



The First Epistle to the Corinthians

“1 Corinthians 16:1-9 -Collection for Jerusalem Believers”

- *I Corinth 16:1-4 - “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come. And when I come, whomever you approve by your letters I will send to bear your gift to Jerusalem. But if it is fitting that I go also, they will go with me.”*
 - Doctrine is over!
 - Is this section necessary?
 - Yes, the personal reflections helps to validate scripture.
 - A message to the church gong forward.
 - Paul is in Ephesus, where his presence was needed, and expected to go to Macedonia, probably to obtain support. He

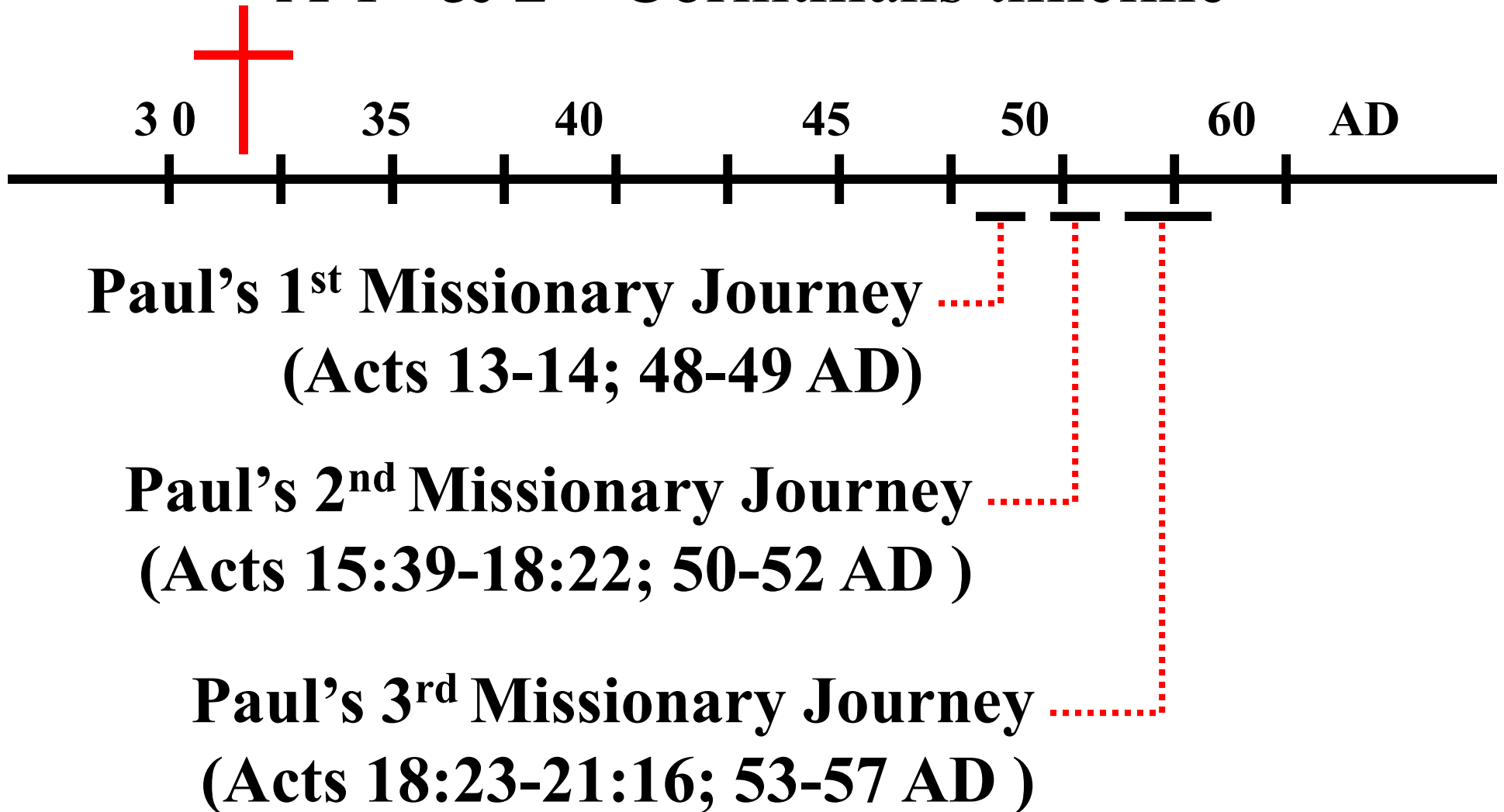


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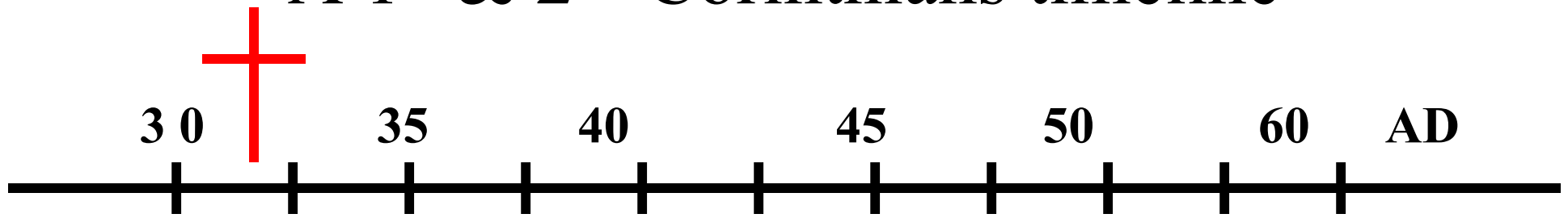
“1 Corinthians 16:1-9 -Collection for Jerusalem Believers”

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A 1st & 2nd Corinthians timeline



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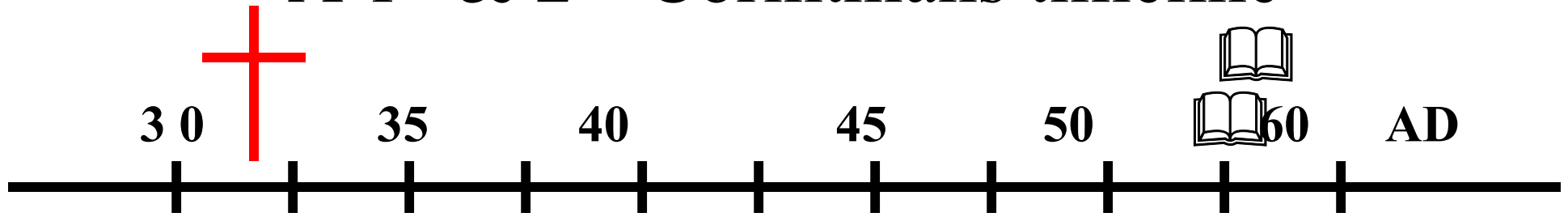


