

Acts Series

Lesson #84

October 2, 2012

Dean Bible Ministries

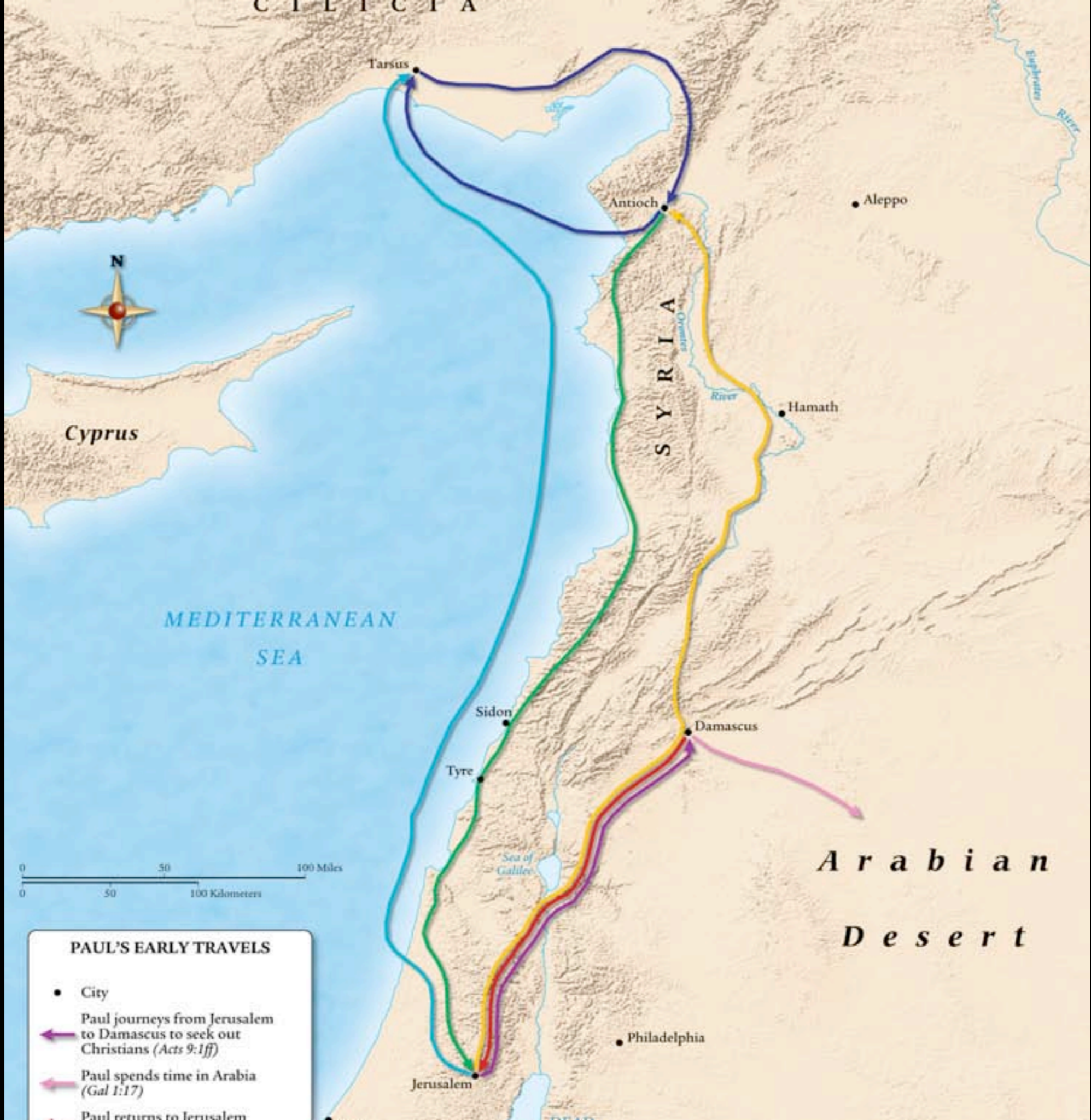
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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

