

1 Corinthians 6:1-20

6:1 If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints? 2 Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? 3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! 4 Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, appoint as judges even men of little account in the church! 5 I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers? 6 But instead, one brother goes to law against another—and this in front of unbelievers!

6:7 The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated? 8 Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers.

6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

6:12 "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything. 13 "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"—but God will destroy them both. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

6:18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Lesson 8: *Lift the level of lifestyle*

Battles between believers

▲ **You are conflicted, Christians!**

6:1 If any of you has a dispute with another,

▲ **You are clashing in the Corinthian courtrooms!**

6:1 If any of you has a dispute with another, dare he take it before the ungodly for judgment instead of before the saints? — 6 But instead, one brother goes to law against another—and this in front of unbelievers!

▲ **Aren't you cognizant of your calling!**

▼ **The saints shall judge the world and angels**

6:2 Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? — 3 Do you not know that we will judge angels?

▼ **The saints should judge with wisdom and acuity**

6:2 Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if you are to judge the world, are you not competent to judge trivial cases? 3 Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! — 5 I say this to shame you. Is it possible that there is nobody among you wise enough to judge a dispute between believers?

▲ **You are completely conquered!**

▼ **Your lawsuits are pitiful**

6:7 The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already.

▼ **Your lifestyles are pathetic**

6:8 Instead, you yourselves cheat and do wrong, and you do this to your brothers.

▲ **You are called onto the carpet — correct your conduct!**

▼ **Establish an internal process**

6:4 Therefore, if you have disputes about such matters, appoint as judges even men of little account in the church!

▼ **Embrace an indulgent perspective**

6:7 Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated?

Barbaric bodily behavior

▲ **You were saved and sanctified!**

▼ **You were wicked and destitute**

6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

▼ **You were washed and delivered**

6:11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

▲ **Are you still sinning?**

▼ **You want liberty and license?**

6:12 "Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything. 13 "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food"—but God will destroy them both.

▼ **You want lust and lasciviousness and lewdness?**

6:13 The body is not meant for sexual immorality,

▼ **The Lord wants you and yours**

6:13 The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! 16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." 17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body.

▲ **You should surrender to your Savior and to the Spirit!**

▼ **Your body is connected to Christ**

6:15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself?

