

The Acts of the Holy Spirit

Acts 18:12-19:10

Acts 18:12 begins with one of the most definite “fixed dates” of the book, the proconsulate of Gallio. The brother of the famous Roman philosopher and playwright Seneca was proconsul of Achaia (modern Greece) from AD 51-52. What is Gallio’s attitude towards the complaints of the Jews against Paul and his companions? In subsequent verses, what is his attitude towards Jewish violence against Jews?

When Paul heads back East, what visible sign accompanies his return to more heavily Jewish territory? In verses 19-23, what sorts of things does he do, since these are territories where he has already traveled? When asked to remain in a place, what is his response?

In Acts 18:24-28, another player enters the game. Because the Greek vocabulary here is so flexible, translators disagree on how to render his distinctive characteristics. What does your translation give as the notable features of Apollos? What gaps in Apollos’s knowledge does the narrator note, and how are Priscilla’s and Aquila’s reactions to him notable in light of that?

When Paul crosses back over to Ephesus, he finds some of the disciples (note that Acts calls them disciples irrespective of their incomplete teaching) and finishes what Apollos started. What things do they lack?

When Paul remains in Asia, where does his proclamation begin, and where does it end up? What movement, already present in Acts, does this mirror?