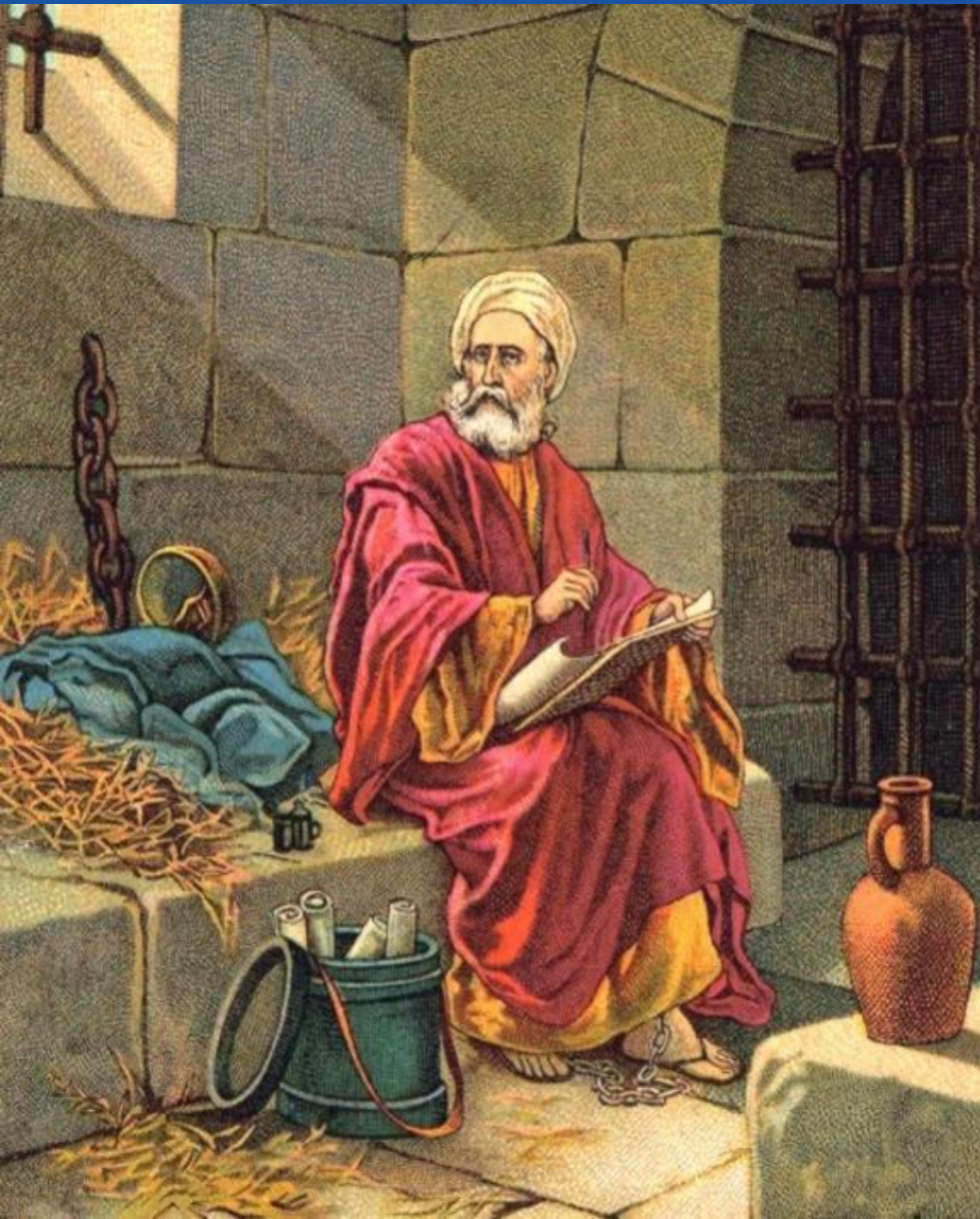


PAUL IN ROME



- 50,000 Jews in Rome
- Little connection between Roman Jews and Holy Land Jews
- Roman Jews a bit concerned about Paul arriving in chains; was he a trouble-maker?
- Paul made it clear he had done no wrong against Roman or Jewish law

JEWISH LEADERS COME TO PAUL



- Jewish leaders wanted to know why Paul was in jail
- Paul says the reason is for “the hope of Israel”
- Hope of Israel = resurrection
- Paul says it was his choice to stay in jail so that he could come to Rome
- The Way still seen as a Jewish sect as of 61 A.D.
- No division at this time that puts gentile Christians in “churches” and Messianic Jews in synagogues
- Leadership says they have received nothing official from Jerusalem against Paul

