

THE UNSUNG & THE UNSTOPPABLE

LARRY CHAPPELL | JULY 6, 2025

Text: Acts 18:1-11

"After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. 3 And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks. 5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. 6 And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles. 7 And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue. 8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. 9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: 10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them." (Acts 18:1-11)

INTRODUCTION

- a. Paul in Corinth south of Athens
- b. Corinth was pleasure capital of ancient Greece & Roman Empire
- c. Third missionary journey
- d. Canal through isthmus bringing trade & commerce to Corinth
* wealth from trade
- e. Corinthian letters show church problems
- f. But God directed Paul to boldly speak the Gospel in Corinth
- "for I have many people in this city" (Acts 18:10)

1. VALUE THE Team (v. 1-5)

A. The Gospel Mission Advances through

partnerships

"For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;"
(Philippians 1:5)

Aquila
&
Priscilla

partner
churches

Quote: "The pattern of history is that God raises up preachers and patrons to work together to spread His word. Some will speak and others will send, some will go and others will give, but they are partners in the work of the gospel."

Silas &
Timothy

—John Rinehart

B. God Brings the Right People Together at the Right Time

PAUL IS ENCOURAGED BY

1. Aquila & Priscilla (Romans 16:3-4)
2. Timothy & Silas (1 Thessalonians 1:1)
3. Partner Churches (Corinthians 11:9a)

C. Gospel Partners Don't Just Show Up —

They invest — time, goods, money

"So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls," (1 Thessalonians 2:8)

Quote: "The church is not an audience to be entertained but an army to be empowered." —Warren Weirsbe

2. STAY FAITHFUL IN THE Frustration (v. 6-8)

A. When Truth Advances,

opposition Aligns

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (2 Timothy 3:12)

Quote: "The gospel offends man's pride, condemns his ways, and calls him to surrender. Expect opposition." —J.C. Ryle

B. God Often Uses rejection as Redirection

— As usual, Paul reasoned with the Jews in the synagogue each Saturday

- Faithful still (Acts 18:4, 5, 9-10)

"A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."
(Proverbs 16:19)

Quote: "God redirected Paul, not to lessen his impact but to enlarge it."—**John Phillips**

C. The Faithful Are the fruitful

"A faithful man shall abound with blessings." (Proverbs 28:20)

Quote: "It's not the greatness of the work, but the faithfulness in it, that God rewards."—**Charles Spurgeon**

3. MOVE Forward WITH HOLY ANTICIPATION (v. 9-11)

Quote: "Weakness is the secret strength of God's most effective servants."—**Kent Hughes**

A. Fear Not: Take comfort in His Presence

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee;" (Isaiah 41:10)

Quote: "We fear men so much, because we fear God so little."
—**William Gurnall**

B. Go Forward: Be confident in His Promises

"Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."
(1 Thessalonians 5:24)

CONCLUSION



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