▼ **Your body is a sanctuary for the Spirit**

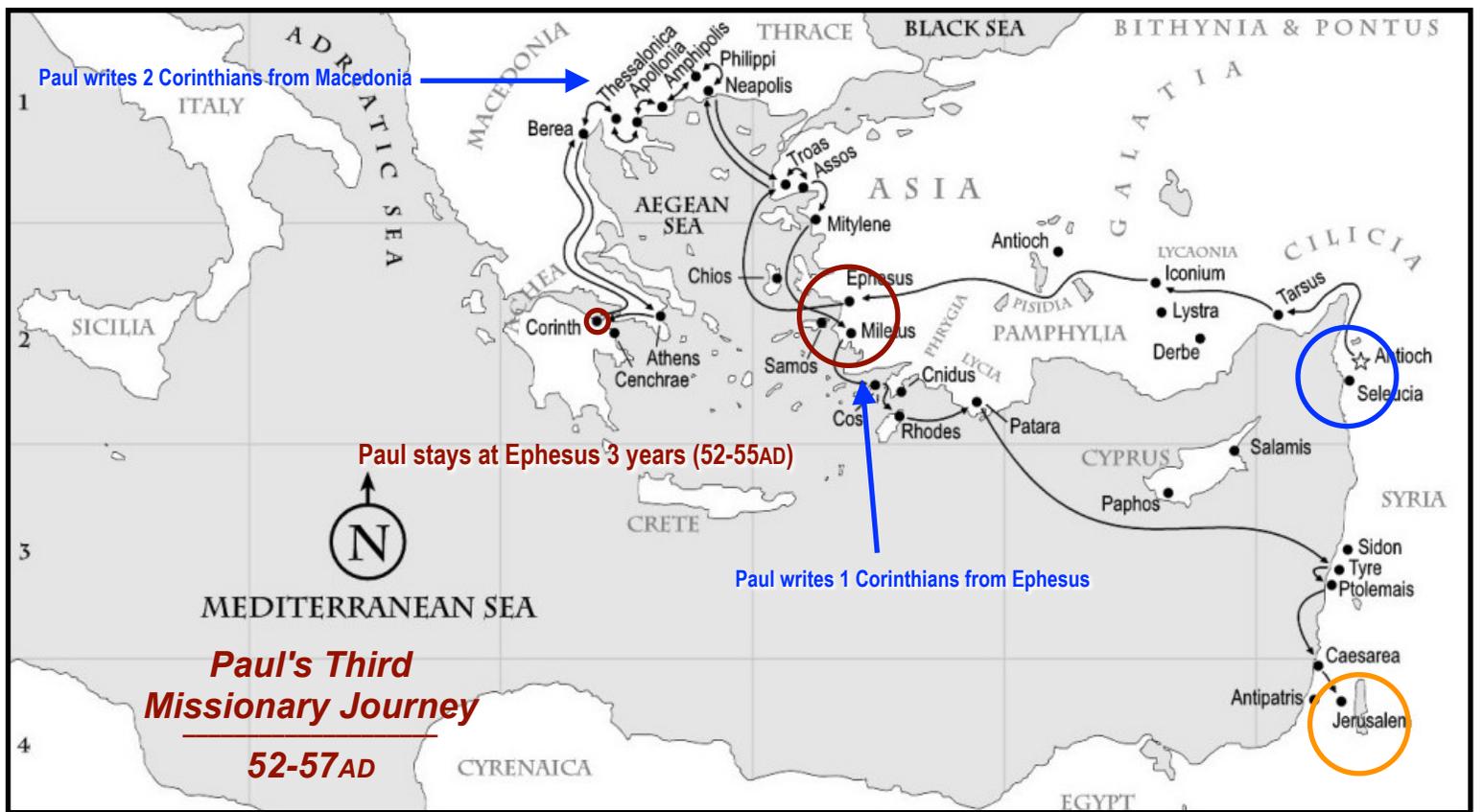
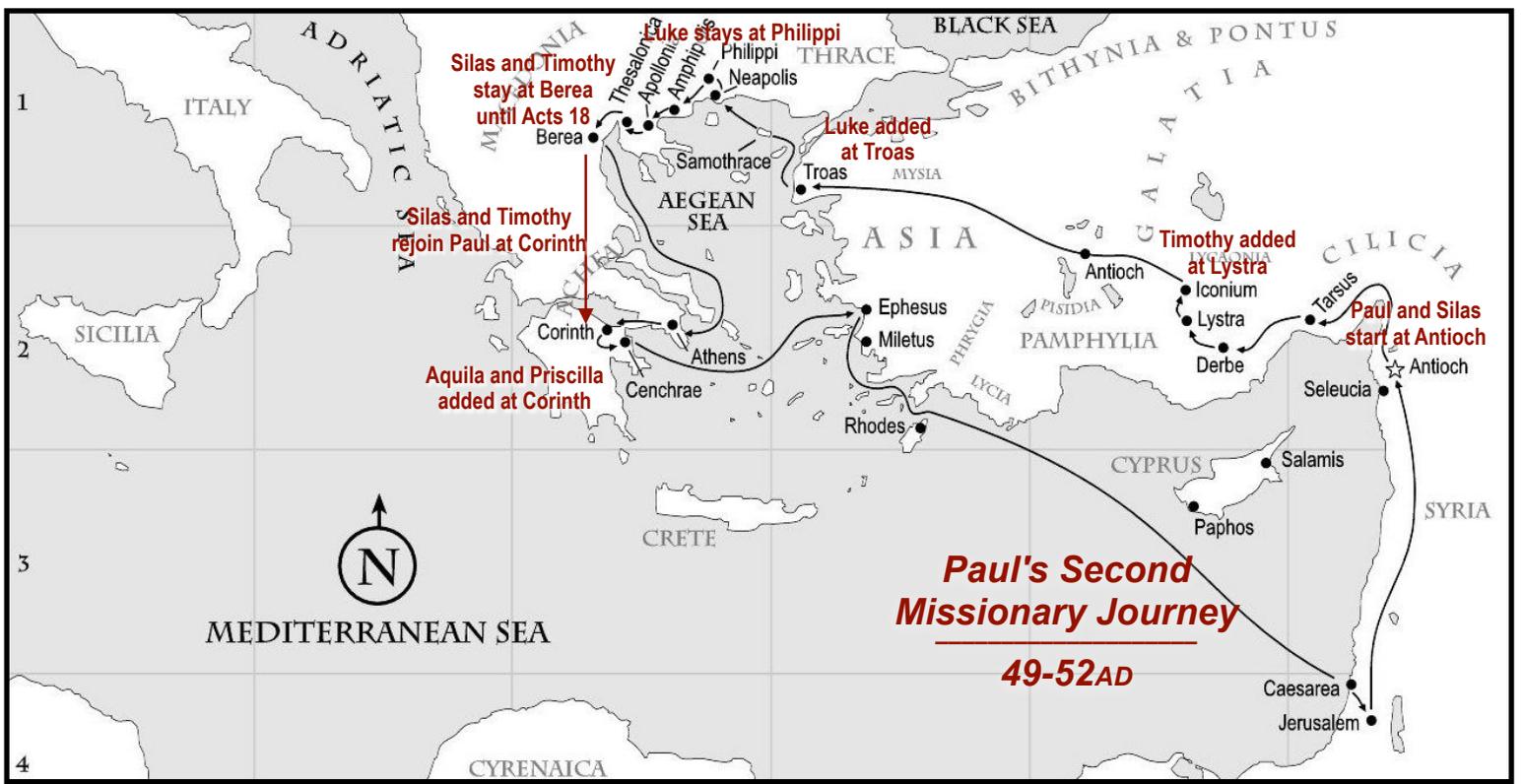
6:19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?

▼ **Your body is bought with blood**

6:19 You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price.

▼ **Your body is for glorifying God**

6:20 Therefore honor God with your body.



The City of Corinth

- ▶ First-century Corinth was an economically thriving Greek port city 48 miles southwest of Athens between the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas.
- ▶ Corinth was capital of the Roman province of Achaia with a population of 200,000, including a large Jewish contingency.
- ▶ Corinth was home to the temple of Aphrodite (Venus), the Greek goddess of love; her temple hosted hundreds of priests/priestesses who engaged in religious prostitution.
- ▶ Thus, Corinth specialized in the worldliest and wickedest of pleasures and perversions.
- ▶ This is an artist's rendition of the temple of Aphrodite at Corinth.