MANY JEWS CAME TO HEAR PAUL SPEAK

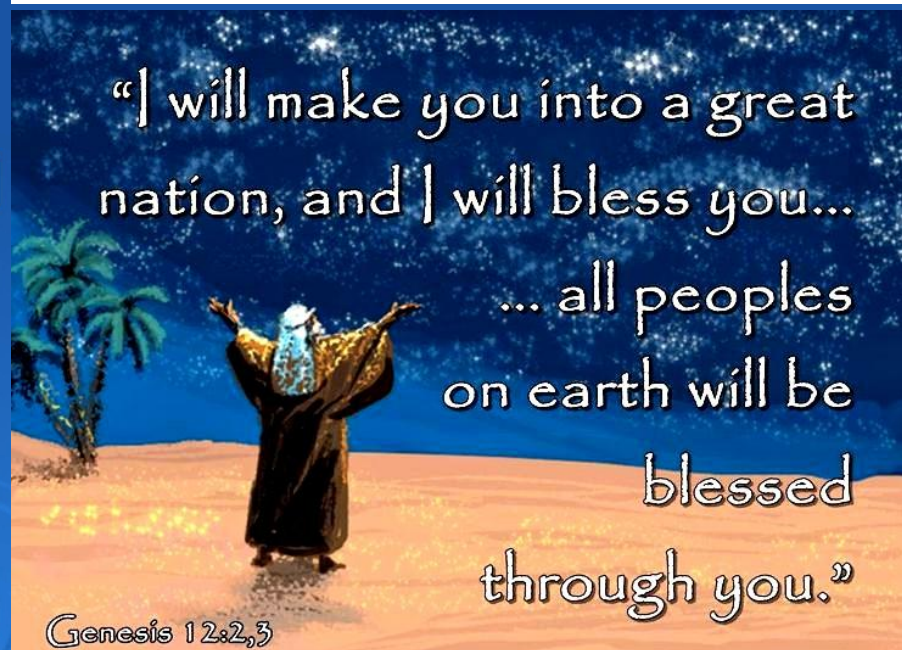
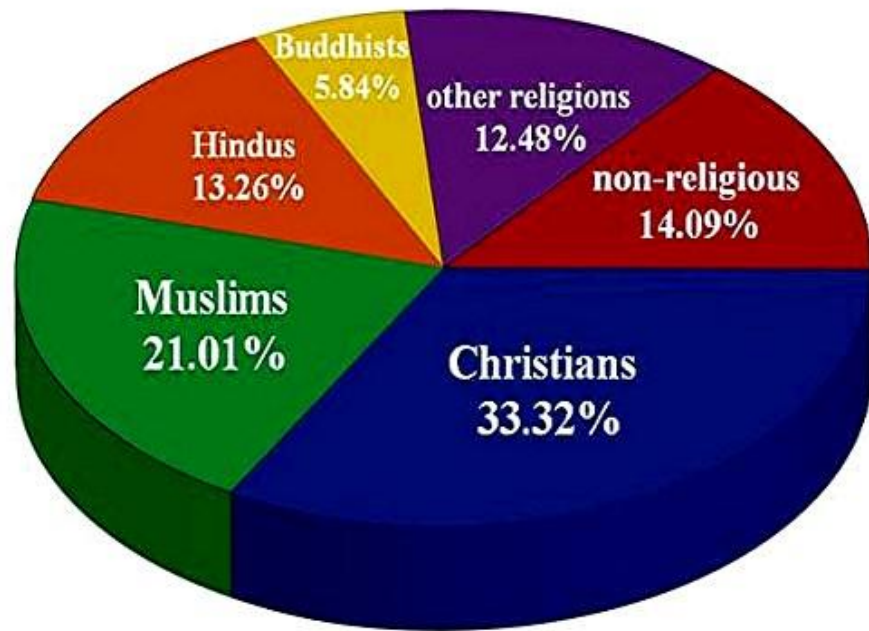
- First meeting was to set a more extensive meeting
- Paul instructed them on the Kingdom of God
- Kingdom of God same as Kingdom of Heaven
- Paul used Scripture to teach the Gospel
- Paul said that repentance is mandatory
- But...the recognition of Yeshua as Messiah was needed to gain eternal life



DID GOD REPLACE JEWS WITH GENTILES ?

- Vs. 28 twisted to mean gentiles have replaced Jews as God's chosen people
- Bulk of Jews have rejected Christ, but so have the bulk of gentiles!
- Abrahamic Covenant is the legal basis for salvation
- Paul stayed in Rome, under arrest for 2 years
- 2Timothy 4:1 – 9
- Did Paul die in prison?

