Acts 18 - Lesson 19

Corinth, and Antioch, Apollos and Priscilla

1. (Faith) In this chapter we read of St. Paul’s stay in Corinth teaching the many converts to Christianity among Jews and Gentiles alike; always, of course, with the opposition of some of the Jews. In his letter to the Corinthians. From an inscription discovered in Delphi, we know that Gallio was proconsul 51-52 AD, so we can date St. Paul’s stay in Corinth precisely. In his later letter back to the Corinthian Church, St Paul gives us the earliest written description of the institution of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. In this letter, he makes two very important points. The first is his source for teaching about Christ and the Gospel he preached. Who was his source and why is that significant to you today?

Acts 18:11

11 He settled there for a year and a half and taught the word of God among them.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,  
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread,

24 and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you.   
Do this in remembrance of me.”

25 In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,   
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

1. (Hope) The second important point St. Paul makes to the Church at Corinth is the eternal significance of how we approach the reception of this Sacrament. Is the Eucharist merely a symbol of a long past event or is it something we should approach with great awe and reverence in view of our day of judgment? What leads you to this conclusion? Why is it significant?

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily   
will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord.

28 A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup.

29 For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body,

eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1. (Love) In the Bible, one went up to Jerusalem and came down from Jerusalem. For example, in the parable of the Good Samaritan we read that “A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.” This indicates that is coming back from Jerusalem. From this chapter, we see that St. Paul goes up to Jerusalem and greeted the Church. Why might this be considered an act of respect and charity?

Acts 18:22

22 Upon landing at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church and then went down to Antioch.