



Acts: Apollos

Sept 20

INTRODUCTION:

Meanwhile... On his return to Antioch Paul brought Aquila and Priscilla with him and left them in Ephesus. As his journey continues this story takes place. Likely it is to prepare the scene for the 3rd mission, to teach us about team work and the covenantal transition, the importance of discipleship, etc. Luke uses it to introduce another key figure, Apollos.



KEY POINT: speaking and truth, discernment and discipleship

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Acts 18:18–22, Paul in Transit)

- Where had Paul gone? (Recap the 1st and 2nd mission)
- Where was he going (Recap his travels)
- Where would he go (Recap the 3rd mission)
- What points of interest came up along the way?

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Ps 32/1 Jn 1, Confession)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

READ: Acts 18:24–28

QUESTIONS:

1. *C.f. 18:1 and 18:19-* Who were Aquila and Priscilla and how did they come to be in Ephesus?

Verses 24 and 25

2. “Jew,” what was his ethnicity and suggested religion?
3. *His name suggests he was a Hellenist, a Jew who was culturally Greek.*
4. *Alexandria: probably the 2nd largest city in Empire; a large Jewish population; a university city (home to Philo, the Jewish philosopher; the Greek version of the OT was written here).* What does this suggest about Apollos’ learning?

5. He was “eloquent” (*a polished speaker*).
6. He was “competent in the Scriptures” (*very able/knowledgable*).
7. He was “fervent in spirit” (*zealous, naturally animated*)
8. *While it has been said, based upon verses like 1 Cor 1:20, to suggest there is no place for such natural talents in preaching. Is that the impression Luke gives?*

Verse 25 and 26b

9. Why were Aquila and Priscilla in the synagogue?
10. *Concerning Jesus Apollos was: a) “instructed in the way of the Lord,” b) “spoke and taught accurately concerning Jesus,” though c) “he knew only the baptism of John.”*
11. **Positively what does this suggest? (What would he have known about Jesus from John?). What does this caution? (i.e. John’s was an Old Covenant baptism, c.f. Acts 19:3). Add to this Aquila and Priscilla’s comment, “explained to him the way of the Lord more accurately,” do you think he was or wasn’t a Christian?¹**
12. What was he teaching in the synagogue?
13. Rather than pointing to second experiences when does a Christian receive the Spirit (____)? How does this story demonstrate the uniqueness of the transition from OC to NC? (just think of the Apostles).

Old Covenant	New Covenant Justification	<i>Jesus Death and Resurrection, Ascension and Outpouring (transition between OC and NC complete)</i>	New Covenant Indwelling of the Promised Spirit
John the Baptist’s ministry; heralding Jesus as the Messiah.	Faith in Jesus’ life & ministry as the Messiah		Pentecost

What at the least and at most was Apollos lacking?

14. **What is the value of privately admonishing people?**
15. **How do some people or Christians need more accurate teaching/discipleship to help them get on the right/better track? Can you give an example?**
16. **What is the value of a husband and wife team in ministry?**

¹ **1 Ti 2:12-** This verse teaches that it is appropriate for a woman to engage in private explanatory discipleship, especially in conjunction with her husband.

Verse 27

17. What value did/do letters of commendation have? When might we use them?
18. *Apollos went to Corinth where Paul had just been, however, there is no jealousy. How did Paul view Apollos' ministry? (1 Cor 3:6). How ought we to have a similar spirit?*

Verse 28

1. What was the effect on Apollos' preaching?
2. How might our discipleship be what the Lord uses to grow the Kingdom?

NEXT: Sept 27- No Life Groups, Members' Meeting