World Religions by percentage

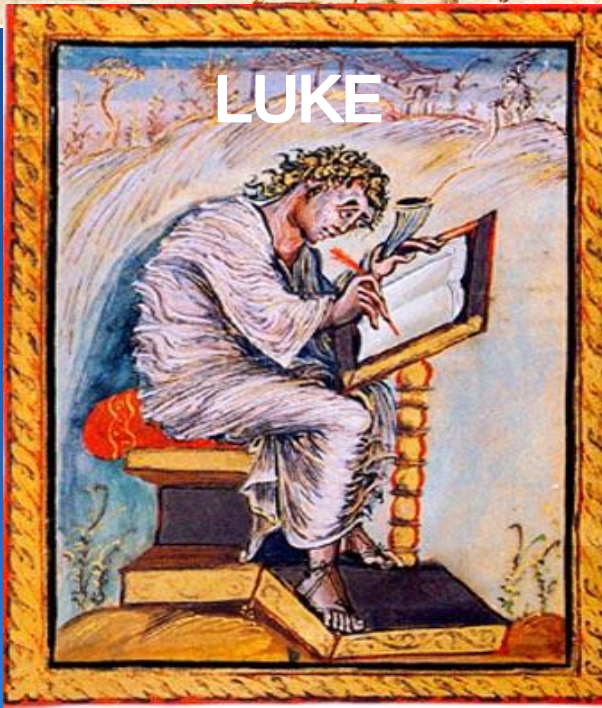
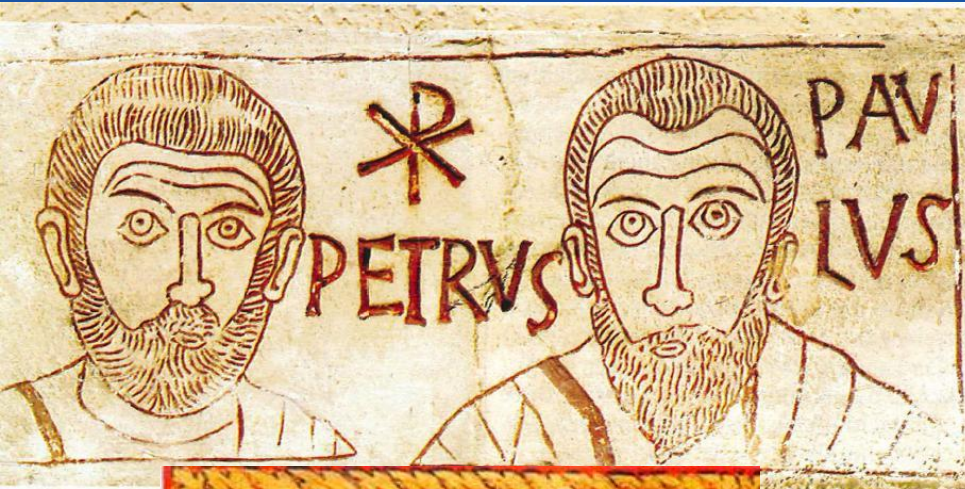


WE HAVE CROSSED THE BRIDGE!



- The Gospel was NOT modified to allow for gentiles; rather gentiles could always be included
- Issue was Jewish Tradition that needed to be reformed, then the natural progression of gentile inclusion followed
- Yeshua, Messiah and Deity, was also the great reformer
- Majority of Jews fought the idea of gentile inclusion
- For 1900 years, Christians have fought against Jewish inclusion!

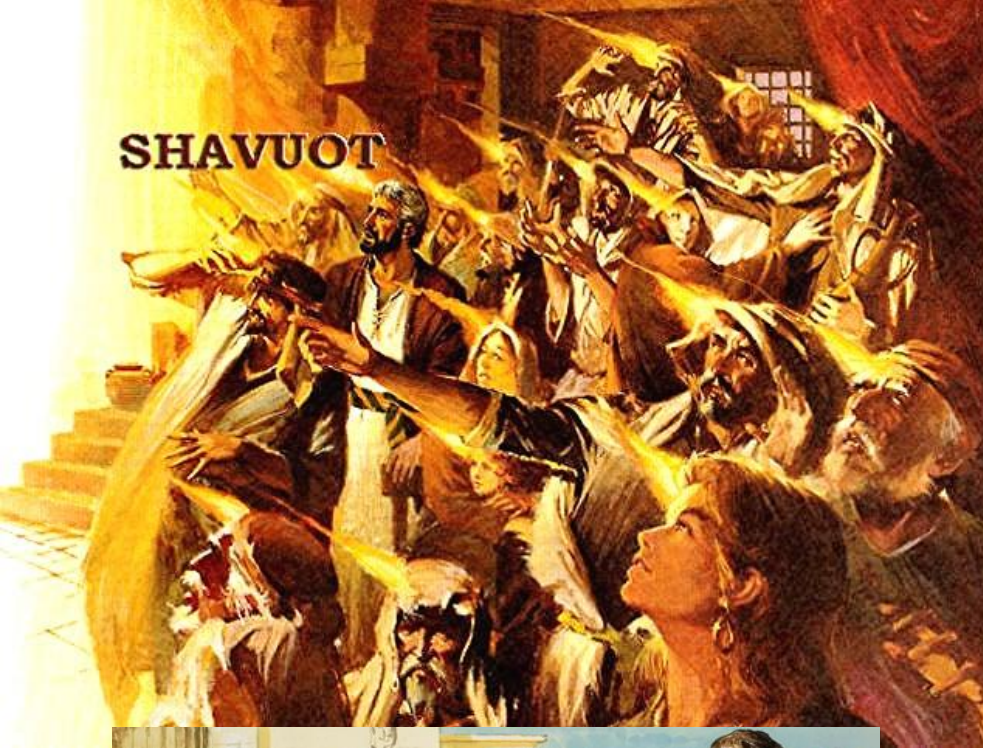
REVIEWING OUR JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS



