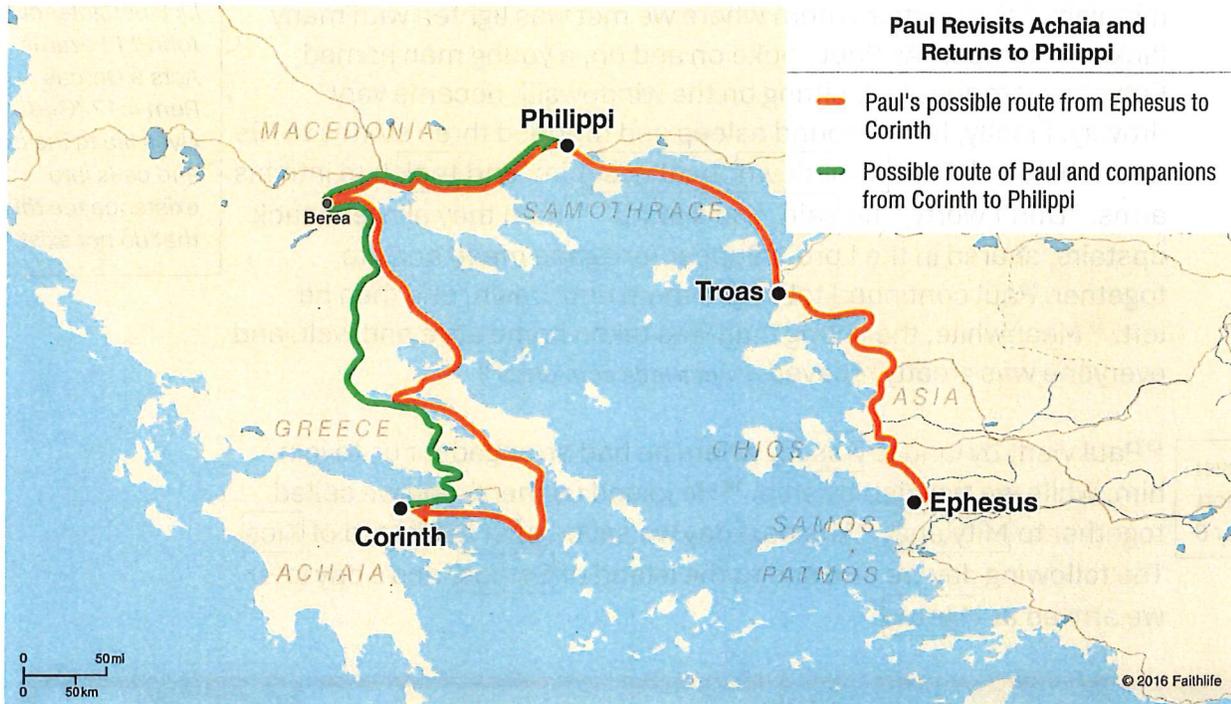


## Acts 20

20:1-6	Travel Report: Ephesus > Macedonia > Achaia > Philippi > Troas
20:7-12	Encouraging Believers in Troas
20:13-16	Travel Report: Troas > Mitylene > Chios > Samos > Miletus
20:17-38	Ephesus Church Planter Retreat in Miletus



Paul Revisits Achaia and Returns to Philippi

- Paul's possible route from Ephesus to Corinth
- Possible route of Paul and companions from Corinth to Philippi

Travel report  
1 of 6

When the uproar was over, Paul sent for the believers and encouraged them. Then he said good-bye and left for Macedonia.<sup>2</sup> While there, he **encouraged the believers** in all the towns he passed through. Then he traveled down to Greece,<sup>3</sup> where he stayed for three months. (wintered in Corinth) He was preparing to sail back to Syria when he discovered a plot by some Jews against his life, so he decided to return through Macedonia.

While in Corinth, wrote a letter to Christians in Rome (so far: Galatians, Thessalonians, Corinthians, Romans. from c. 49-57)

Wanted to be in Jerusalem for Pentecost

<sup>4</sup> Several men were traveling with him. They were

1. Sopater son of Pyrrhus from Berea;
2. Aristarchus and
3. Secundus from Thessalonica;
4. Gaius from Derbe;
5. Timothy; and
6. Tychicus and
7. Trophimus from the province of Asia.

Church planters and missionaries

lit. "2", former slave, now follower of Jesus and gospel missionary

<sup>5</sup> They went on ahead and waited for us at Troas.

<sup>6</sup>After the Passover (*and Feast of Unleavened Bread*) ended, **we** boarded a ship at **Philippi** in Macedonia and five days later joined them in **Troas**, where **we** stayed a week.

<sup>7</sup>On the first day of the week, we gathered with the local believers to share in the Lord's Supper (*or agape meal*). Paul was preaching to them, and since he was leaving the next day, he kept talking until midnight. <sup>8</sup>The upstairs room where we met was lighted with many flickering lamps. <sup>9</sup>As Paul spoke on and on, a young man named Eutychus ("*fortunate*"), sitting on the windowsill, became very drowsy. Finally, he fell sound asleep and dropped three stories **to his death** below. <sup>10</sup>Paul **went down**, **bent over** him, and **took** him into his arms. "Don't worry," he **said**, "he's alive!" <sup>11</sup>Then they all went back upstairs, shared in the Lord's Supper (*or agape meal*) and ate together. Paul continued talking to them until dawn, and then he left. <sup>12</sup>Meanwhile, the young man was taken home alive and well, and everyone was greatly relieved. ("*not a little comforted*")

1 Kgs 17:19-22  
2 Kgs 4:34-35  
Lk 7 son of widow  
Lk 8 daughter of Jairus  
John 11 Lazarus  
Acts 9 Dorcas  
Rom 4:17 "God...who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist."

Travel report  
2 of 6

<sup>13</sup>Paul went by land to **Assos**, where he had arranged for us to join him, while we traveled by ship. <sup>14</sup>He joined us there, and we sailed together to **Mitylene**. <sup>15</sup>The next day we sailed past the island of **Kios**. The following day we crossed to the island of **Samos**, and a day later we arrived at **Miletus**.



Troas	Trojan War, Aeneas, Achilles	Homer (Iliad), Herodotus, Strabo
Assos	Athena cult at Assos	Strabo, Aristotle (residence), Pausanias
Mitylene	local cults and lyrical tradition	Sappho, Strabo, Herodotus
Kios	Homeric rhapsody tradition; local hero cults	Ancient tradition linking Homer, Herodotus, Strabo
Samos	Sanctuary of goddess Hera	Herodotus, Pythagoras
Miletus	Founder-myths (Miletus/Apollo); Ionian colonization myths	Herodotus; Ionian philosophers, Strabo

<sup>16</sup> Paul had decided to sail on past Ephesus, for he didn't want to spend any more time in the province of Asia. He was hurrying to get to Jerusalem, if possible, in time for the Festival of Pentecost. <sup>17</sup> But when we landed at Miletus, he sent a message to the elders of the church at Ephesus, asking them to come and meet him.

Elder Retreat;  
"Presbytery"  
of Asia Minor

<sup>18</sup> When they arrived, he declared, "You know that from the day I set foot in the province of Asia until now <sup>19</sup> I have done the Lord's work humbly and with many **tears**. I have endured the trials that came to me from the plots of the Jews. <sup>20</sup> I never shrank back from telling you what you needed to hear, either **publicly** or in your **homes**. <sup>21</sup> I have had one message for Jews and Greeks alike—the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus. *(regardless of race, ethnicity, idol worship, economic or social status)*

School of Tyrannus  
during the week,  
house churches  
during weekend

<sup>22</sup> "And now I am bound by the Spirit to go to Jerusalem. I don't know what awaits me, <sup>23</sup> except that the Holy Spirit tells me in city after city that **jail and suffering lie ahead**. <sup>24</sup> **But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.** *(testimonies are exciting to hear, finishing well even more so)*

Missionary  
commitment  
involves suffering

But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." 9:15-16

Care ministry;  
nurture  
commitment;  
strengthen; not  
quantity but  
maturity;  
anywhere,  
anytime,  
anybody; good  
pastures,  
protected, and  
care for weak

<sup>25</sup> "And now I know that none of you to whom I have preached the Kingdom will ever see me again. <sup>26</sup> I declare today that I have been faithful. If anyone suffers eternal death, it's not my fault, <sup>27</sup> for I didn't shrink from declaring all that God wants you to know. *(whole counsel)*

<sup>28</sup> "So guard yourselves and God's people. Feed and shepherd God's flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders. <sup>29</sup> I know that false teachers, like **vicious wolves**, will come in among you after I leave, not sparing the flock. <sup>30</sup> Even some men from your own group will rise up and

"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves." Matt 7:15 See below.

distort the truth in order to draw a following. (ego) <sup>31</sup> Watch out! Remember the three years I was with you—my constant watch and care over you night and day, and my many **tears** for you. (ministry is hard)

Your pastoral ministry is to encourage believers

<sup>32</sup> “And now I entrust you to God and the message of his grace that is able **to build you up** and give you an inheritance with all those he has set apart for himself.

<sup>33</sup> “I have never coveted anyone’s silver or gold or fine clothes. (not fixated on money) <sup>34</sup> You know that these hands of mine have worked to supply my own needs and even the needs of those who were with me. <sup>35</sup> And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Making tents, work ethic, lived transparently

Authenticated apostle, Luke quoting Paul quoting Jesus

<sup>36</sup> When he had finished speaking, he knelt and prayed with them. <sup>37</sup> They all **cried** as they embraced and kissed him good-bye. <sup>38</sup> They were **sad** most of all because he had said that they would never see him again. Then they escorted him down to the ship.

Timothy dealt with “wolves” too

*1 Tim 1:3-7 As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith. The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.*

*2 Tim 4:3-4 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.*

Jesus also wrote a letter

To the churches at Ephesus, dictated to the Apostle John, “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

Rev 2:2-5

Don’t let your love grow cold. Stay fervent for the Lord. Worship Jesus passionately. Love others intentionally.