

“Do Not Be Afraid – But Speak & Do Not Be Silent!”

Acts 18:5-11

When **Silas** and **Timothy** had **Come** from **Macedonia** ^{1/2/3}, **Paul** was **Compelled by the Spirit**, and **Testified** to the **Jews** that **Jesus** is the **Christ**! But when **They (Unbelieving Jews)** opposed **Him** and **Blasphemed**, **He (Paul)** shook his garments and said to **Them (Unbelieving Jews)**, “**Your Blood** be upon **Your Own Heads**; **I am clean**. From now on **I will go to the Gentiles**.” And **He (Paul)** departed from there and entered the **House** of a certain man named **Justus**, **one who worshiped God**, whose **House** was next door to the **Synagogue**. Then **Crispus**, the **Ruler of the Synagogue**, **Believed on the Lord** with **All His Household** (Expansion of **Aquila’s & Priscilla’s Existing Home Church**). 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 (Paul)** continued there a Year and Six Months (1.5 Years), **Teaching** the **Word of God** among **Them**. **Acts 18:5-11 (NKJV)**

Q

“What Did Paul Need Once He Was Established In Corinth?”

A¹ – A³

Paul Desperately Needed Three Kinds Of Encouragement & Support!

A¹

Paul Needed Support Of Others In His Ministry Group ¹

“When **Silas and **Timothy** had **Come (Physically)** from **Macedonia...**” **Acts 18:5a****

A²

Paul Needed Some Encouragement Of A Good Report

From The Churches (Phillippi & Thessalonica**) ²**

“When **Silas and **Timothy** had **Come (Bearing Good News)** from **Macedonia...**” **Acts 18:5a****

Paul Writes to the Thessalonians, “But now that **Timothy has come to **Us (Church in Corinth)** from **You (Church in Thessalonica)**, 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**. Therefore, **Brethren, in All Our Affliction and Distress** we were **Comforted Concerning You by Your Faith**. For now, **We Live if You Stand Fast in the Lord**. For what **Thanks can We Render to God for You, for All the Joy with which We Rejoice for Your Sake before Our God, night and day Praying Exceedingly that We may See Your Face and Perfect What is Lacking in Your Faith?** Now **May Our God and Father Himself, and Our Lord Jesus Christ, Direct Our Way to You**. And **May the Lord Make You Increase and Abound in Love to One Another and to All, just as We do to You, so that He (Holy Spirit) May Establish Your Hearts Blameless in Holiness Before Our God and Father at the Coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ with All His Saints!**” **1st Thessalonians 3:6-13****

A³

Paul Needed An Offering Of Financial Support For Continued Ministry ³

“When **Silas and **Timothy** had **Come (Bearing An Offering)** from **Macedonia...**” **Acts 18:5a****

Paul Writes to the Corinthians, “Did I commit sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because I **Preached the Gospel of God to You (Church in Corinth) ‘free of charge’? I robbed other churches, taking wages from them to minister to you. And when I was present with you, and in need, I was a burden to no one, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep myself.” **1st Corinthians 11:7-9****

Paul Writes to the Philippians, “I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me! Nevertheless, You have done well that You shared in my distress. Now you Philippians also know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, No Church shared with me concerning giving and receiving But You Only. For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I Seek the Fruit that Abounds to Your Account. Indeed, I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from You, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. And My God shall Supply All Your Need According to His Riches in Glory by Christ Jesus. Now to Our God and Father Be Glory Forever and Ever! Amen!” **Philippians 4:13-20**

Q

“What Did The Arrival Of This Great Encouragement And Support Do For Paul?”

A

This Encouragement And Support Emboldened Paul In The Holy Spirit To Preach And Teach Like Never Before, Without Any Hindrance Or Fear!

“Paul was Compelled by the Spirit, and Testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ!”... Acts 18:5bc

Q

“What Did The Unbelieving Jews Do In Response To Paul’s Testimony That Jesus of Nazareth Was The Christ, The Coming Messiah, The Anointed of God?”

A – They Opposed The Gospel Message & Truth

“But when They (Unbelieving Jews) opposed Him and Blasphemed.”... Acts 18:6a

Q

“What Did Paul Do In Response To The Unbelieving Jews?”

A – He Warned¹ Them & Prophesied² To Them

He (Paul) shook his garments and said to Them (Unbelieving Jews),

“Your Blood be upon Your Own Heads; I am clean.¹ From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”² ... Acts 18:6bc

A¹ – Old Testament Fulfillment of Prophecy & Warning

Ezekiel Writes, Again, the Word of the LORD came to Me, saying, “Son of Man, Speak to the Children of Your People, and Say to Them: ‘When I bring the sword upon a land, and the People of the Land Take a Man from Their Territory and Make Him Their Watchman, When he sees the sword coming upon the land, if he blows the trumpet and warns the people, then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head. He heard the sound of the trumpet, but did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But he who takes warning will save his life. But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at the watchman's hand.’ So you, Son of Man: I have made you a Watchman for the House of Israel; therefore, you shall hear a Word from My Mouth and Warn Them for Me. When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you shall surely die!’ and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Nevertheless, if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but You have Delivered Your Soul.” **Ezekiel 33:1-9**

Continued Further Self-Study

Ezekiel Continues Writing, “Therefore You, O Son of Man, Say to the House of Israel: ‘Thus you say, “If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?”’ Then Say to Them: ‘As I live,’ Says the Lord GOD, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O House of Israel?’” ...