- Paul continued to approach the Jewish community
- Peter got the ball rolling while Paul was still an enemy of Yeshua
- Acts is a sequel to the Gospel of Luke, both written by Luke
- Book of Acts was suppressed by early Church Fathers as they saw it as too Jewish

HOLY SPIRIT COMES

SHAVUOT

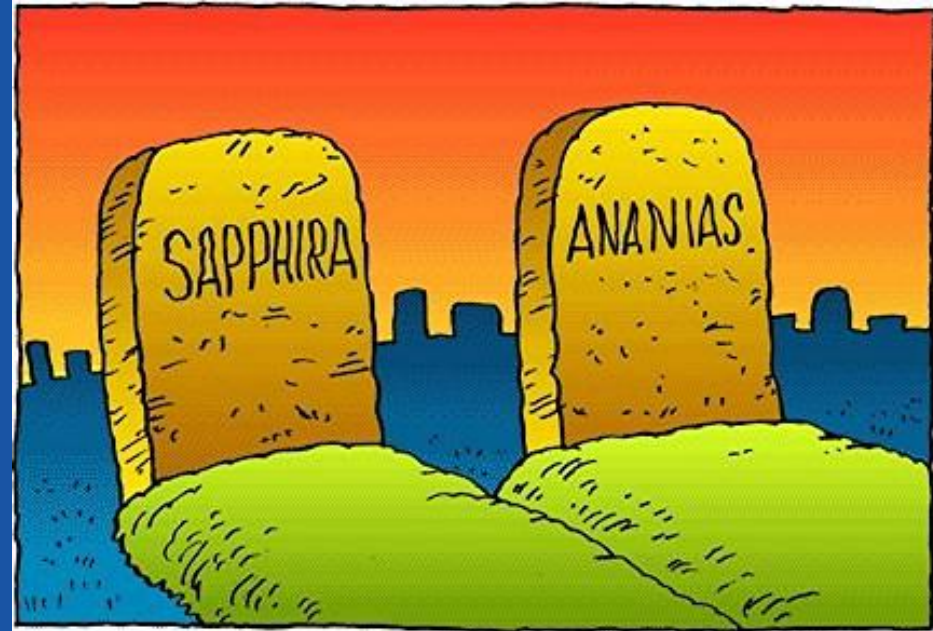


- Power of the Spirit enabled ordinary Jews to speak languages they didn't know
- Number of Believers jumped from 120 to 3,000
- Peter tells the amazed crowd that God has glorified His Son Yeshua
- Yeshua is the prophet "like Moses"
- Pharisees believed in resurrection, Sadducees did not
- Resurrection a divisive issue all throughout Book of Acts

