


In the Footsteps of Paul



St. Paul





Acts 17:10-12, NIV

10 As soon as it was night, the brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue.

11 Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.



12 Many of the Jews believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

Phil. 3:5-6

2 Cor. 11:22-29

Gal. 1:13-2:1

1 Cor. 9:1-2, 19-23

Autobiography of Paul

I was circumcised on 8th day

I am Hebrew

I persecuted church violently

I am free

member of Israel

Israelite

tried to destroy it

apostle

tribe of Benjamin

Abraham's descendant

advanced in Judaism for my age

slave to all

Hebrew of the Hebrews

minister of Christ

zealous for traditions

I became a Jew

by law, a Pharisee

with more labors

God revealed his son to me

I became as under law

by zeal, persecutor of church

more imprisonments

I did not confer with humans

I became as outside law

by righteousness, blameless

countless floggings

I went into Arabia

I became weak

all is loss for Christ's sake

39 lashes five times

I visited Cephas and James

I became all things to all

.

rods three times

I went to Syria and Cilicia

.

.

stoning once

I went to Jerusalem again

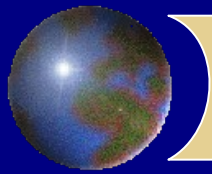
.

shipwrecked three times

.

...I was caught up into Paradise





Paul's Environment

Good Religious Education:

At the Feet of Gamaliel

Good Intellectual Education:

Urban & Intellectual Environment
of Tarsus

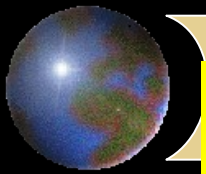
Little remains of the Tarsus that Paul knew. An exception is this city gate, one of three that lead into Roman Tarsus. The Cyndus River connected Tarsus to the Mediterranean Sea. This gate led into the city from the river, and was called Cleopatra's Gate to commemorate Cleopatra's visit to the city on her royal barge in 38 BCE while Marcus Antonius was in the city (See Ramsay, The Cities of St. Paul, 85-244).

Tarsus



Remains of Street from Ancient Tarsus

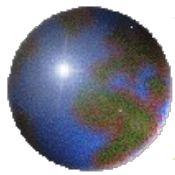




Paul's Environment cont.

Politically Astute:

Roman Citizen

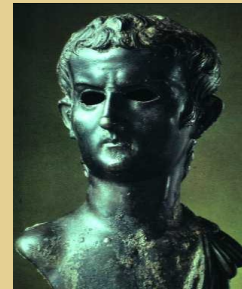


Political Situation:

Paul Grows Under Tiberius,
14-37,



Paul Grows Under Caligula,
37-41



Works Under Claudius,
41-54, Good Emperor



Dies Under Nero, 54-68





Dates for Paul

Documented Date: 18 Months into Gallio's Proconsulship
Paul is in Corinth (50 AD)

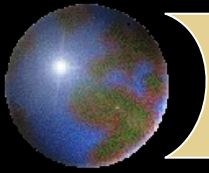
At Damascus	37-40 AD
First Journey	45-47 AD
Second Journey 	49-52 AD
Third Journey	54-58 AD
Imprisonment in Judea	58-60 AD
Voyage to Rome	60-61 AD
Imprisonment in Rome	61-63 AD
Post-Imprisonment Journeys	63-67 AD



Social & Moral Situation in Paul's Time:

Booty, Slaves etc. Ruined Upper Class





Competing Religions & Philosophies:

Roman Tolerance for all Religions, if they accepted also state religion.

