

READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2021 Week 11 (March 15-19)

("Let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly" ... and bear fruit in our lives) – Colossians 3:16.

Historical Context (Paul's second missionary trip).

- 51- 53 AD** Paul stayed in Corinth for 1 ½ years. Both letters to the Thessalonians are believed to have been written during this time from Corinth.
- 53 AD** Paul begins his third missionary trip – again, leaving from the church in Antioch, Syria. Paul and Timothy revisit the churches in Galatia and Phrygia.
- 53-56 AD** with Aquila and Pricilla in Ephesus for three years.
From Ephesus, Paul's fellow-workers carry the Good News of Jesus throughout the Roman province of Asia. Epaphras, for example, establishes new churches at Colossae, Laodicea, and Hierapolis.
- 56 AD** Paul writes the First letter to the Corinthians from Ephesus.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Clarification from the Greek (the original language)</u>
Mon.	II Thessalonians 2 (:12)	"... so that all who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in unrighteousness will be condemned" = while some English translations put this as a future event (will be condemned), the phrase is actually an <u>undefined-in-time</u> phrase. The verb order is actually "condemned" then "believe" and "took." The second two verbs may be contemporaneous with the first verb, immediately proceeding it, or proceeding it by a fair amount of time. The word "condemn" is actually "separate, judge, consider, decide."
Tues.	II Thessalonians 3 (:5)	Steadfastness = "Under / beneath / less" + "remain / stay". It means to be patient, persevere, endure, be steadfast, hold your ground, wait, survive.
Wed.	Acts 19 (:24)	Artemis = goddess of hunting, wild nature, fertility, and chastity. The daughter of Zeus and sister Apollo. Artemis was regarded as a patron of girls and young women, and a protectress during childbirth. Worshipped across the Greek world, her most famous site was at the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus: built near to what many believed was her birthplace, Ortygia. This temple was begun about 550 BC, and was almost twice the size of Athens' Parthenon when it was finished after a century of work: it was regarded as one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The temple had 127 columns, and the stone beams resting upon them were so heavy (weighing 48,000 pounds each), that the Ephesians credited Artemis with having helped in the construction. Inside the temple was a giant cult statue of the goddess made of cedar-wood. The Temple was also used as a world bank by the Mediterranean world.
Thurs.	I Corinthians 1 (:18)	Foolishness = The Greek word means "foolish / stupid", and describes inappropriate behavior / thought / speech. It describes a lack of knowledge and discernment; even derangement.

Fri. I Corinthians 2 (:10) **Depths** = Same word from which we get “Bathysphere.” Able to descend more than 3,000 feet, allowing marine biologist the first opportunity to observe deep-sea animals in their native environment.

Sources: www.thebiblejourney.org; [Analytical Greek New Testament](#); [Basics of Biblical Greek](#); [Dictionary of New Testament Theology](#), Vols. 1-3; www.ancient.eu/artemis; [The New Linguistic and Exegetical Key to the Greek New Testament](#); [The IVP Bible Background Commentary](#); [Basics of Biblical Greek](#); [The Basics of New Testament Syntax](#); and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bathysphere; etymonline.com © DFN (May be printed, but not used for profit).