



# THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY

NEILL GIBSON

13B



# **ADVERSARIES IN EPHESUS**

SESSION 13B



# REMEMBER THE UNMENTIONED PERSECUTION FACTOR IN ACTS

- We know from Paul's writings (esp. 2 Cor. 11) of many other persecutions and hardships beyond those recorded in Acts.
- Some of this is due to space constraints
- Some is due to Luke's purpose(s) in writing, and possibly wanting to set a good light for both legal precedent and the development and unity of the church



# PAUL'S FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES

- Asiarchs that warned Paul?
  - Paul consistently reaches across social strata ("not many")
- Possible "Temple Tax" misunderstanding
  - Interfering with Temple Tax was punishable
  - Problems this may have caused



# EPHESIAN IMPRISONMENT?

- Acts gives such a positive picture of Paul's time in Ephesus, and the only mentioned issues end positively.
- Paul's letters give a balance to this impression
  - 1 Cor. 16:8-9; 15:30-2 (written from Ephesus)
  - 2 Cor. 1:3-11; 11:23 (written soon after Ephesus, from Macedonia)
- *In the Steps of Timothy*, p. 69-70



# WHERE WAS PHILIPPIANS WRITTEN FROM?

- Traditional view is Rome, during the imprisonment of 60-62 AD.
  - Other views include Ephesus (which is why I'm still addressing this now), Corinth, or Caesarea Maritima.
  - There are several relevant things I can read or refer you to regarding this issue.
  - Witherington ultimately stands with the traditional view.



# NOTE THE "WE" IN 2 CORINTHIANS

- 2 Cor. 1:1 specifically includes Timothy
- Those comforted by God in affliction can comfort those in affliction
- "Affliction which came to us in Asia" (1:8)
  - While we may not have solid evidence as to the specifics of the difficulties there, we see here and in the general abundance from 1 Cor. 4, 2 Cor. 2 and 11 that there is a lot of tough stuff that we don't see.



# "... LEADS US IN TRIUMPH"

- Explain the Roman "triumph" procession a bit
- Compare 1 Cor. 4:9ff. to 2 Cor. 2:14ff.
- "we/us" (vs. the "I" excursion)





# GREATER GLORY & DYING SERVANTS

- Definite defense of his/their true apostleship
- Old and New Covenant glory compared (cf. Sinai v. Zion in Heb. 12)
- Keep noting the "we/us"
- "We have this treasure in earthen vessels"
- "So death works in us, but life in you."





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