- Mithraism,
- Isis cult,
- Stoicism,
- Epicureanism

PAUL'S CALL TO BE APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES

PAUL MEETS STEPHEN

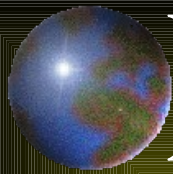
Stephen's Sermon and its Effects

The First Persecutions of the Early Church

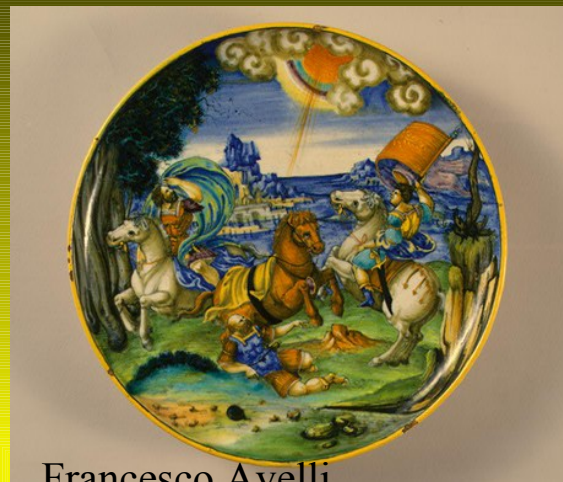
PAUL'S CONVERSION EXPERIENCE

The Miracle on the Damascus Road





Conversion of Paul



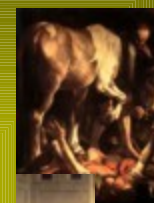
Francesco Avelli



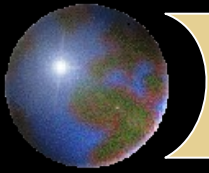
Caravaggio
Lucas van Leyden
Rembrandt



Tintoretto

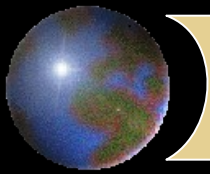


Caravaggio
Filippino Lippi
Michelangelo
Tintoretto



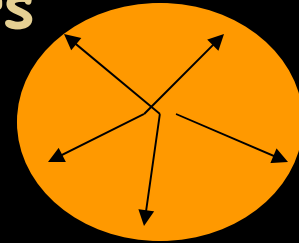
PAUL'S INTERMEDIATE YEARS

**Paul's Activities in Arabia
Work in Syria and Cilicia**

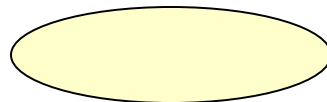
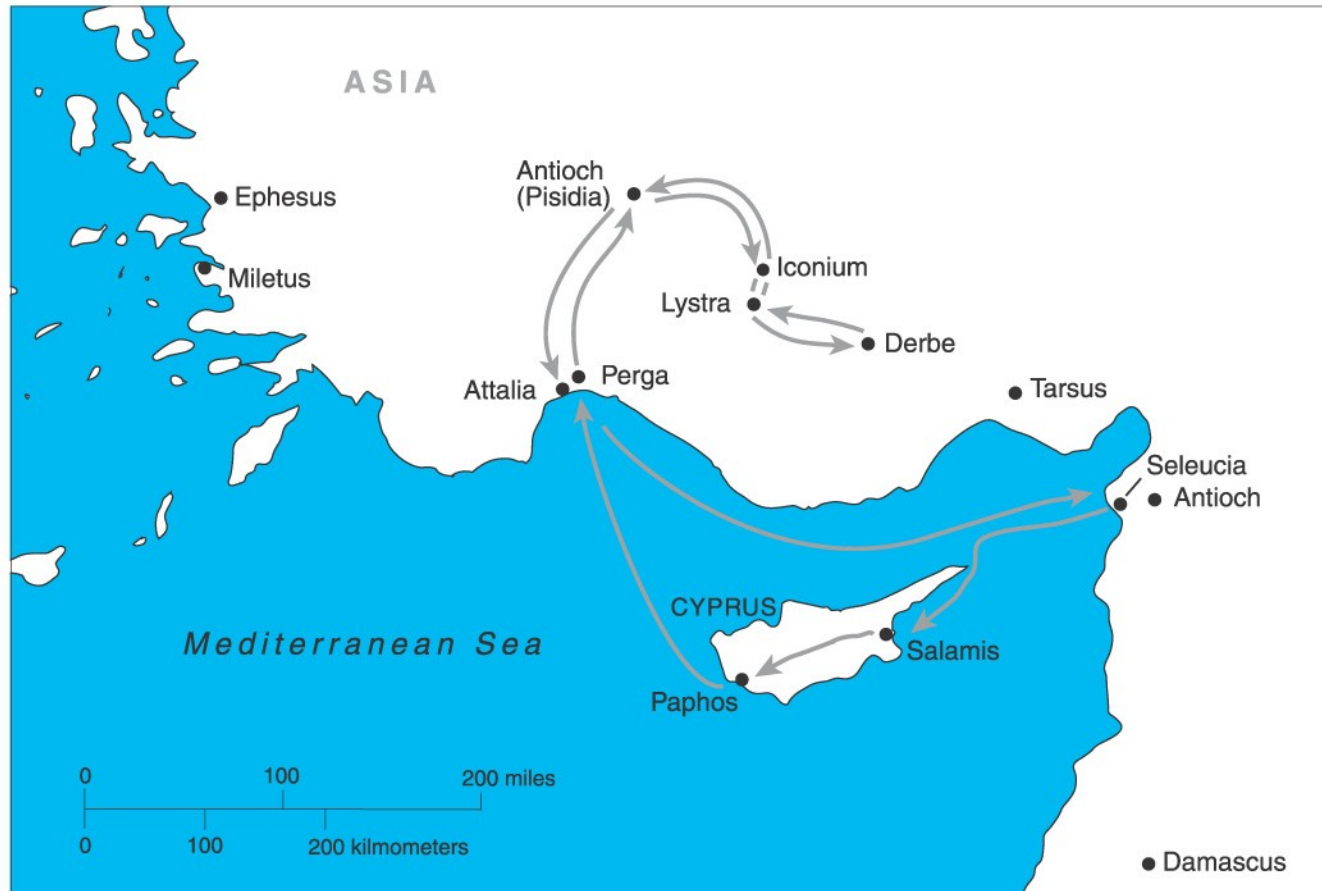


