

PAUL HURRYING TO JERUSALEM



- Paul is currently in Miletus of Asia
- Feels pressure to get to Jerusalem for Shavuot
- Notice how much time and effort for Diaspora Jews to come to Jerusalem for the pilgrimage festivals
- Sha'ul feels that something bad will happen to him in Jerusalem
- He meets with the leaders of the Ephesus congregation, who came to Miletus for Paul

Paul's Letters to Churches



PAUL WAS WORRIED

- What would happen when he wasn't there to teach and guide?
- Paul's answer:
 - 1) Leaders should look to the Lord, and be kind to those that they led
 - 2) Paul would send letters to exhort and to correct
- Sha'ul made it clear that he didn't take money to preach or teach.....he worked as a tentmaker to support himself

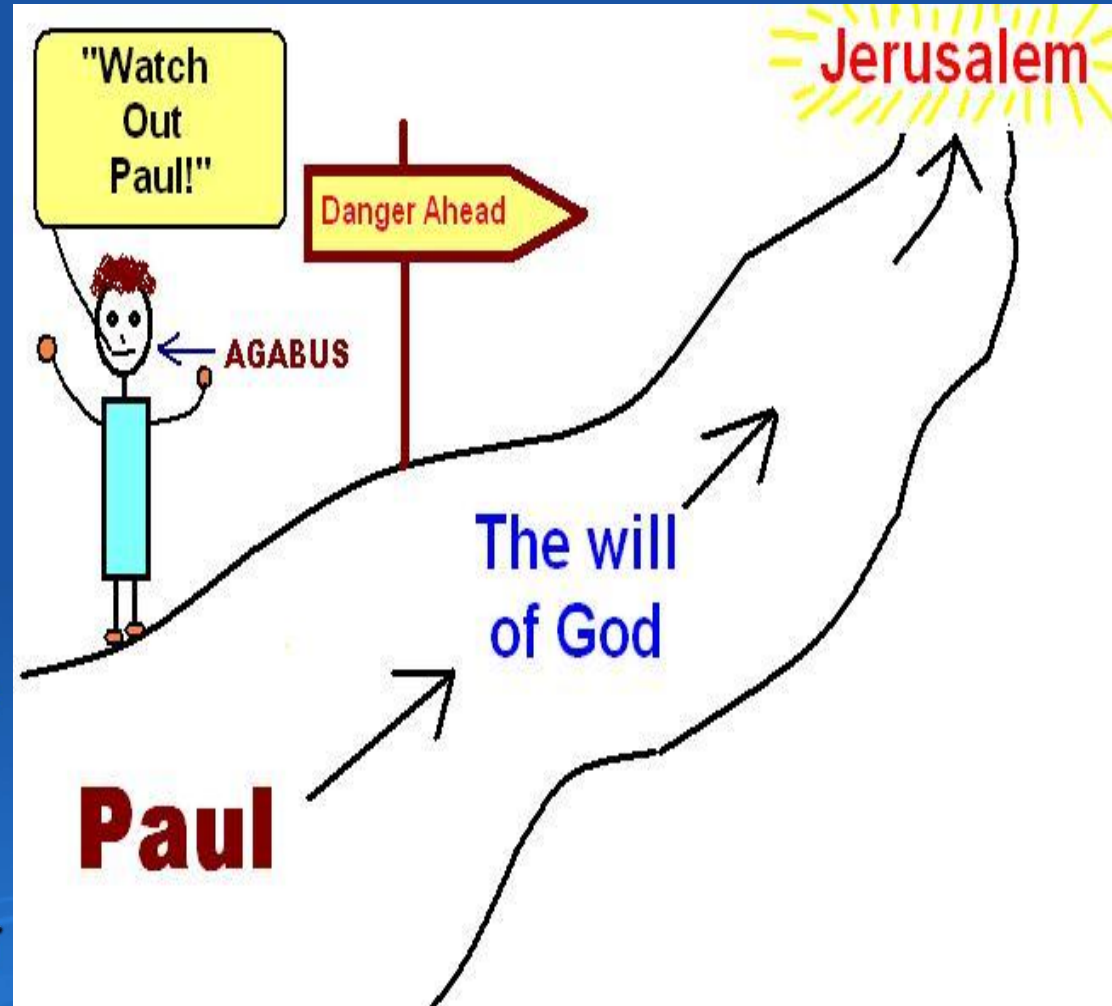
SUPPORT FOR PASTORS & RABBIS

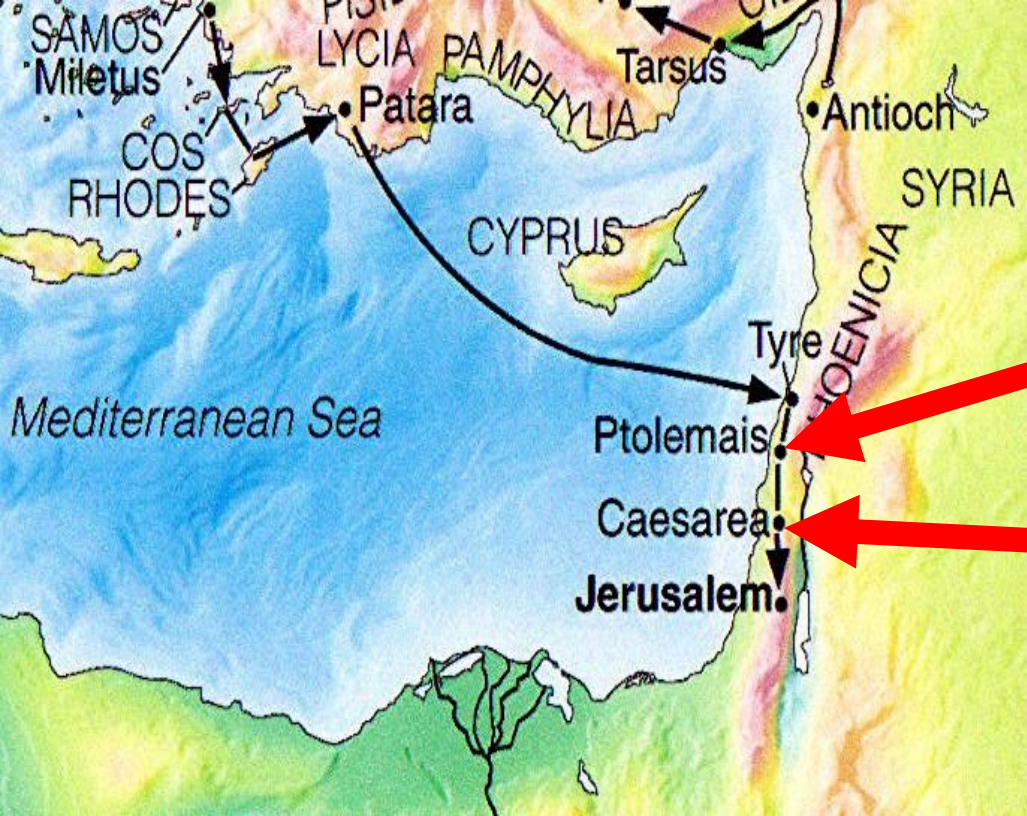
- Paul's example should be taken in light of his time versus ours
- Ministers have much demand on their time
- Ministers need to be paid decently to support their families
- Some Christian leaders see themselves more as business leaders and CEO's
- ***“There is more happiness in giving than in receiving”***
- Message was to the LEADERSHIP !



A THEOLOGICAL CONUNDRUM

- Disciples say the Spirit says there is danger for Paul in Jerusalem
- Paul says the Spirit compels him to go to Jerusalem.....so what should he do?
- Paul was resigned to the danger, but knew God wanted him to go
- There are risks Believers are supposed to take!
- God's grand plan is NOT to remove all risk or danger for His followers





PHILLIP'S 4 DAUGHTERS

- Ptolemais today known as Akko
- The next day they went to Caesarea Maritima
- Phillip (Acts 6) one of the 7 Hellenist Believers assigned to care for widows
- 4 Prophetesses
- All about ritual purity
- The MOST pure a girl would ever be is before her first intimacy with a man



