

Acts 18:23-28

The NT Church Is Not a “One Man” Team

The Beginning of the Ministry of Paul’s 3MJ v23

With a return to Ephesus in the back of his mind (“if God wills” 18:21), Paul returned again to visit/minister to the Galatian churches (Antioch, Lystra and Derbe)

The Beginning of the Ministry of Apollos in Ephesus v24-26

Luke the human author of Acts is essentially saying “Meanwhile, back in Ephesus”

Verse 24-26a: Apollos, a Jew had been born in Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was “mighty in the (OT) Scriptures” and was an “Old Testament Believer” that is a person who believed in the Promised Savior, but did not yet know specific truth about Jesus.

Verse 26b: Priscilla and Aquila (18:1-3; 18-19) filled in Apollos about the specifics of the life/death/resurrection of the Promised Messiah-Jesus the Christ (// 13:16-41).

The Beginning of the Ministry of Apollos in Corinth v27-28

It is important to correlate this info with what Paul wrote later in 1 Corinthians 3:1-8 (“I planted, Apollos watered **but God was causing the growth**” of the church)

Verse 27: When (after an unspecified period) he wanted to go to Achaia (the area in southern Greece that included cities like Corinth, Athens and Sparta) his Christian friends 1: encouraged him 2: wrote to the disciples in Achaia commending Apollos

Verse 28: When Apollos reached southern Greece, he “greatly helped” those who had believed through (God’s common and efficacious) grace...by refuting opponents and validating via the Scriptures the truth that Jesus was (and is) the Christ

Take This To Heart

The Apostle Paul Wasn’t a ONE MAN Team...Neither are World-Class Christians Like James Mitchell, Janice Skinner, Eric Ward and Olga Pollock. God’s Design is for All of His “Draft Picks” to Play Our Positions and Work Positively with our Teammates to Score Points for the Kingdom/Contribute to His Game Plan: Living the Great Commission.