

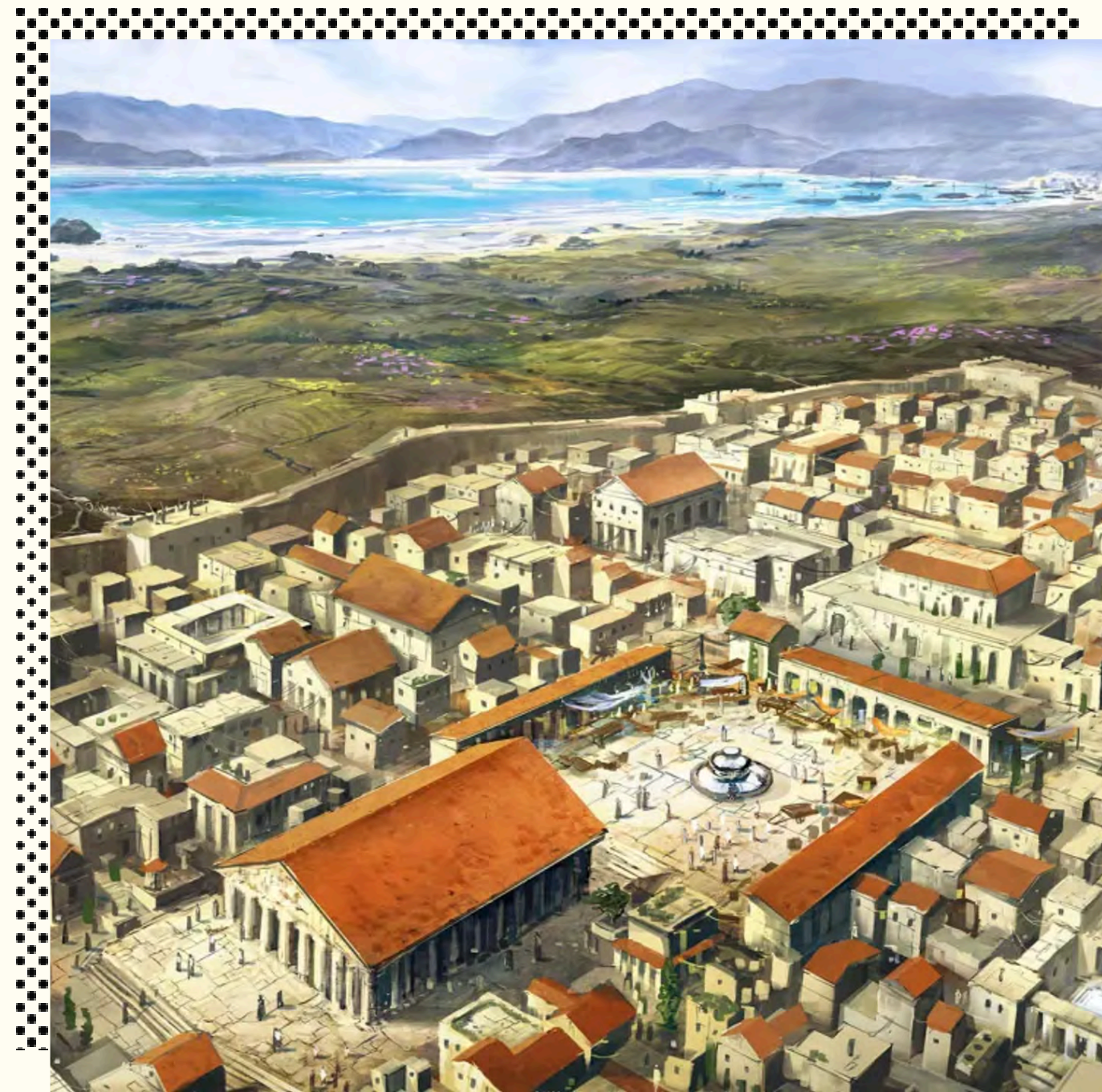
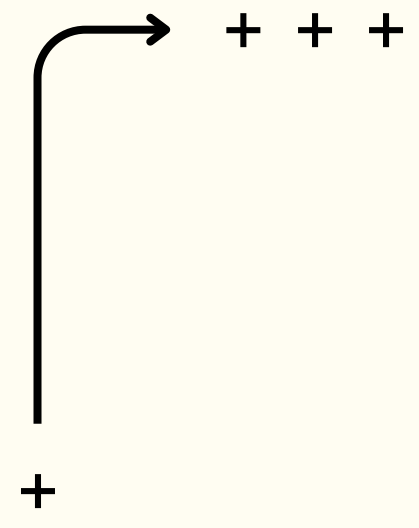
A landscape photograph featuring tall, thin grasses blowing in the wind. A large, smooth, grey rock sits on a slight rise in the middle ground. A path or streambed winds through the grasses on the right side. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The word "Acts." is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