Paul's Work

- Chose Large Cities as Strategic Centers
 - Converts go to Surrounding Area
- Began Labors in Synagogues
- Maintained Contact with Sending Church
- Planted Churches
- Organizes Church for Self-Governance & Self-Support
- Made Use of Fellow Workers
- Became "All Things to All Men"
- Adeptly Communicated an Unchanging Message



Paul's First Missionary Journey

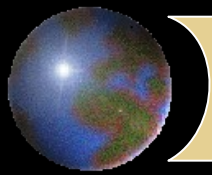






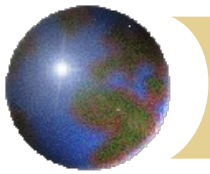
Paul's Third Missionary Journey





Churches Founded by Paul





- Thessalonian:

Misunderstanding on 2nd Coming

- Galatians:

Jewish Law vs Faith

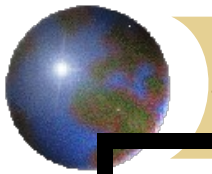
- Four Epistles From Prison:

Ephesus etc.

- Philemon: Onesimus

Master - Slave Relations

- Timothy & Titus



Principles of Paul's Thought

Formulated Christian Teachings: Theology?

Works of Law lead to knowledge of sin, but leave man helpless. Faith in Christ's Work Saves

