

A CERTAIN JEW NAMED APOLLOS
Acts 18:24-28

INTRODUCTION:

- A. How many persons are named in the book of Acts?
 - 1) There are many, but not as many as we may think.
 - 2) Most of God's work is done anonymously.
- B. However, we do have personal names
 - 1) Paul, Silas, Timothy, Mark, Luke
 - 2) Here is a new name
 - 3) It is a common Greek name

I. A Word Portrait of Apollos vs. 24

- A. He was a Jew
 - 1) God has not yet turned to the Gentiles
 - 2) God never forsakes the Jew
- B. He was born in Alexandria
 - 1) A city on the North Coast of Egypt, founded 332 B.C.
 - 2) He was cosmopolitan
- C. He was an eloquent man
 - 1) "eloquent" = logios = "skilled in words"
 - 2) "A gifted man of culture"
- D. He was a mighty man
 - 1) "mighty" = dunatos = "able", "strong"
 - 2) "in the scriptures"
 - 3) A great authority on the scriptures
- E. He was a travelling man
 - 1) "He.....came to Ephesus"
 - 2) Apollos is a man with a message
- F. He was instructed in the Lord's way
 - 1) "instructed" = katecheo = "to teach orally", "to teach by repeating", "dinning into the ears"
 - 2) "He had been trained in the way of the Lord"
 - 3) According to the Rabbis
- G. He was fervent in Spirit
 - 1) "fervent" = zeo = "to boil"
 - 2) He was "boiling in the Spirit"
- H. He spake and taught diligently
 - 1) "spake" = laleo = "to talk", "hold conversation"
 - 2) "taught" = didasko = "to give instruction"
 - 3) "diligently" = akribos = "accurately"
 - 4) "the things of the Lord"

I. He had John's baptism

- 1) "knowing only the baptism of John"
- 2) "knowing" = epistamai = "to fix one's mind upon", "to understand", "to know well"
- 3) "only" = monos = "only", "alone", "no other", "though he knew of no baptism but John's", When Apollos came to Ephesus he was unaware of any baptism administered by church authority.

II. Apollos' Understanding of Spiritual Truths Needed to be Updated vs. 25b and 26

A. He spoke boldly

- 1) "speaking boldly in the Synagogue"
- 2) "boldly" = parresiazomai = "to speak freely or with fearless candor"

B. Priscilla and Aquila heard him speak

- 1) "they took him unto them"
 - a. "invited him to their home"
 - b. "made friends with him"
- 2) "and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly"
 - a. "expounded" = hektithemi = "to set forth" To place out as an infant that may perish. Acts 7:21
 - b. "perfectly" = hakribos = "accurately", "precisely", "exactly"
 - c. "and expounded the new way to him in greater detail"

III. Apollos Was a Great Helper to Those Who Were Believers..vs. 27

A. "And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him."

- 1) "disposed" = boulomai = "to wish", "to purpose, after deliberation and consideration of all the circumstances of the case"
- 2) "exhorting" = protrepo = "to cause one to turn himself forward", "to impel"
- 3) "They wrote to the disciples in Corinth, begging them to give him a kindly welcome."

B. "Who when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace."

- 1) "helped" = sunballo = "to throw together", "to throw together of one's own with others."
- 2) "On his arrival he proved of great assistance to these who had, through the loving kindness of God, become believers"

C. How Apollos "helped" vs. 28

- 1) "mightily" = heutonos = "vigorously"
- 2) "convinced" = diakatelegchomai = "to confute in disputation"
- 3) "shewing" = epideiknus = "to point out", "to prove"
- 4) "to be the Christ, Jesus"

- D. "Apollos, when he arrived in Corinth, pitched into the fray and with great force of scriptural argument came out ahead of the Jews in public discussion"
- E. Apollos came to Corinth. He didn't stand around waiting for an invitation to help. He threw himself into the work with vigor and great success. He argued so brilliantly with the Jews in the streets that he never lost an argument with them. The Jewish believers were really helped out at an embarrassing situation by this.