



Encouragement
in Weakness and in Fear
and much Trembling

Acts 18:1-17

LOOK FOR ENCOURAGEMENT IN GOD'S
PROVIDENCE, PROVISION, PRESENCE,
AND PROMISES.



⁹ And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “**Do not be afraid**, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.”

Acts 18:9-10

And I, when I came to you, brothers, ...³ And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 1 Corinthians 2:1a&3

Why was Paul feeling this way in Corinth?

- The great difficulties of pioneering missions.

- After ministry depression.

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 1 Corinthians 2:1–3

A challenging city.



- Paul was alone.

¹ After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.

- Financial need.

³ and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.

- Rejection & opposition of fellow Jews.

⁴ And he reasoned in the synagogues every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks. ⁵ ... testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. ⁶ And when they **opposed** and **reviled** him, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

- Rejection & opposition of fellow Jews.

² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. Romans 9:2–3

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Providential Encouragement

¹ After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.
² And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them,
³ and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.

³ Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, ⁴ who risked their necks for my life, ... Romans 16:3–4a

Encouragement of Provision & Words

⁴ And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.
⁵ When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.

And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied my need

2 Corinthians 11:9a

⁶ But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you—⁷ for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. 1 Thessalonians 3:6–7

Encouragement of Life Transformation

⁷ And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸ Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized.

Encouragement of God's Presence

⁹ And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.” ¹¹ And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

Encouragement of God's Promise

¹² But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal, ¹³ saying, “This man is persuading people to worship God contrary to the law.”

Encouragement of God's Promise

¹⁴But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of wrongdoing or vicious crime, O Jews, I would have reason to accept your complaint. ¹⁵But since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves. I refuse to be a judge of these things.” ¹⁶And he drove them from the tribunal.

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