The Acts of the Apostles “To the end of the earth” Acts 1:8

Paul and the Early Church Mature Spiritually Acts 9:19–31





PAUL'S EARLY TRAVELS

- City
- ← Paul journeys from Jerusalem to Damascus to seek out Christians (*Acts 9:1ff*)
- ← Paul spends time in Arabia (*Gal 1:17*)
- ← Paul returns to Jerusalem

*A r a b i a n
D e s e r t*

Gal. 1:12, “For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Gal. 1:13, “For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it.

Gal. 1:14, “And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.”

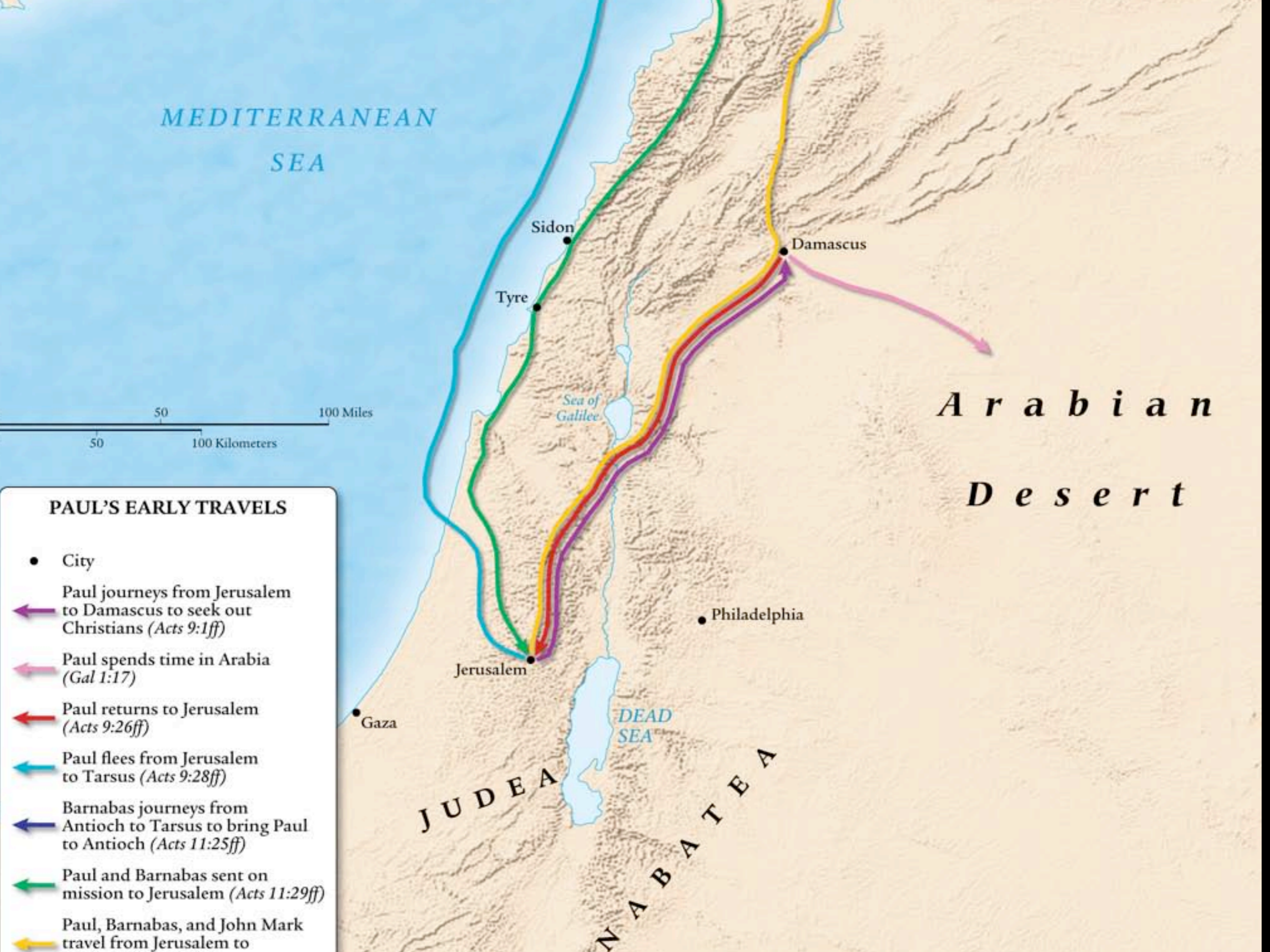
Gal. 1:15, “But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb and called me through His grace,