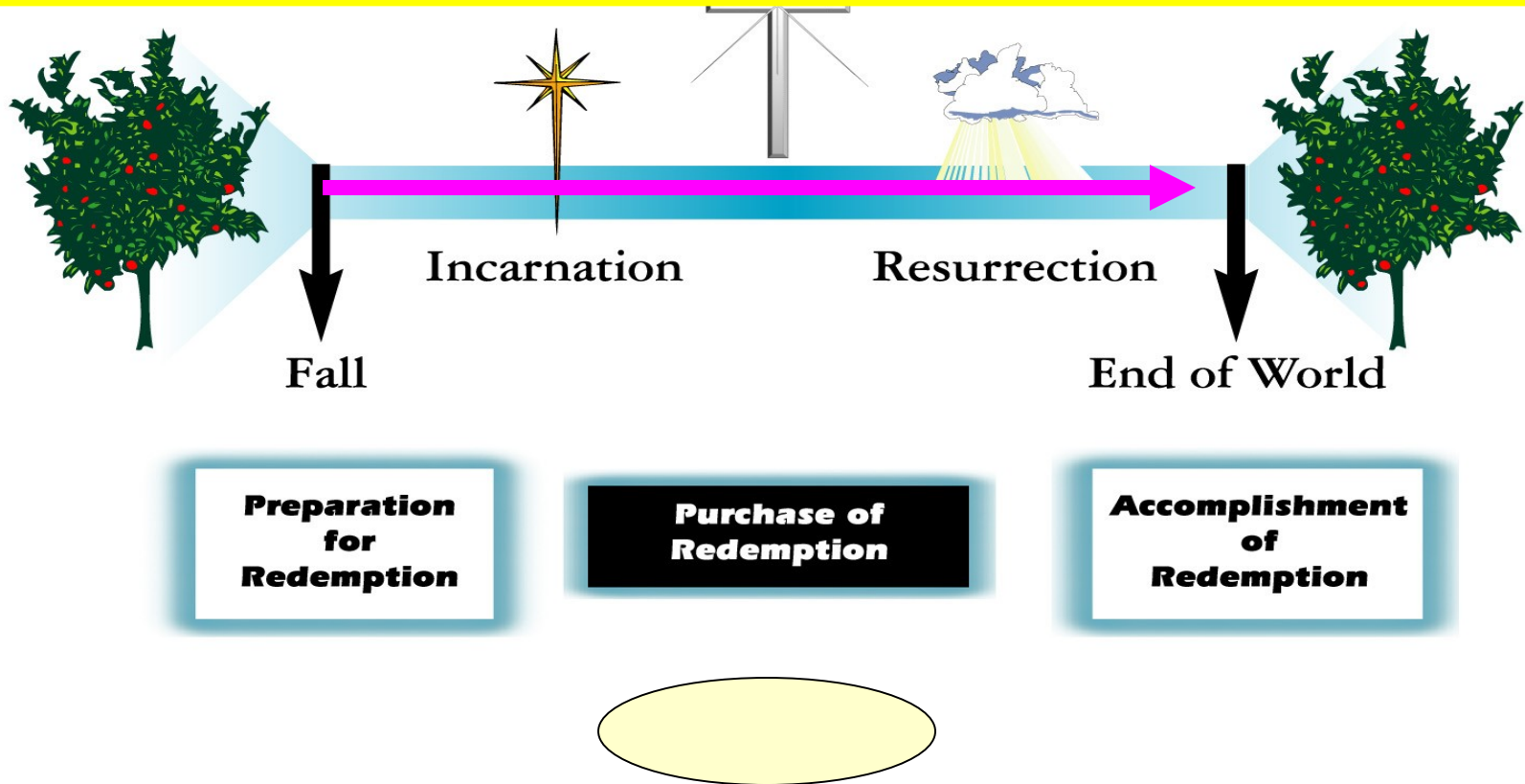
~Ethics: Love Basis of Conduct

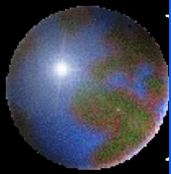
Love Involves Separation from Defilement
Love Involves Service to others

Principles of Paul's Thought cont.

Paul's Philosophy of History

Cataclysmic Supernatural Linear View





Paul as a Polemicist

⊕ Jerusalem Council (49-50 AD): Paul vs Judaizers

Methods for Resolution:

~Church Meeting

~Private Meeting with Apostles & Elders

~Church Meeting & Decision

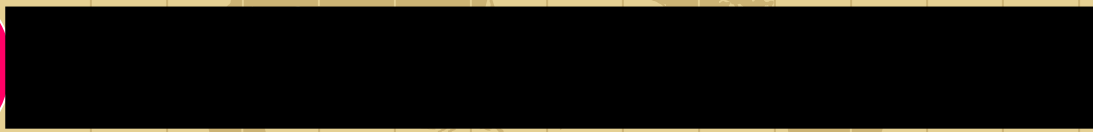
❖ Outcome:

➤ Gentiles Freed from Jewish Law-
Salvation Only Through Faith.

➤ Compromise on Secondary Issues:

Gentiles: Don't Eat Blood, Avoid Idolatry

Problem: What is a Secondary Issue?



