

*PAUL'S Journey to Philippi*



## Starting Point: Antioch

(note: Tarsus is Paul's place of birth, not Jerusalem, and Tarsus is along this route. He already has a natural affinity for this area. God chooses his messengers intentionally and prepares them before He calls.)

<sup>36</sup> After some time Paul said to Barnabas, *"Let's go back and visit each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are doing."*

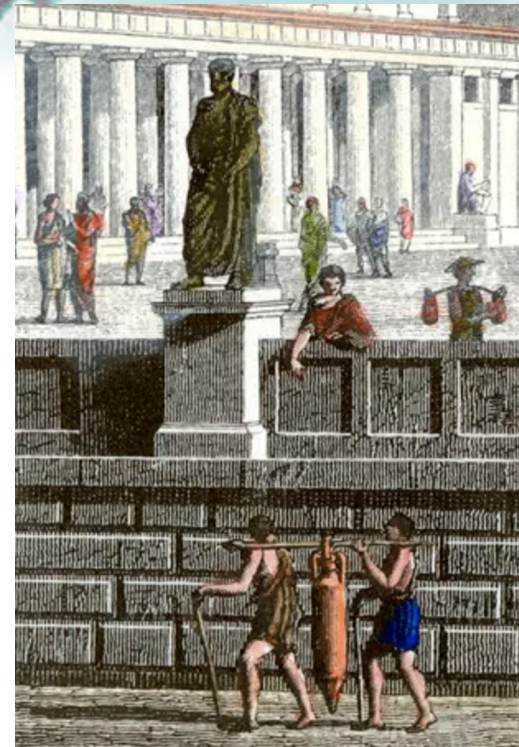
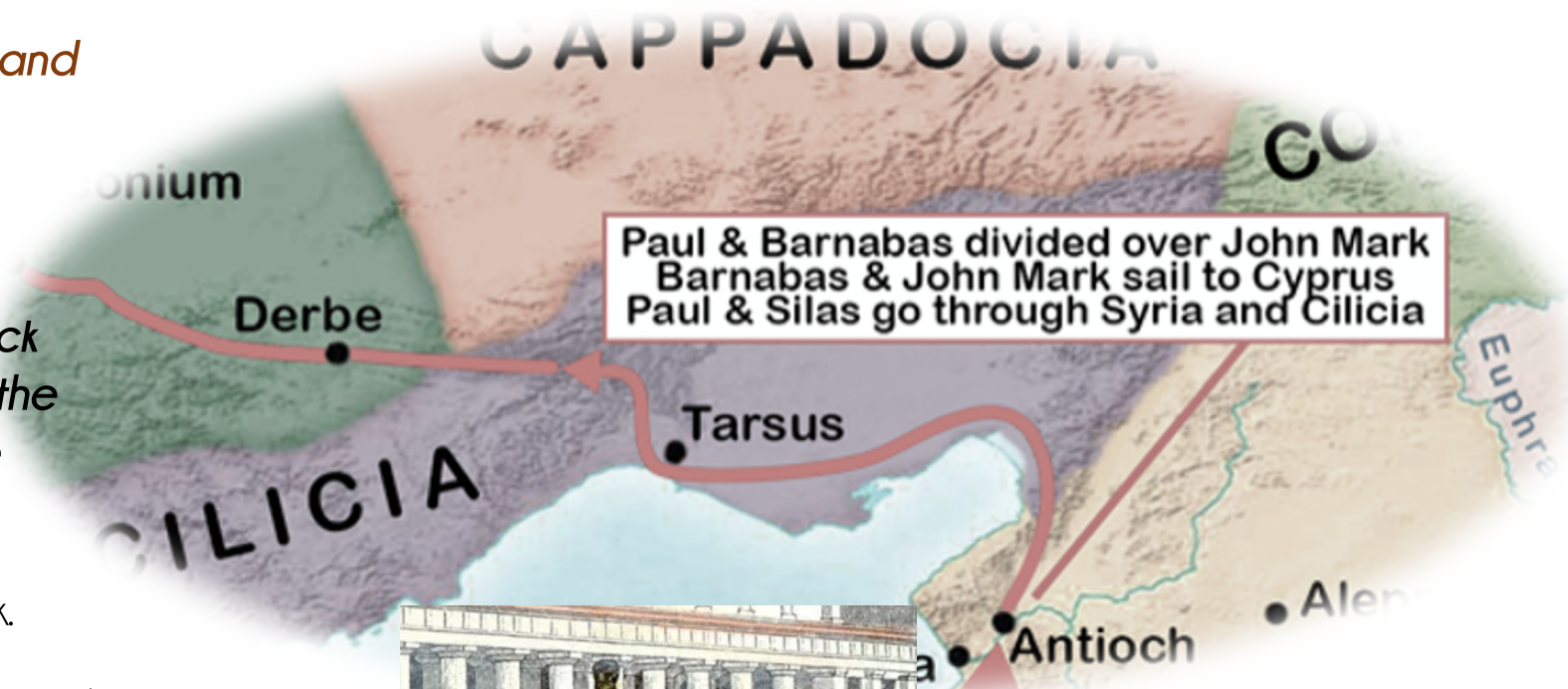
Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark.

<sup>38</sup> But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in their work.

<sup>39</sup> Their disagreement was so sharp that they separated.

Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus.

<sup>40</sup> Paul chose Silas, and as he left, the believers entrusted him to the Lord's gracious care. <sup>41</sup> Then he traveled throughout *Syria* and *Cilicia*, **strengthening the churches there.**



16:1 Paul went first to **Derbe** and then to **Lystra**, where there was a young disciple named Timothy.

His mother was a Jewish believer, but his father was a Greek.<sup>2</sup> Timothy was well thought of by the believers<sup>[a]</sup> in **Lystra** and **Iconium**,<sup>3</sup> so Paul wanted him to join them on their journey.

In deference to the Jews of the area, he arranged for Timothy to be circumcised before they left, for everyone knew that his father was a Greek.

<sup>4</sup> Then they went from town to town, instructing the believers to follow the decisions made by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem.

<sup>5</sup> *So the churches were strengthened in their faith and grew larger every day.*





16:6 Next Paul and Silas traveled through the area of *Phrygia* and *Galatia*, because the Holy Spirit had prevented them from preaching the word in the province of Asia at that time.

7 Then coming to the borders of *Mysia*, they headed north for the province of *Bithynia*,<sup>[b]</sup> but again the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them to go there.

8 So instead, they went on through *Mysia* to the seaport of *Troas*.



Paul was *forbidden* by the Holy Spirit to preach in Asia and Bithynia.

Note how his route goes *north* of the cities of *Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Ephesus* and *Laodicea*.

God was not ignoring these cities; He had other plans and the gospel will reach them!

All 7 churches that Paul will bypass at the beginning of this trip will be the 7 churches of Revelation.

16: 10 So we<sup>[c]</sup> decided to leave for **Macedonia** at once, having concluded that God was calling us to preach the Good News there.

11 We boarded a boat at **Troas** and sailed straight across to the island of **Samothrace**, and the next day we landed at **Neapolis**.

12 From there we reached **Philippi**, a major city of that district of Macedonia and a **Roman colony**. And we stayed there several days.