Gal. 1:16, “to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,

Gal. 1:17, “nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Gal. 1:18, “Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days.

Gal. 1:19, “But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord’s brother.”



MEDITERRANEAN
SEA

Arabian
Desert

PAUL'S EARLY TRAVELS

- City
- ← Paul journeys from Jerusalem to Damascus to seek out Christians (*Acts 9:1ff*)
- ← Paul spends time in Arabia (*Gal 1:17*)
- ← Paul returns to Jerusalem (*Acts 9:26ff*)
- ← Paul flees from Jerusalem to Tarsus (*Acts 9:28ff*)
- ← Barnabas journeys from Antioch to Tarsus to bring Paul to Antioch (*Acts 11:25ff*)
- ← Paul and Barnabas sent on mission to Jerusalem (*Acts 11:29ff*)
- ← Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark travel from Jerusalem to

50 100 Miles
50 100 Kilometers

JUDEA

NABATEA

DEAD
SEA

Sea of
Galilee

Gaza

Philadelphia

Jerusalem

Tyre

Sidon

Damascus



**Damascus,
House of Ananias**

Acts 9:17, “And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’

Acts 9:18, “Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.

Acts 9:19, “So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus.”

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ἐνισχύω *enischuō*

aor act indic 3 sing

“to recover from loss of strength, to regain one’s strength, to impart strength and vigor, to gain, acquire, or recover strength and vigor, to be strengthened.”

Acts 9:19,

Expanded translation:

“And after receiving food, he recovered his physical strength.

Then afterward he spent some days with the disciples in Damascus.”

Acts 9:20, “Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.

Acts 9:21, “Then all who heard were amazed, and said, ‘Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?’ ”

**Damascus, Straight Street,
covered portion**



Gal. 1:16, “to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood,”

Acts 9:20, “Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.

Acts 9:21, “Then all who heard were amazed, and said, ‘Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?’ ”

κηρύσσω *kērussō*
imperf act indic 3 sing
to proclaim, preach, announce

Damascus, Straight Street,
covered portion



Rom. 1:4, “and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.”

2 Cor. 1:19, “For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes.”

Gal. 2:20, “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Eph. 4:13, “till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

Acts 9:20, “Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.

Acts 9:21, “Then all who heard were amazed, and said, ‘Is this not he who destroyed those who called on this name in Jerusalem, and has come here for that purpose, so that he might bring them bound to the chief priests?’ ”

ἐξίσταμι *existemi*
impf mid ind,
continuous action in past time,
“amazed, astonished,
confused” described a state
where things make little sense



Acts 9:22, “But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ.”