**Paul went to Corinth on his
2nd & 3rd missionary journeys**

**Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey
(Acts 15:39-18:22; 50-52 AD)**

**Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey
(Acts 18:23-21:16; 53-57 AD)**

A 1st & 2nd Corinthians timeline



**Paul wrote 1st & 2nd Corinthians
while on his 3rd missionary journey**

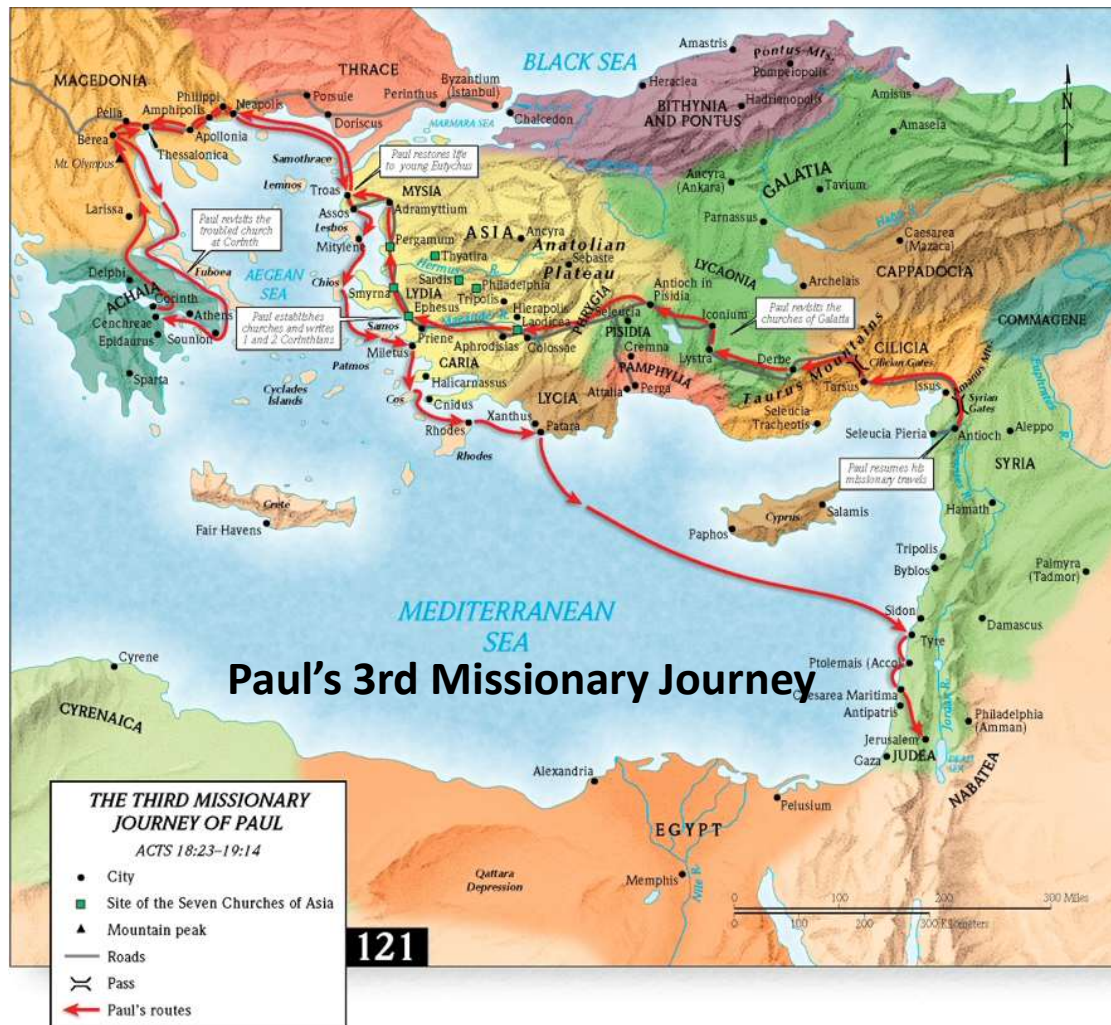
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- was not going to go to Corinth on his way but on his return, but this was not his original intention (*II Cor 1:15-17*).
 - And support is something he promised, and particularly at a time when Jewish believers were forced to leave Jerusalem (*Acts 8:1*) and there was reportedly a famine in Palestine (*Acts 11:28*).
 - A similar message had been given to the churches in Galatia and Rome.
 - » *Gal: 2:10, Rom 15:26*
 - » And note, this is for the *saints*, not the poor!
- Notice *first day of the week* and the accountability of *each one of you*.
 - *lay aside* – present active imperative
 - *storing up as he may prosper*
 - Amount differs but planning to give seems intended.
 - » *II Cor 8:12* - For if there is first a willing mind, *it is* accepted according to what one has, *and* not according to what he does not have
 - Is this tithing, and if not what is the principle of our giving?
 - » *II Cor 9:7* - *So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.*



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- *that there be no collections when I come* – he anticipated the need.
 - In verse 1, ‘the’ collection.
- *whomever you approve by your letters* – designee, treasurer?
 - Letters were presumably to Paul indicating who was assuming the responsibility of overseeing this matter.
 - *But if it is fitting that I go also, they will go with me.*
 - Isn’t this the practical side of life, i.e. it all depends doesn’t it, and may the Lord guide in such decisions to follow.
- ***I Corinth 16:5-9 – “Now I will come to you when I pass through Macedonia (for I am passing through Macedonia). And it may be that I will remain, or even spend the winter with you, that you may send me on my journey, wherever I go. For I do not wish to see you now on the way; but I hope to stay a while with you, if the Lord permits. But I will tarry in Ephesus until***



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Pentecost. For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.”

- More uncertainty as to what will transpire.
 - His intention was to *pass through Macedonia*, and presumably he did so but not momentarily but during the *winter months* (*Acts 20:3,6*).
 - Note, *and if the Lord permits!*
 - *James 4:13-15 - Some now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will[fn] go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.”*
 - Think of our own lives; we make plans but then they’re changed and where’s God in all of this?
 - *Rom 8:28,29 - And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. **For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.***



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- Why await *Pentecost*?
 - The timing would be right to be part of the Jewish festival which occurred fifty days after the Passover.
 - Perhaps weather conditions that may have been more appropriate for that time of year.
 - The opportunities that awaited him - *a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.*
 - *Acts 20:16 - For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost.*
 - And after the uproar of Demetrius (*adversary*) Paul would ultimately leave Ephesus (*Acts 19:1-41, 20:1*).
- Define an *effective door*, more accurately defined as *effectual*.
 - *Phm 1:6 - That the communication of thy faith may become **effectual** by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*
 - *Ephesus* would be one place, and he tarried there until much in the way of spreading the gospel was accomplished.