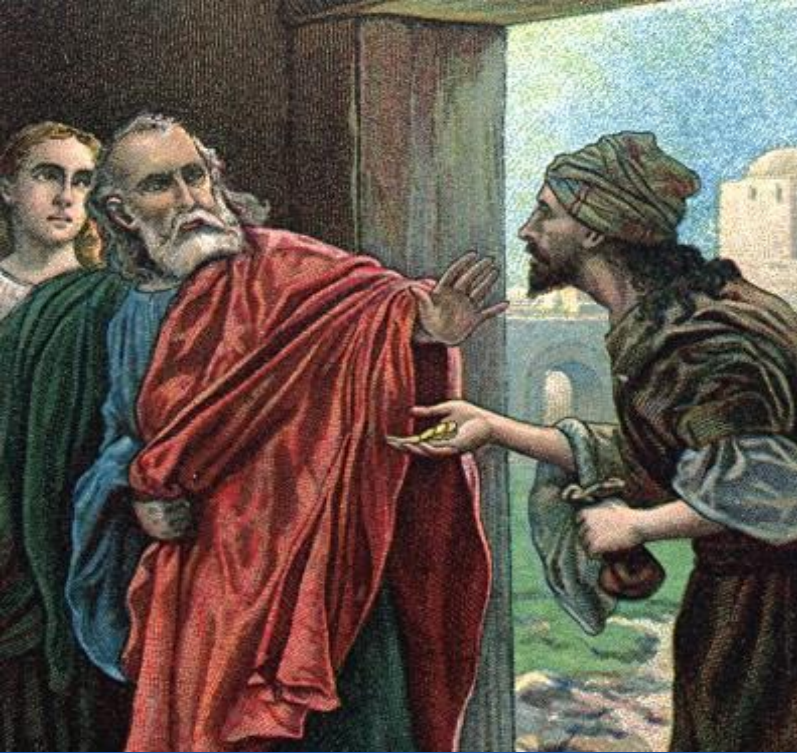


STEPHEN MARTYRED

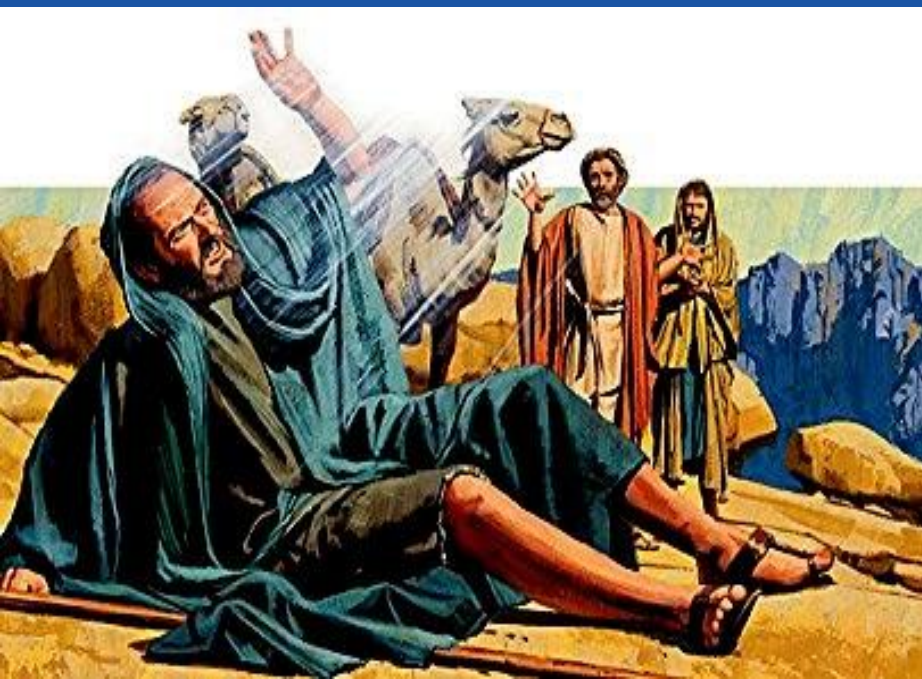
- Hananyah and Sapphira, Believers
- Sold property but lied about the proceeds
- A reverent fear began to spread among Believers
- Peter arrested for blasphemy, for saying Yeshua was at the right hand of God, but he was released
- Growth pains within the ranks as Greek speakers and Hebrew speakers didn't trust each other
- Stephen's stoning caused other Believers to flee Jerusalem



PAUL TURNS TO CHRIST



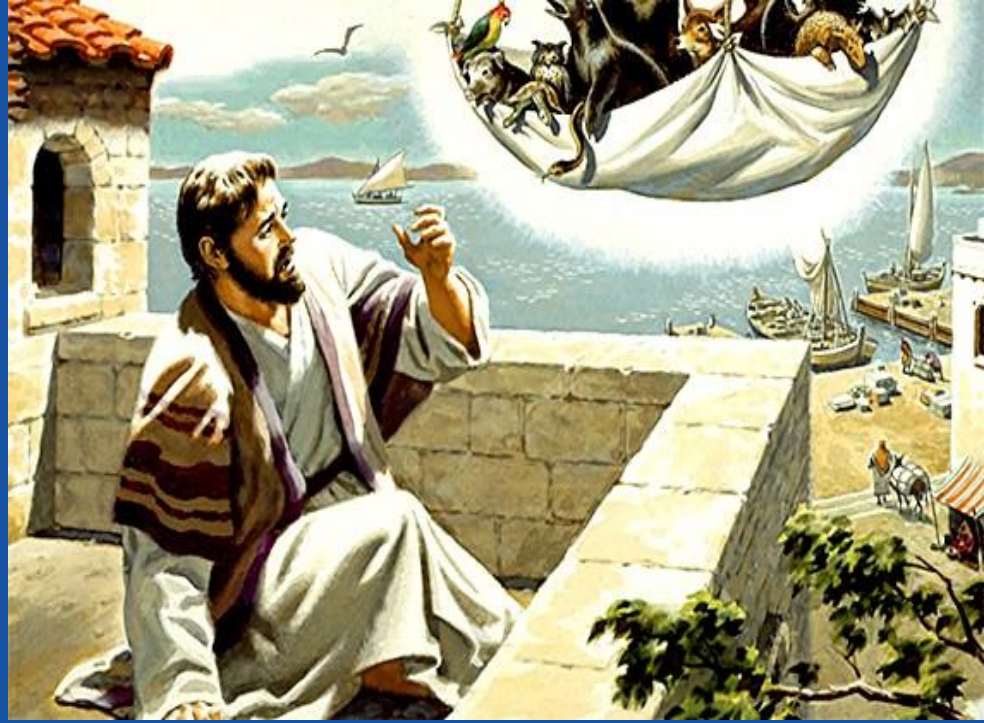
- Some deceivers will try to hijack a ministry
- Shim'on, sorcerer, wanted to buy the power of the Holy Spirit