**Damascus, Straight Street,
covered portion**



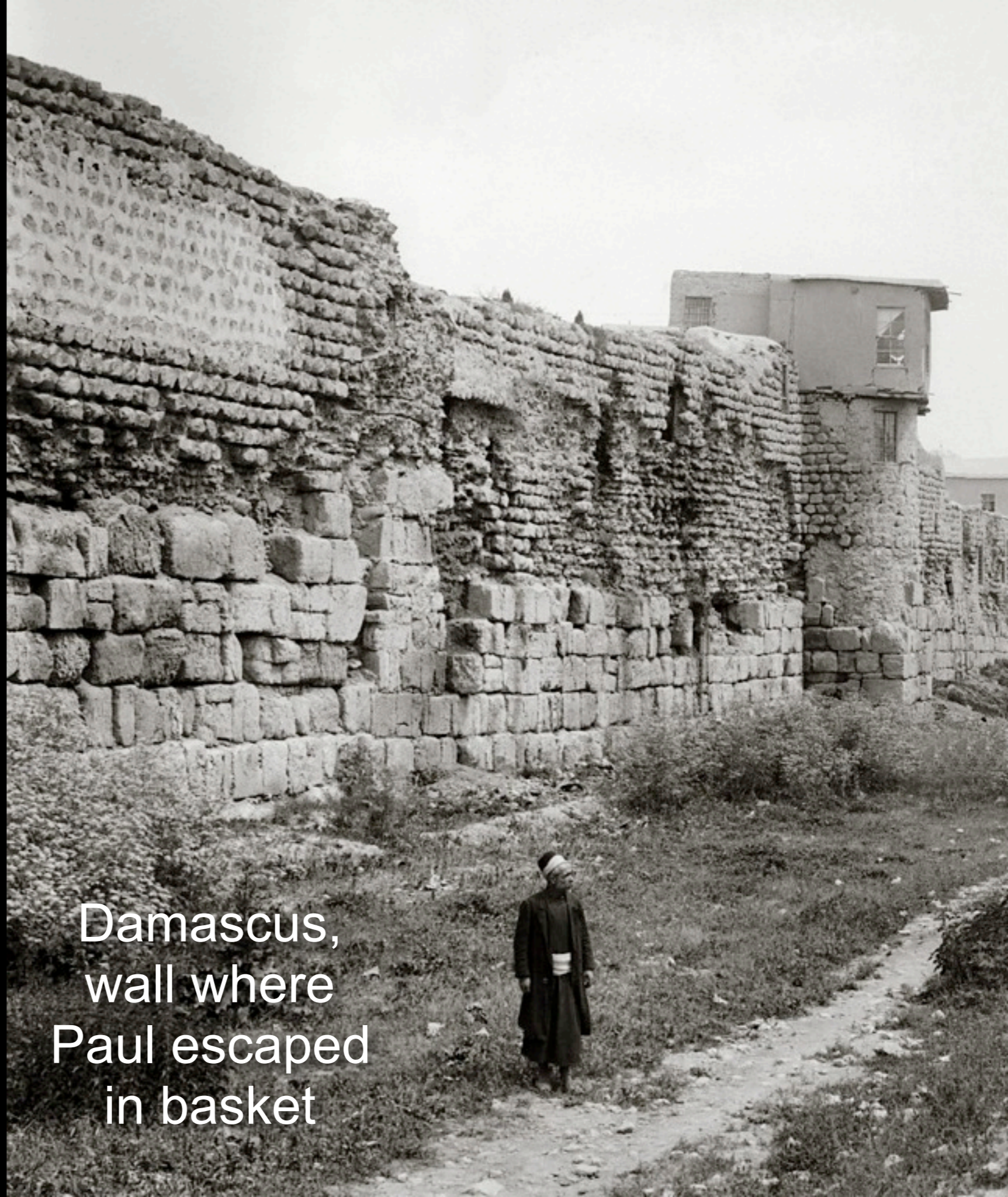
Expanded translation:

“Now Saul continued to be spiritually strengthened even more and he continued to confound the arguments of the Jews by demonstrating through sound biblical arguments and evidence that Jesus is the Messiah.”

Acts 9:23, “Now after many days were past, the Jews plotted to kill him.

Acts 9:24, “But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him.

Acts 9:25, “Then the disciples took him by night and let him down through the wall in a large basket.”



Damascus,
wall where
Paul escaped
in basket