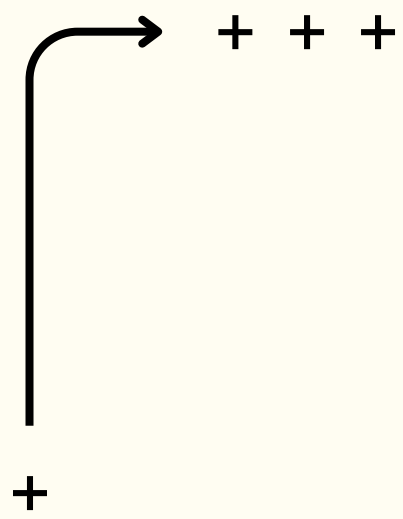
Acts.



After this, Paul left Athens and went to **Corinth.**

ACTS 18:1 NIV

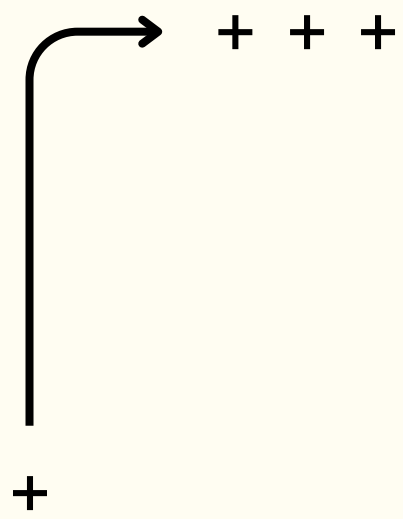




There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them,³ and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.⁴ Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

ACTS 18:2-4 NIV

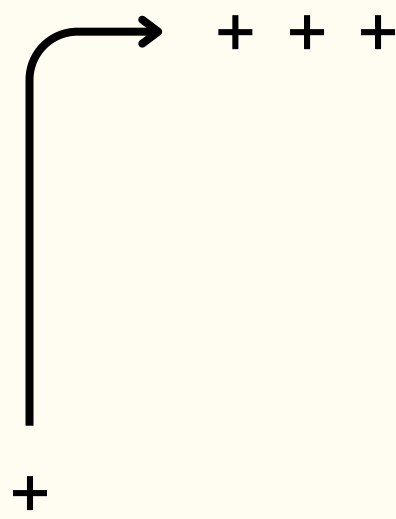




When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. ⁶ But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

ACTS 18:5-6 NIV

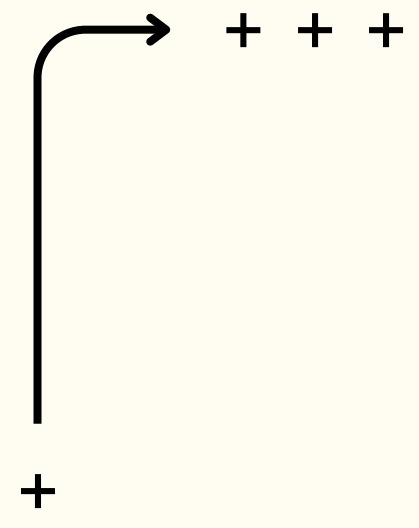




Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God.⁸ Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