- Ethiopian Eunuch believes, and so a gentile is added to the congregation
- Focus shifts to Paul, he encounters the risen Christ on the road to Damascus

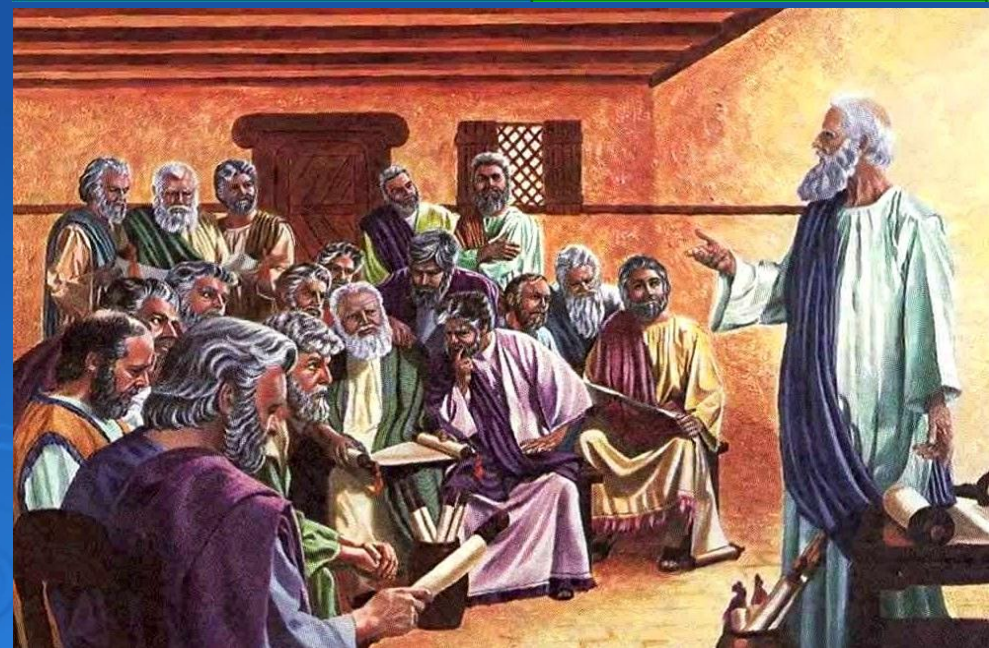
GOD DIRECTS PETER TO INCLUDE GENTILES

- Tradition, *Halakhah*, was that gentiles were inherently unclean
- God has never viewed gentiles that way, and uses a sheet full of animals to counteract this belief
- Peter goes to Cornelius, a Roman soldier
- He accepts the Gospel and receives the Holy Spirit
- Jews began to demand that for gentiles to join The Way they must have a circumcision (to become Jews)