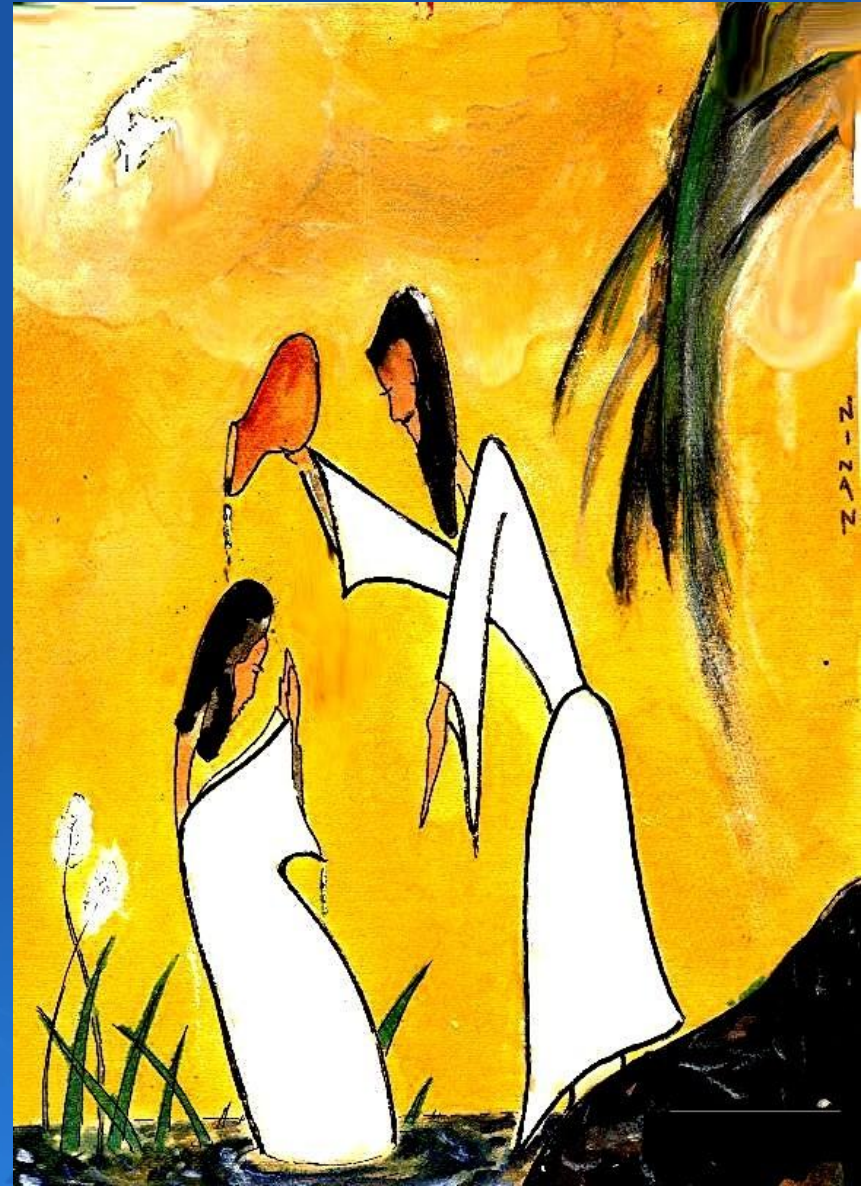
AGAV THE PROPHET



- We don't know Agav's background or if he is a Believer
- Acts 11, he predicted a Roman famine
- He shows Paul what will happen to him in Jerusalem
- Disciples again beg Paul not to go!
- Paul said live or die, it doesn't matter
- Disciples gave up and concluded that this was between Paul and God

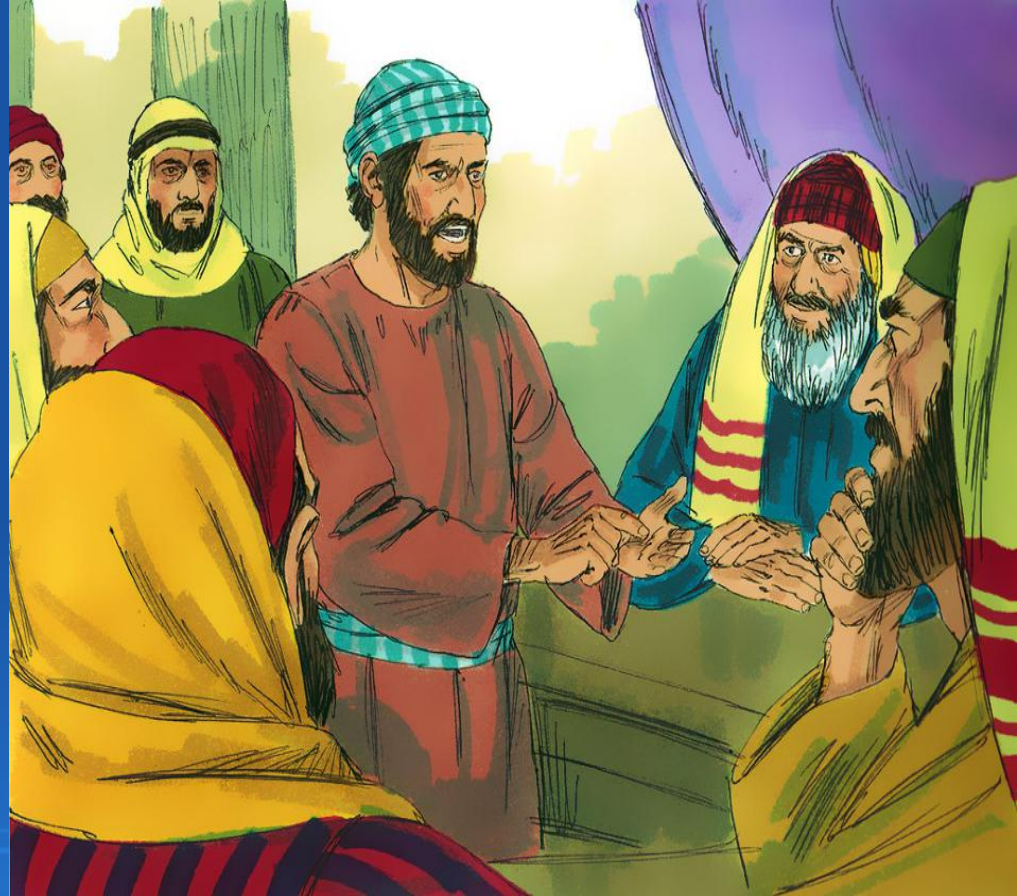
DIASPORA JEWS NEEDED PURIFICATION

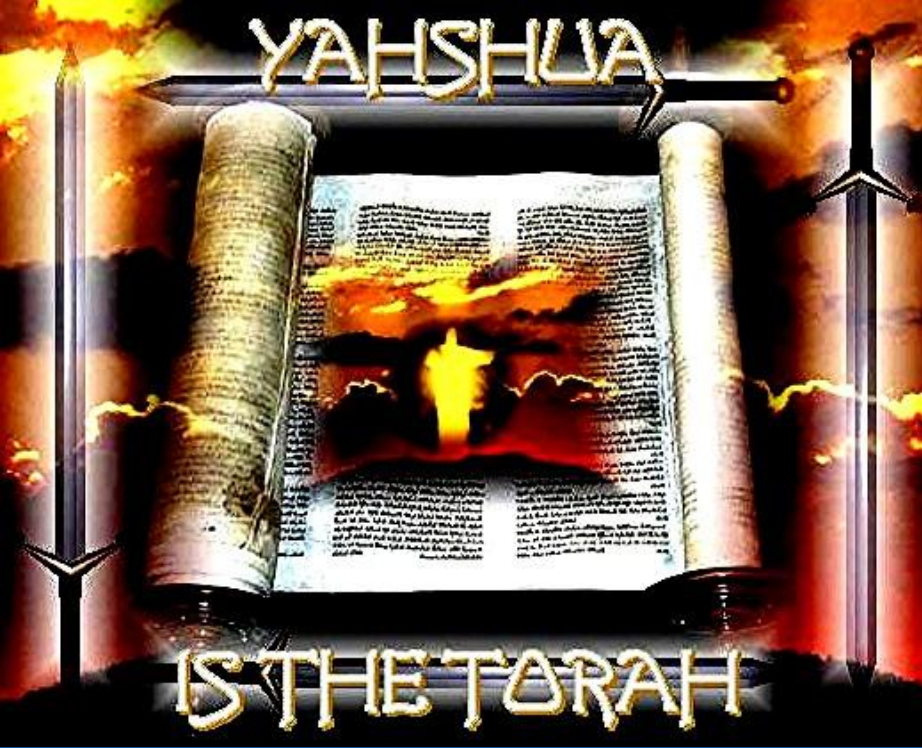
- Paul had traveling companions who would also be at risk by being associated with Paul
- Jerusalem swelled by 3 or 4 times at Shavuot
- **Halakhah** had put many demands on those who came to celebrate
- Diaspora Jews always in close contact with gentiles
- Purification a must before offering firstfruits at Temple



PAUL GIVES HIS REPORT TO JAMES

- *Ya'acov* = Jacob
- In this case it is referring to “James”, Yeshua’s half-brother
- James the head of the Messianic movement, but not every strand of it
- James and leadership glad for the news of Paul’s report
- Scripture implies it has been 15 – 20 years since Paul had been to Jerusalem





ZEALOUS FOR THE LAW

- **Myriad** = Greek, meaning 10,000
- Also sometimes used to mean a really big number
- These myriads were Judeans, meaning Jews living in Judea (Judah)
- **Nomos** = Law
- According to Early Church Fathers and modern doctrines, James abolished the Law
- Why, then, was James proud of all of these Believers who were “zealous for the Law”?