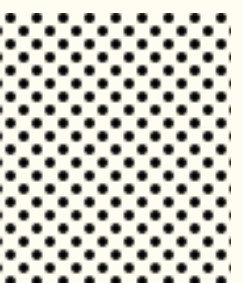
ACTS 18:7-8 NIV





While Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews of Corinth made a united attack on Paul and brought him to the place of judgment.¹³ “This man,” they charged, “is persuading the people to worship God in ways contrary to the law.”¹⁴ Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to them, “If you Jews were making a complaint about some misdemeanor or serious crime, it would be reasonable for me to listen to you.¹⁵ But since it involves questions about words and names and your own law—settle the matter yourselves. I will not be a judge of such things.”¹⁶ So he drove them off.¹⁷ Then the crowd there turned on Sosthenes the synagogue leader and beat him in front of the proconsul; and Gallio showed no concern whatever.

ACTS 18:12-17 NIV





God is always at work

There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them,³ and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.⁴ Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

ACTS 18:2-4 NIV



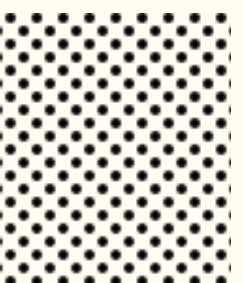


God is always at work

→ Arranging your present

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ACTS 18:7-8 NIV





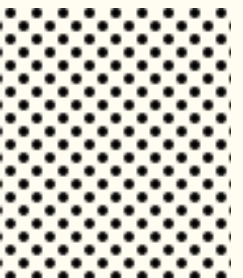


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ACTS 18:12-17 NIV



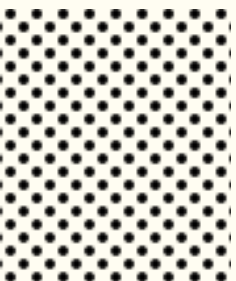


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past

There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them,³ and **because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.**⁴ Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

ACTS 18:2-4 NIV



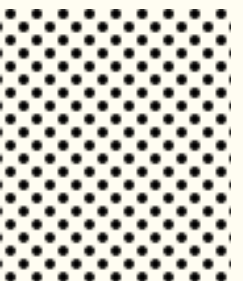


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
- Redeeming your pain

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ACTS 18:2-4 NIV





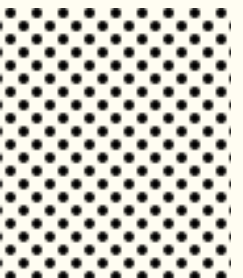


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
- Redeeming your pain

But when they opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent of it. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”⁷ Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God.⁸ Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

ACTS 18:6-8 NIV



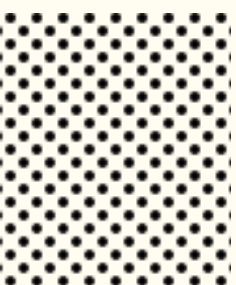


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
- Redeeming your pain
- Accomplishing His purposes

But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. **Am I in the place of God?** ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but **God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.**”

GENESIS 50:19-20 NIV



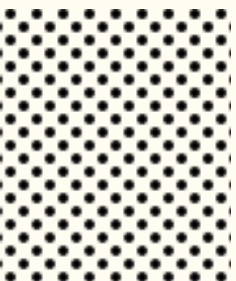


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
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This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹ **For I know the plans I have for you,**” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

JEREMIAH 29:10-11 NIV



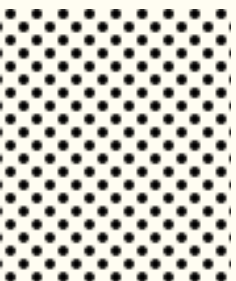


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
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- Accomplishing His purposes

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

ROMANS 8:28 NIV



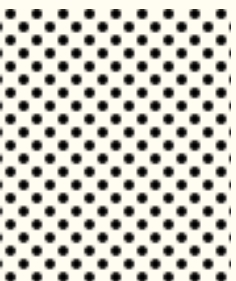


God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
- Redeeming your pain
- Accomplishing His purposes

...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 NIV





God is always at work

- Arranging your present
- Using your past
- Redeeming your pain
- Accomplishing His purposes

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. ¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.” ¹¹ So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God.

ACTS 18:9-11 NIV





God is *always* at work.

- Arranging your present
- Redeeming your pain
- Using your past
- Accomplishing His purposes