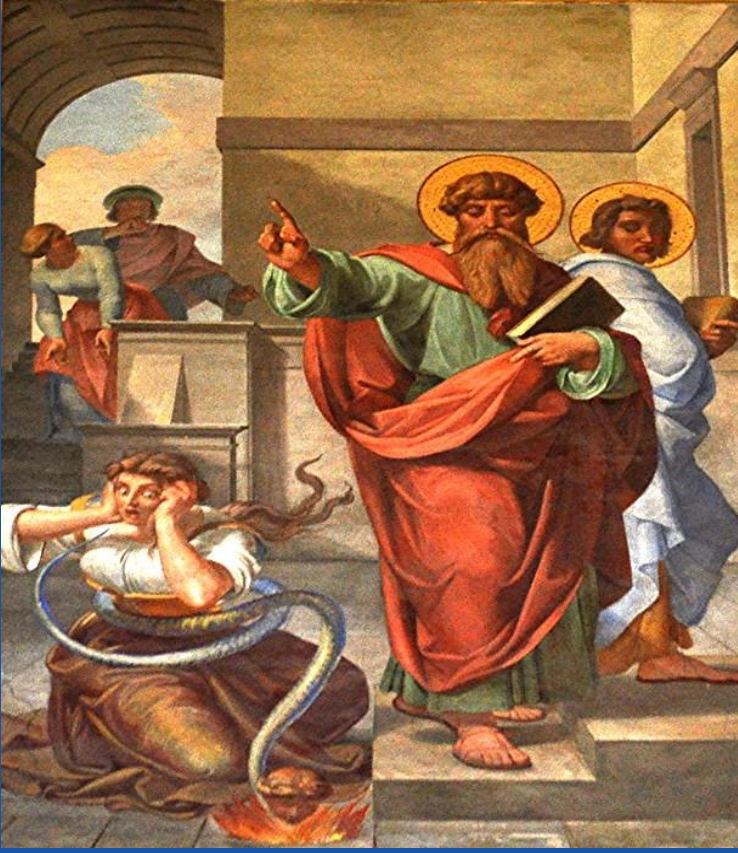


THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL

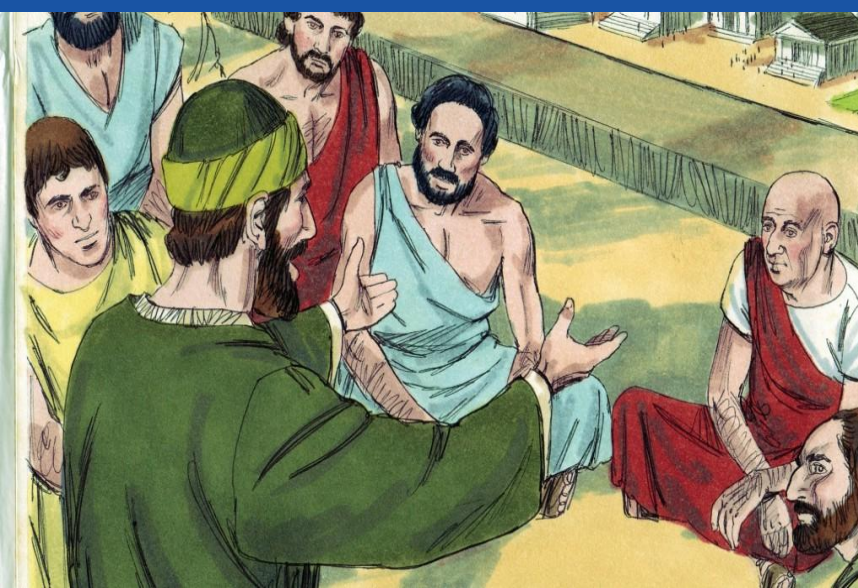
- Scene switches from Holy Land to Antioch
- Paul travels to several nations, many Jews and gentiles come to believe
- Circumcision has become a show stopper
- Much disagreement among Believers
- Paul and others go to Jerusalem seeking a resolution
- Decision is that gentiles must follow Biblical purity laws, but they do not have to become Jews or follow *Halakhah*



TIMOTHY BECOMES A DISCIPLE

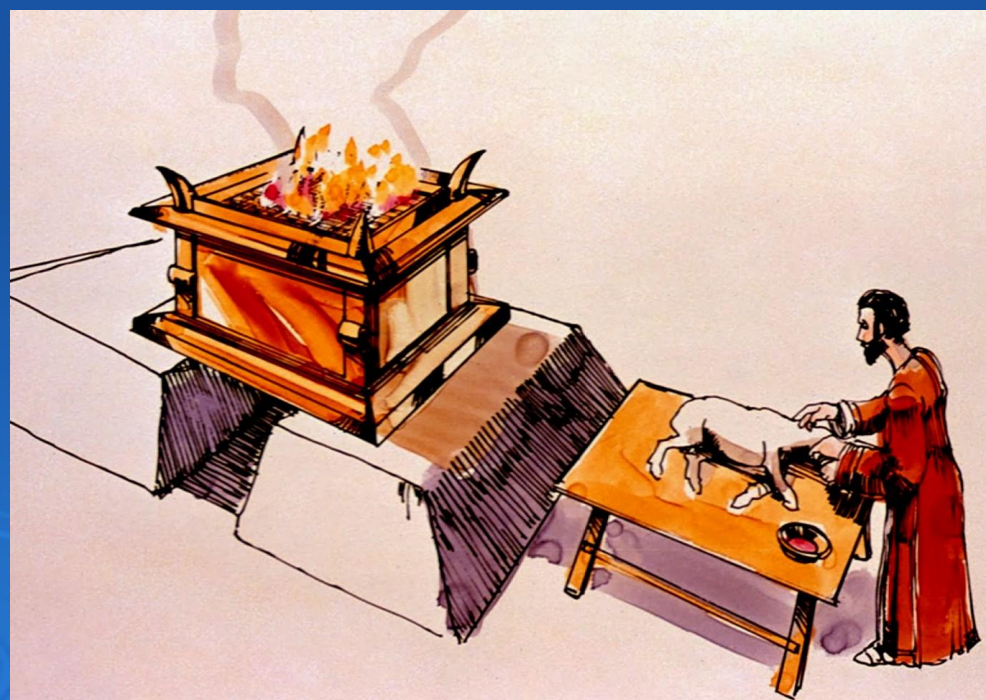


- Believers: some Jewish, some gentiles, some mixed blood
- Girl with a snake spirit bedevils Paul, he orders the spirit out of her but her owners are livid!
- In Athens, Greece Paul debates the philosophers, and some come to believe
- Apollos, a Jewish Believer, disciple of John the Baptist
- Didn't know about the Holy Spirit
- Several independent factions of Believers exist outside of The Way



