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# **Back to Basics**



# Acts 1:8 – Power Principle

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The Holy Spirit will give  
you the ability to tell what  
***you have experienced*** –  
every where you go - with  
***miraculous*** results!!!!



# The Antioch Declaration Acts 13

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- <sup>38</sup> Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that **through [p]Him forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you,**
- <sup>39</sup> and [q]through Him everyone who believes is [r]**freed [s]from all things, from which you could not be [t]freed [u]through the Law of Moses.**
- **Continue in the Grace of God (43)**
- **Preached to Jewish audiences**

**Apostle Paul's  
Second Missionary Journey  
49 - 52 A.D.**





## After Long Sermon in Athens – ch 17

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- <sup>32</sup> Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some *began* to sneer,
- but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.” (We’ll think about it)
- <sup>33</sup> So Paul went out of their midst. <sup>34</sup> But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.



# So, What Happened in Athens?

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- **Nothing.** As far as we know, Paul never went back and the church didn't start to thrive there until almost 300 years later, after Emperor Constantine's declaration
- **Why?** Maybe God's timing? Maybe a lack of intercessory support because he was alone? Certainly hearts were harder and minds were completely closed.
- **Paul' strategy changed.** No Antioch Declaration; instead, he tried the Athenian approach – he appealed to their intellect, tried to reason with them, and it fell flat. The Holy Spirit didn't show up.
- **He just packed up and left town without waiting for Timothy and Silas**





# Moving On

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- **18 After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.** <sup>2</sup> There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. [49 AD] Paul went to see them, <sup>3</sup> and **because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.** <sup>4</sup> Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.
- Birth of Marketplace Ministry – Ekklesia in action





# Tectonic Mission Shift

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- **<sup>5</sup> When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching,** testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. **<sup>6</sup> But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”**
- **Birth of Paul, apostle to the Gentiles**



# The Harvest Next Door

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**<sup>7</sup> Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. <sup>8</sup> Crispus, the synagogue leader, and **his entire household believed in the Lord**; and many of the Corinthians [*not Jews*] who heard Paul believed and were baptized.**



## Back to Basics (2 Cor 2)

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**And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the [a]testimony of God.** <sup>2</sup> For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, <sup>4</sup> and my [b]message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, **but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,** <sup>5</sup> **so that your faith would not [c]rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.**



# Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING

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- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY