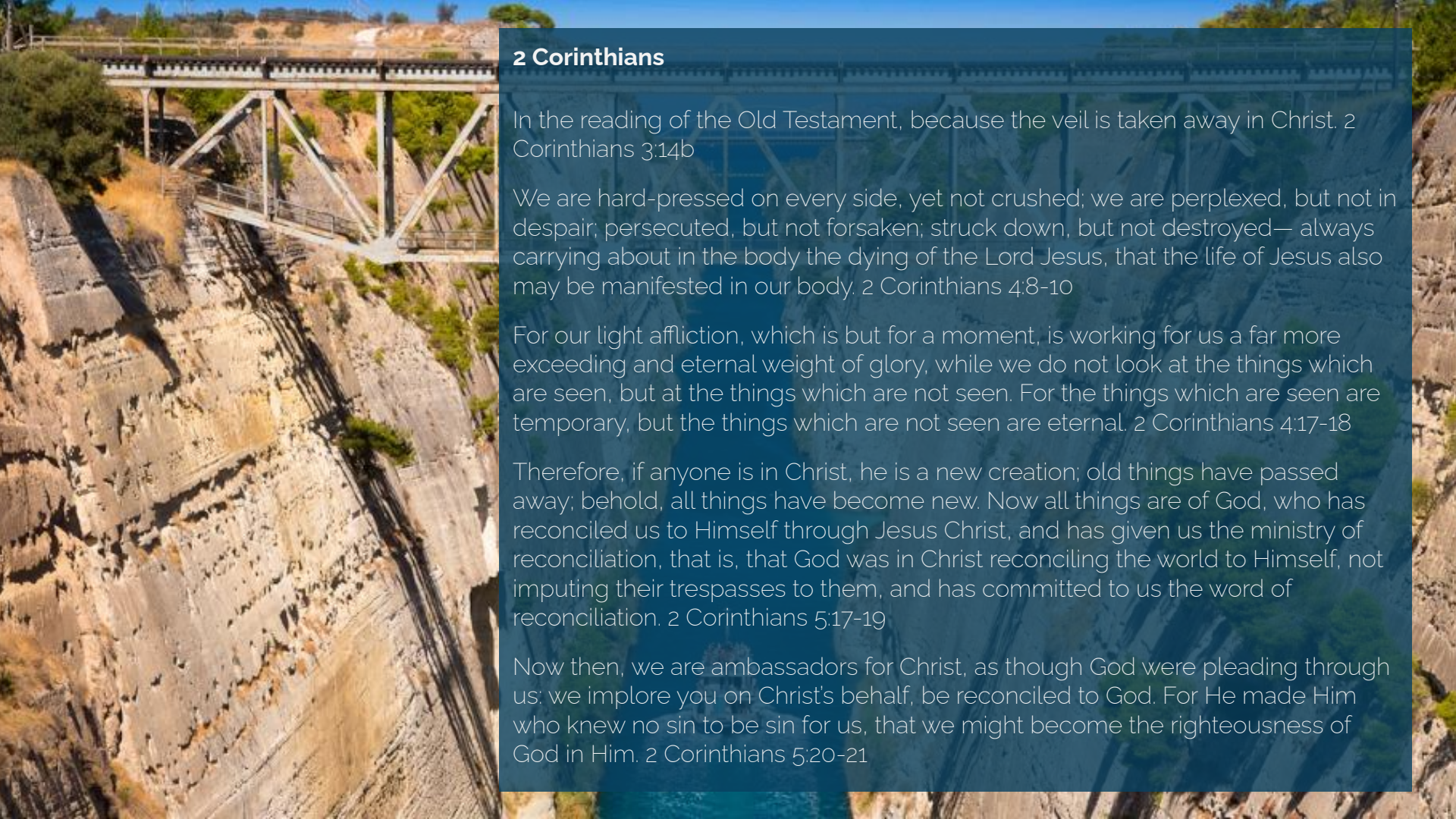
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any [a]trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. 2 Corinthians 1:8