... **“Therefore you, O Son of Man, say to the Children of Your People: ‘The righteousness of the righteous man shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall because of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness; nor shall the righteous be able to live because of his righteousness in the day that he sins.’ “When I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, but he trusts in his own righteousness and commits iniquity, none of his righteous works shall be remembered; but because of the iniquity that he has committed, he shall die. Again, when I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ if he turns from his sin and does what is lawful and right, if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him; he has done what is lawful and right; he shall surely live.”** “Yet the Children of Your People say, ‘The Way of the LORD Is Not Fair!’” **“But it is their way which is not fair! When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die because of it. But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it.”** “Yet You say, ‘The Way of the LORD Is Not Fair!’” **“O House of Israel, I Will Judge Every One of You According to His Own Ways!”** Ezekiel 33:10-20

A² – New Testament Fulfillment of Prophecy & Warning

Jesus Taught Them, **“Hear Another Parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.’ So, they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?”** They said to Him, **“He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.”**

Jesus Prophesied to Them, **“Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The Stone which the builders rejected has become the Chief Cornerstone. this was the Lord’s Doing, and it is Marvelous in Our Eyes?’”** **Jesus Warned Them,** **Therefore, I Say to You (Unbelieving Jews), the Kingdom of God will be taken from You and given to a Nation (Gentiles) Bearing the Fruits of It. And whoever falls on this Stone will be broken; but on whomever It falls, It will grind him to powder!”** Matthew 21:33-44

Q

“What Did Paul Do Next After Leaving The Unbelieving Jews At The Synagogue?”

A – He Turned To The Believing Jews & Gentiles

“And He (Paul) departed from there and entered the House of a certain man named Justus, one who worshiped God, whose House was next door to the Synagogue.” ... Acts 18:7

Q

“Who Was Justus?”

A

His Full Name Was Gaius ‘Justus’ Titius

Gaius (Roman Praenomen) **‘Justus’** (Roman Cognomen) **Titius** (Roman Nomen)

See: Romans 16:23, 1st Corinthians 1:14, & Colossians 4:11

Q

**“What Did God Do With The Boldness & Obedience
Of The Testimony Of Paul In The Synagogue Of The Jews?”**

A – God Gave Faith To The Senior Rabbi of the Synagogue of the Jews

**“Then Crispus, the Ruler of the Synagogue, Believed on the Lord with All His Household!”
(Expansion of Aquilla’s & Priscilla’s Existing Home Church) ... Acts 18:8a**

Q

**“What Did God Do With The Boldness & Obedience
Of The Testimony Of The House Church of Corinthian Believers?”**

A – God Gave Faith To Many New Believers in Jesus Christ

“And many of the Corinthians, Hearing, Believed and were Baptized.” ... Acts 18:8b

Q

**“What Did God’s Son Do Next In Order To Direct And Encourage Paul,
Who Had Come To Corinth in Fear & Trembling?”**

“I was with You in Weakness, in Fear, and in much Trembling!” ... 1st Corinthians 2:3

A – The Lord / The Son of God Appeared In A Vision (An Epiphany) To Paul

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.” Acts 18:9-10**

Q

**“What Did Paul Do In Response To The Lord’s Commandment
To Stay, Preach, & Teach In The City Of Corinth?”**

A – Paul Was Obedient

**“And He (Paul) Continued there a Year and Six Months (1.5 Years),
Teaching the Word of God among Them.” ... Acts 18:11**

CQ

**“What Do We Do As The People Of God Do With The Teaching
That We Have Heard & Received Here This Morning?”**

CA

**“Let Us As The People Of God Be Open
To The Movement Of His Holy Spirit Among Us.
Let Us Be Open When He Commands Us
To Go, Or To Stay In A Certain Area
For A Certain Time Or Season!”**

**“Let Us As His People Be Obedient To Him
And Be Willing To Sacrifice All,
In Order To Be So Bold As
To Not Be Afraid To Speak & To Not Be Silent,
For The Souls Of Many Are Hanging
In The Balance For All Eternity!”**

**“May God Grant Us The Ability To Be Faithful
& To Not Fear In The Face Of Persecution,
Or Allow The Denial Of His Holy Name Today,
In Our Modern Cancel Culture Of Evil!”**

**“To God Alone Be All Glory
Forever And Ever In His Church
And All Of God’s People Said!”**

“Amen & Again I Say Amen!”