

ACTS Lesson 12

The 2nd and 3rd Journeys

Rom 11:8 as it is written, “God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day.”

Ministry in Corinth

- A ministry change
- Gallio

The Third Journey

- Ephesus
 - Artemis
 - Apollos, Priscilla and Aquila
 - the kingdom of God
 - Signs and wonders
 - A clerk saves the day

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Many Christians have heard of Augustine's Confessions. Augustine wrote this masterpiece just before the turn of the 4th century. The Confessions is a book that has been pivotal for me in the Christian life and is most certainly one of my all-time favorites. My copy is well marked up and I've had to tape the cover on to keep it together! I have to admit that the Confessions is one of those books for me that makes many modern Christian books seem elementary. Anyway, I was reading it again recently while on a trip. As I was reading I marked some of Augustine's short prayers that caught my eye. Here are a few that I marked. I hope they touch your hearts like they did mine.

"I sighed and You heard me. I wavered and You steadied me. I travelled along the broad way of the world, but You did not desert me."

"How often we slip, who can count? ...My life is full of such lapses, and my one hope is in Your great mercy."

"My love for you, Lord, is not an uncertain feeling but a matter of conscious certainty. With Your word You pierced my heart, and I loved You."

"[Lord], You never abandon what You have begun. Make perfect my imperfections."

"[Lord], bring me a sweetness surpassing all the seductive delights which I pursued. Enable me to love You with all my strength that I may clasp Your hand with all my heart."

"The house of my soul is too small for You to come to it. May it be enlarged by You. It is in ruins; restore it."

"...Little by little, Lord, with a most gentle and merciful hand You touched and calmed my heart."

"...I can find no safe place for my soul except in You."

"...I lay bare my feelings towards You, by confessing to you my miseries and Your mercies to us, so that the deliverance you have begun may be complete."

"Speak to me, instruct me, I have put faith in Your books. And their words are mysteries indeed."

"I serve and worship You so that from You good may come to me. To You I owe my being and the goodness of my being."

"I bring my heart to You, [O] Light that teaches truth. Let not my heart tell me vain fantasies. Disperse its darkness..."

"Your works praise You that we may love You, and we love You that our works may praise You."