For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you. 2 Corinthians 2:4

Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices. 2 Corinthians 2:10-11





## 2 Corinthians

In the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. 2 Corinthians 3:14b

We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 2 Corinthians 4:8-10

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:20-21



## 2 Corinthians

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 2 Corinthians 6:14-17

For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. 2 Corinthians 7:10

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7



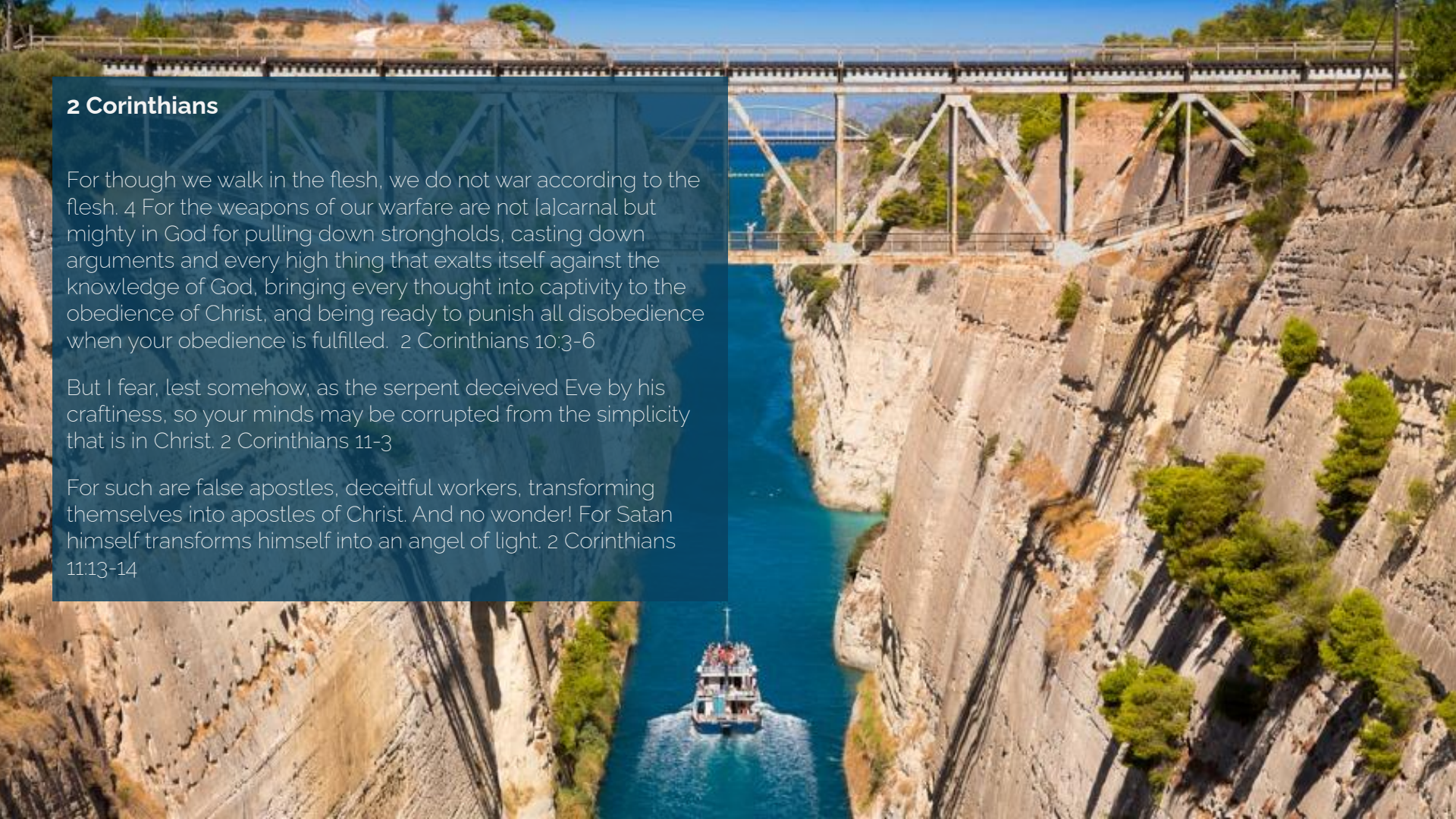


## 2 Corinthians

22 Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? So am I. 23 Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more:

in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. 24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep;

26 in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness— 28 besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. 2 Corinthians 11:22-28