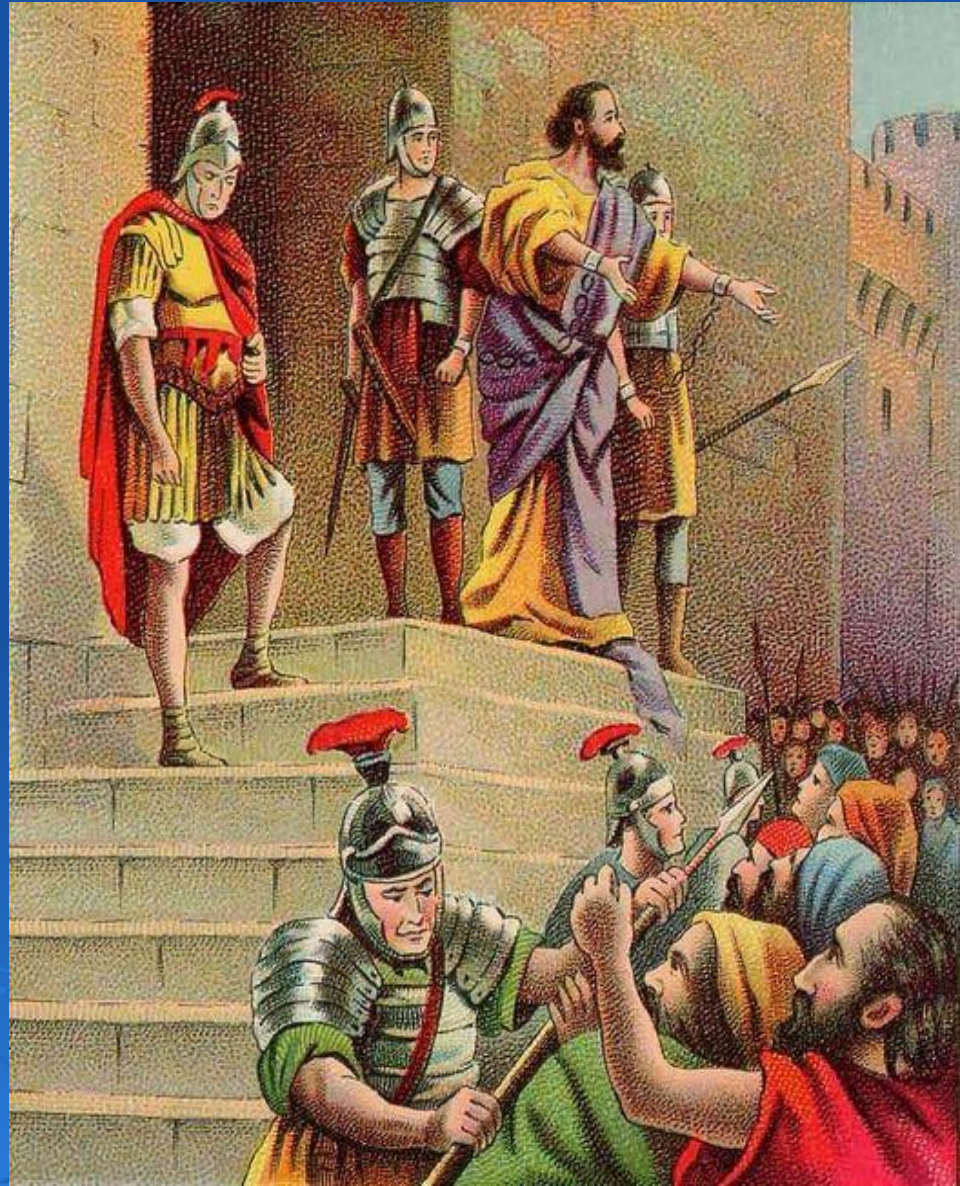
PAUL REAFFIRMS HIS JEWISHNESS

- Jewish exorcists tried to use Yeshua's name to drive out demons; they failed
- Paul decided it was time to go to Jerusalem
- In Caesarea the Prophet Agav told Paul he would be arrested
- James told Paul he needed to prove his loyalty to the Torah by giving a vow offering



PAUL ARRESTED IN JERUSALEM

- Paul falsely accused of bringing gentiles into the Temple
- Crowd tries to kill him, Roman soldiers rescue him
- An assassination plot sends Paul to Caesarea for trial
- Governor Felix tries Paul, but refuses to give a verdict
- Paul remains in jail for 2 years





PAUL'S MISSION IS FINISHED

- Festus, the new governor, reviews Paul's case and finds no cause for his death or jail
- Paul asserts his right to appeal to the Emperor
- On his way to Rome he experiences terror at sea
- Is shipwrecked but survives
- Paul seems to have probably died in a Roman prison

