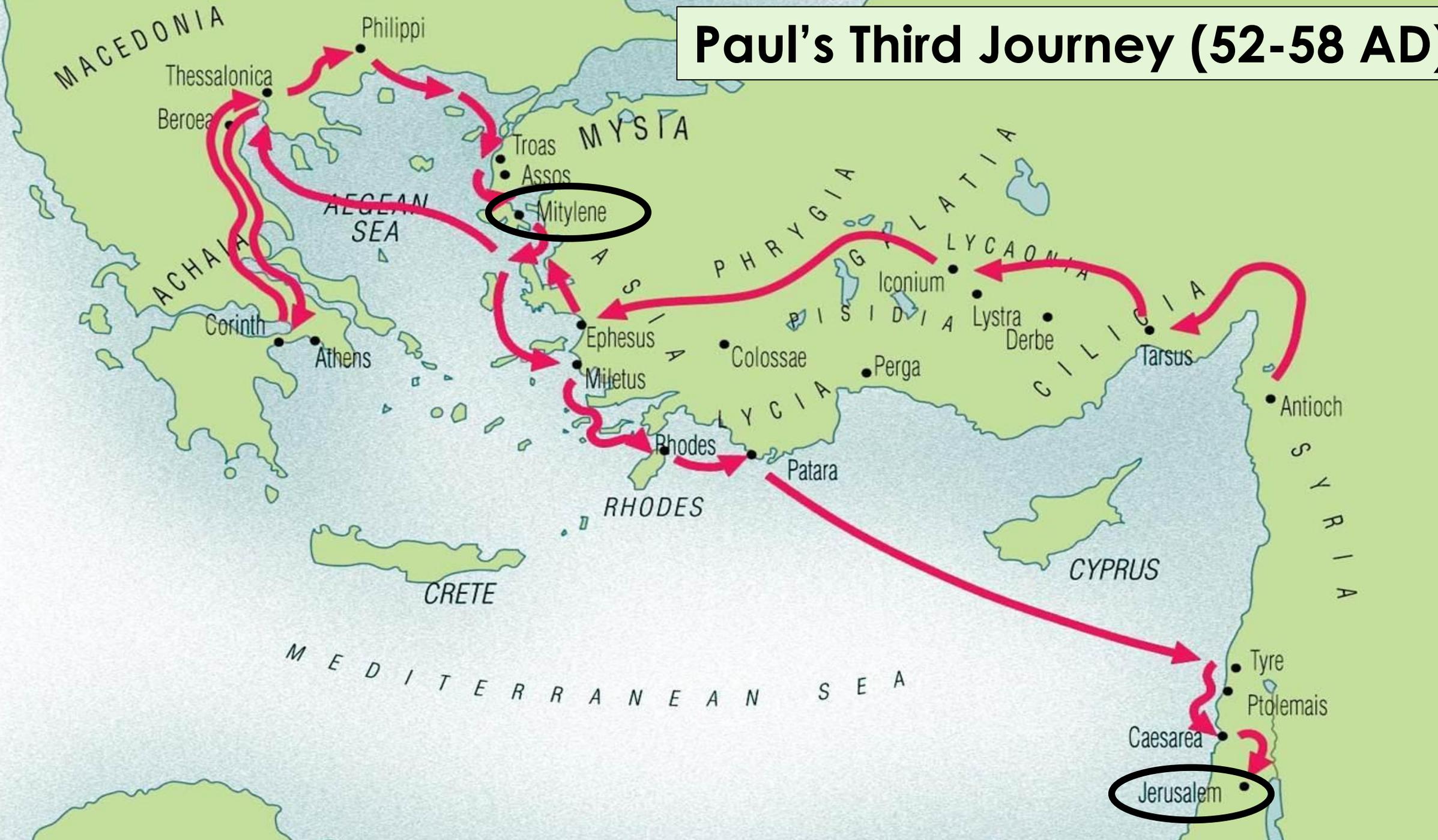




Paul's Conviction and Companions

Acts 21:1-25

Paul's Third Journey (52-58 AD)





Rhodes, Greece



Patara, Greece

Paul's Journey

Paul's Conviction

1. Call
2. Goal
3. Courage

Paul's Companions

1. Travel
2. Lodging
3. Trail
4. Jerusalem



Conviction: Paul's Call

- **Acts 9:13-16 (37 AD)**
 - **Chosen – “an instrument of usefulness”**
 - **God's sovereignty using Paul to be His ambassador**
 - **Paul's freedom to embrace and follow God's unfolding plan**

We are all useful for God!



Conviction: Paul's Goal

- **Jerusalem, and Rome**
- **Acts 18:21, 19:21, 20:22-24**
- **1 Corinthians 9:24: “Do you not know that those who run a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.”**

What is your goal today?



Conviction: Paul's Courage

- **Acts 20:23-24, 21:13**
- **2 Timothy 1**

Are you “persuaded” today?



Companions: Travel

- In Chapter 21 (verses 1-18), in every verse but two Luke uses “we” or “us” in Paul’s journey toward Jerusalem
- What type of friends are these?

What kind of friend are you?



Companions: Lodging

- Tyre (21:4) – seven days
- Ptolemais (21:7) – one day
- Caesarea (21:8) – many days
- Old friends (Acts 6:5, 8:5, 8:40)
- Jerusalem (21:16-17) – TBD

How hospitable are you?



Companions: Trail

- **Acts 21:16**
 - **Caesareans take them to Jerusalem**



Companions: Jerusalem

- **Verses 18-25**
 - **Paul met with them immediately**
 - **Paul shared his ministry news**
 - **They shared the local conditions**
 - **They offered Paul a tactful solution**
 - **“Let us not...put a stumbling block or cause to fall in our brother’s way”**
(Rom. 14:10)



Friendship

- **Travel: “One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother” (Proverbs 18:24)**
- **Lodging/Trail: “A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need” (Proverbs 17:17)**
- **Jerusalem: “The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense” (Proverbs 27:9)**