Fight with Incipient Gnosticism: Colossians

Dualism; Spirit - Matter

□ Hierarchy of Beings:

❖ From Pure Spirit to Matter

❖ Christ Lower, Since Spirit + Body

□ Salvation:

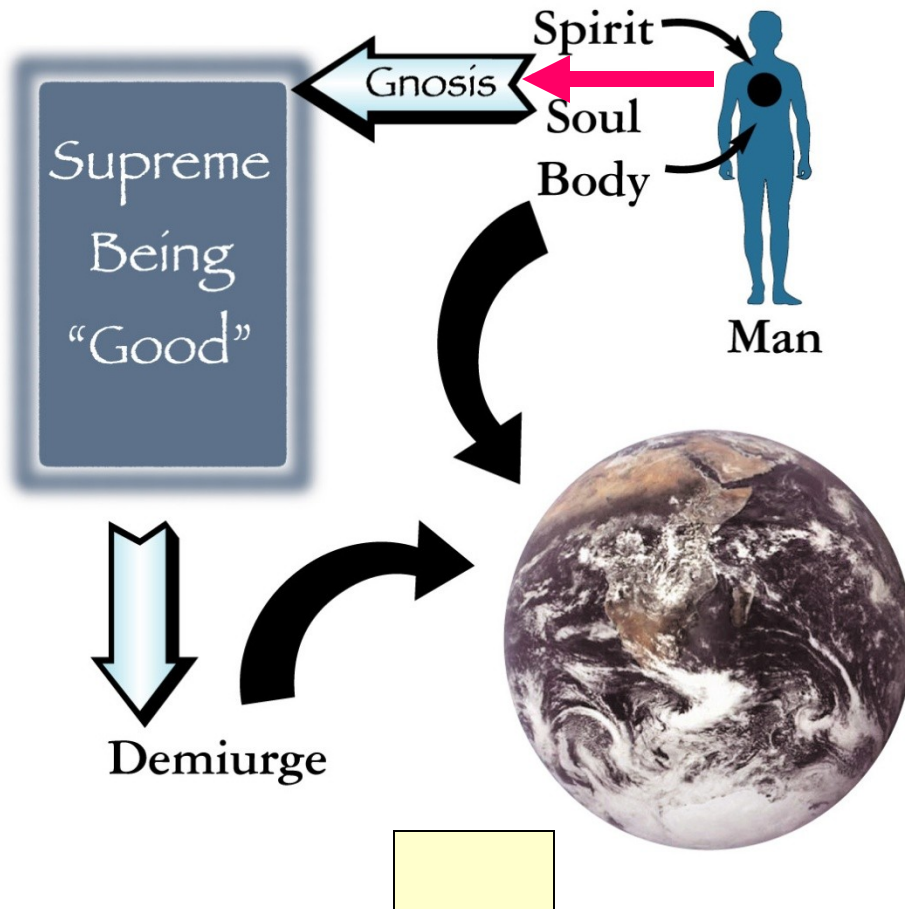
❖ Ascetic Denial of Body + Gnosis of Elite.

❖ Faith Low On Scale

Essential Components of Gnosticism



Gnosticism's Concept of Salvation

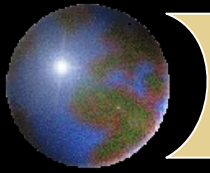


Salvation:

A person attains salvation by learning **secret knowledge** of their spiritual essence: a divine spark of light or spirit and by **Ascetic Denial of their Body**

Thus they can escape from the prison of their bodies at death.

Their soul can be reunited with the Supreme God at death.

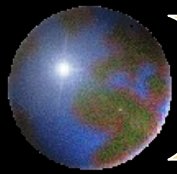


Paul's Answer to Gnosticism:

❖ Christ Full Manifestation of God in
the Flesh

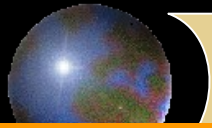
Colossians 1: 19; 2:9

☐ Faith in Christ Saves



Prison and Martyrdom in Rome





FINAL YEARS OF PAUL

- Arrested in the temple in Jerusalem in A.D. 57,
- Taken to Caesarea to be interrogated by Antonius Felix (Acts 24)
- Felix replaced as governor by Festus.
Festus offered to send Paul to Jerusalem to stand trial, but Paul requested trial in Rome -- his right as a Roman citizen.