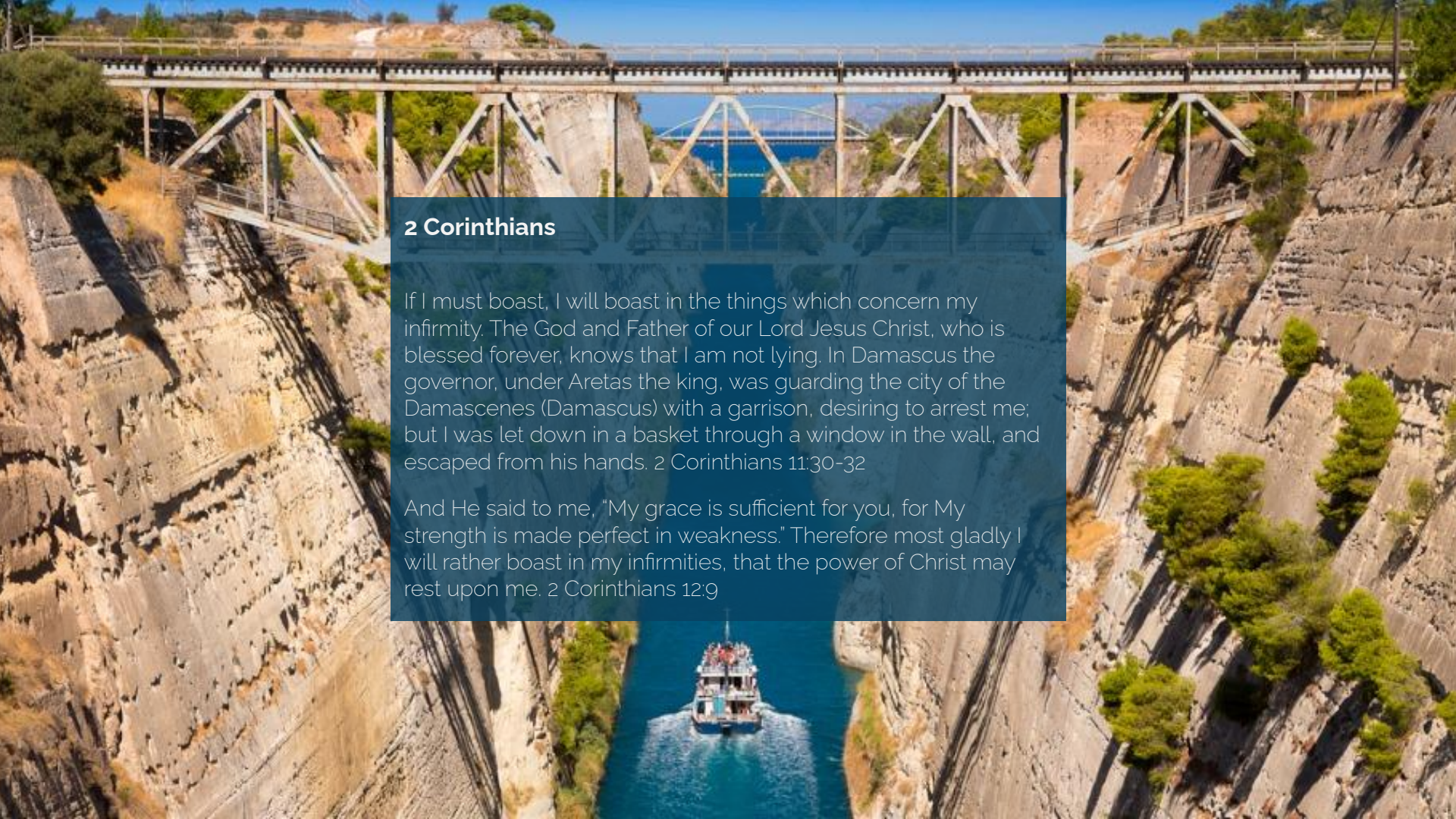


## 2 Corinthians

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not [a]carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 2 Corinthians 11-3

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. 2 Corinthians 11:13-14



## 2 Corinthians

If I must boast, I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes (Damascus) with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands. 2 Corinthians 11:30-32

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Corinthians 12:9



1. How has the Lord Jesus been making you a better, *fisher of men*?
2. What are the *headlines* of Acts 16, 17, and 18?
3. How do/should the 4 ongoing *Impacts of Paul's Second Missionary Journey* influence us today?
4. Which of the *the issues* the Corinthian church faced is most prevalent in our society today? How can you present the gospel to people grappling with those issues?
5. What are some key aspects of Paul's letter to the Philippians? What did Paul teach about the end times in his letters to the Thessalonians?
6. Based on Philippians 2:5-11 how would you explain Christ's humanity and divinity to someone who asked?

So What &  
Now What?

