

Round the World in 80 days

Studies in Acts 17-20

Corinth – A Reassuring Vision

Acts 18.1-17





Corinth – another strategic city

- *a new town – rebuilt 46BC*
- *a regional capital – for Achaia*
- *a sporting centre – Isthmian Games*
- *a commercial centre – crossroads for trading*









Corinth – another strategic city

- *a new town – rebuilt 46BC*
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- *a commercial centre – crossroads for trading*
- *an immoral city – notorious for its sex trade*

Paul approached it with fear and trembling

1 Cor 2.3

1. A Providential Encounter, vs2-3,5

- **God sent Paul two encouragers v2**

he worked at a trade v3

to avoid being a burden to new believers

1 Thess 2.9; 1 Cor 9.14-15; 2 Cor 11.8

- **God sent Paul financial support v5**

Phil 4.15; 2 Cor 8.1-4

so he could devote himself to preaching fulltime

- **Christian ministry is about teamwork**

supportive people v18,26; Rom 16.3-4

and good financial support Phil 1.4

2. A Familiar Pattern, v4

- ***reasoning from the Scriptures***

17.2-3,10-11,17

seeking to persuade people

to accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour

v13; 17.4; 2 Cor 5.11

3. A Strategic Change in Direction, vs6-7

- *There's no point in flogging a dead horse!*
move on from the unresponsive
to those still to hear
- *responsibility passes from the preacher*
to the listener
those who are truly God's people
respect his Word and accept his Son
those who don't will have only themselves
to blame on God's Judgement Day

4. A Key Conversion, v8

- *The local synagogue leader*

many others came to faith through him

pray for people of influence to be converted

5. A Reassuring Vision, vs 9-17

- **The command v10**

- **don't be afraid 1 Cor 2.3**

- **keep on speaking Eph 6.19; Col 4.3**

- **The promise v10**

- **Christ's presence Mat 28.20; Heb 13.5**

- **Christ's protection**

- for winning his people**

- **The testing and fulfilment vs11-17**

- **a concerted attack v12;**

- **a calm adjudicator v13; 17.5-6**

- no case to answer vs 14-15**

- the Gospel was legitimate**

- **another key conversion v17; 1 Cor 1.1**

A Key Principle

***Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm.
Let nothing move you.
Always give yourselves fully
to the work of the Lord,
because you know that your labour in the Lord
is not in vain.***

1 Cor 15.58