

CHAPTER 32.1
My People
in this ***City***

“MY PEOPLE IN THIS CITY”
Acts 18:1-18
January 14, 2018

Paul’s situation in Acts 18. (1-5)

- Went to Corinth alone. He is still waiting for Titus and Timothy to return from Macedonia.

- Corinth

- His message: Jesus is the Messiah/Christ (5)

I. Don’t be afraid. I am with you. (6-11)

II. Keep Speaking. He has His people.

A. Commanded to keep speaking. Don’t be silent.

B. Jesus has people in this city.

C. Jesus kept His promise. (12-17)

Keep speaking. Jesus has people here.

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

“THE CENTRALITY OF CHRIST”
1 Corinthians 1-4

Historical Timeline:

Paul wrote to the Corinthians from Ephesus (16:8). It may have been near the end of his three year stay in Ephesus, as he speaks of leaving to visit them after Pentecost. It may have been AD 54 or 55. The letter is in response to news he had heard from Chloe’s family (1:11) about the church. A letter from the church had also reached Paul in which they had asked him some very specific questions (7:1).

Passage Overview:

The central message of the letter emphasizes the centrality of Jesus and the holiness of God. A relaxed attitude towards these essential truths had led to discord and division. Adherence to lesser persons and passions than the all-surpassing Jesus had fostered divisions and arguments among the believers. These spilled out beyond their preference for certain Bible teachers to outright litigation between members of the church.

The Spirit of God refocuses their attention upon the wisdom and power of God, which is found in the all-sufficient Christ. It is in Jesus alone that they are saved and for Jesus alone they must live.

Their vying for places of influence and position betrayed their self-centered thirst for position and power. Yet only in Jesus is there wisdom and power. And we are His servants, not persons seeking acclamation for ourselves. We serve the church by building upon the foundation of Christ. As we serve God, we don’t seek the applause of men, but the affirmation of God who tests all we do.

The Corinthians’ hearts and passions must place Christ front and center. Living for Him and in Him needs to replace all other purposes in life. For Christ’s sake we must be prepared to suffer all things, so that He might be honored in all and before all.

Reading for Next Week: 1 Corinthians 1 - 4