- After Crete the boat foundered in the waves and became lost at sea. It finally ended up a thousand miles away, shipwrecked on a shoal on the tiny island of Malta. (See Acts 27 & 28).
- Another ship took Paul to the Bay of Naples and by land to Rome. Many Christians came to welcome him.
- Paul spent 2 years as a prisoner in Rome. Apparently no trial was held and he was released in 63 A.D.

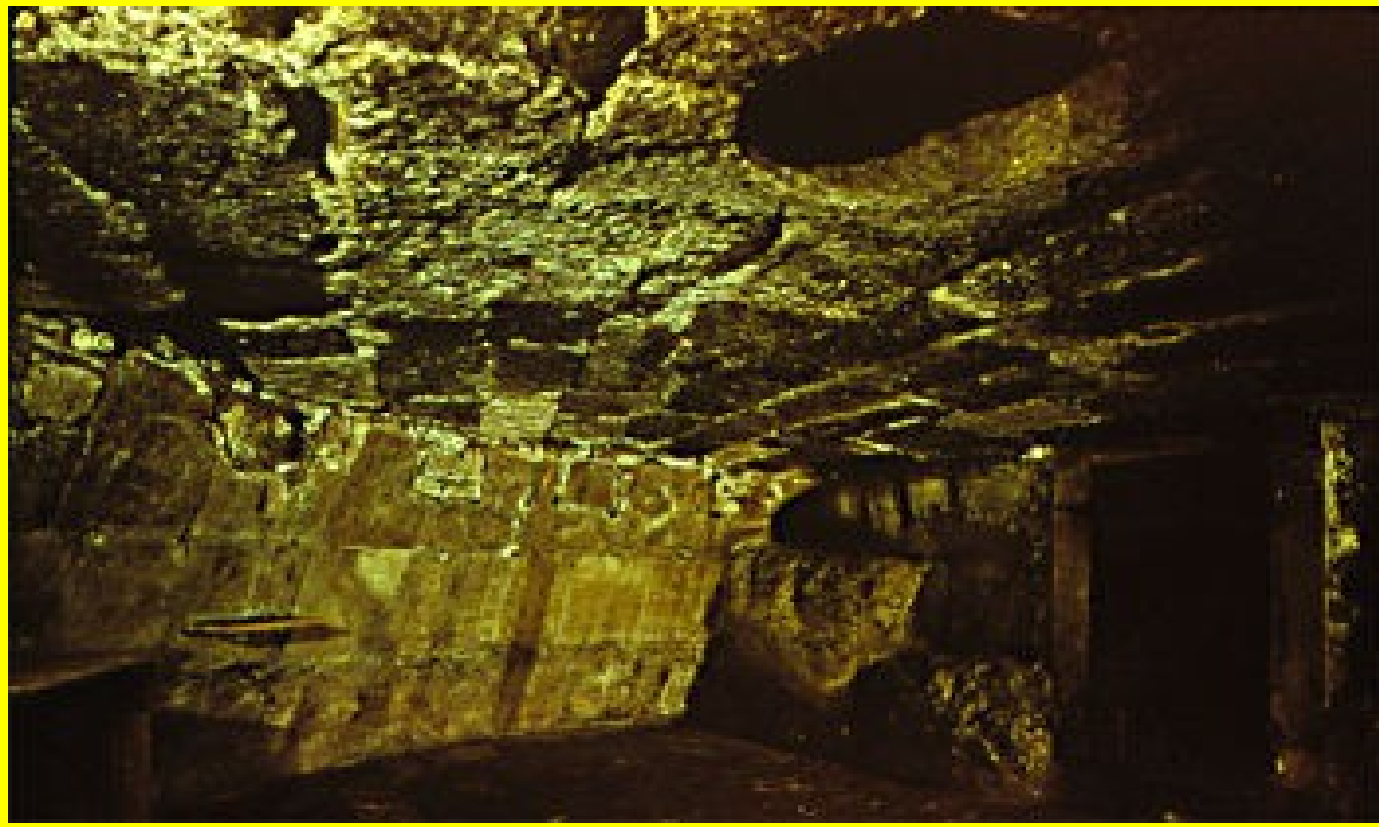
Paul's Release Journeys



Mission to Spain ?

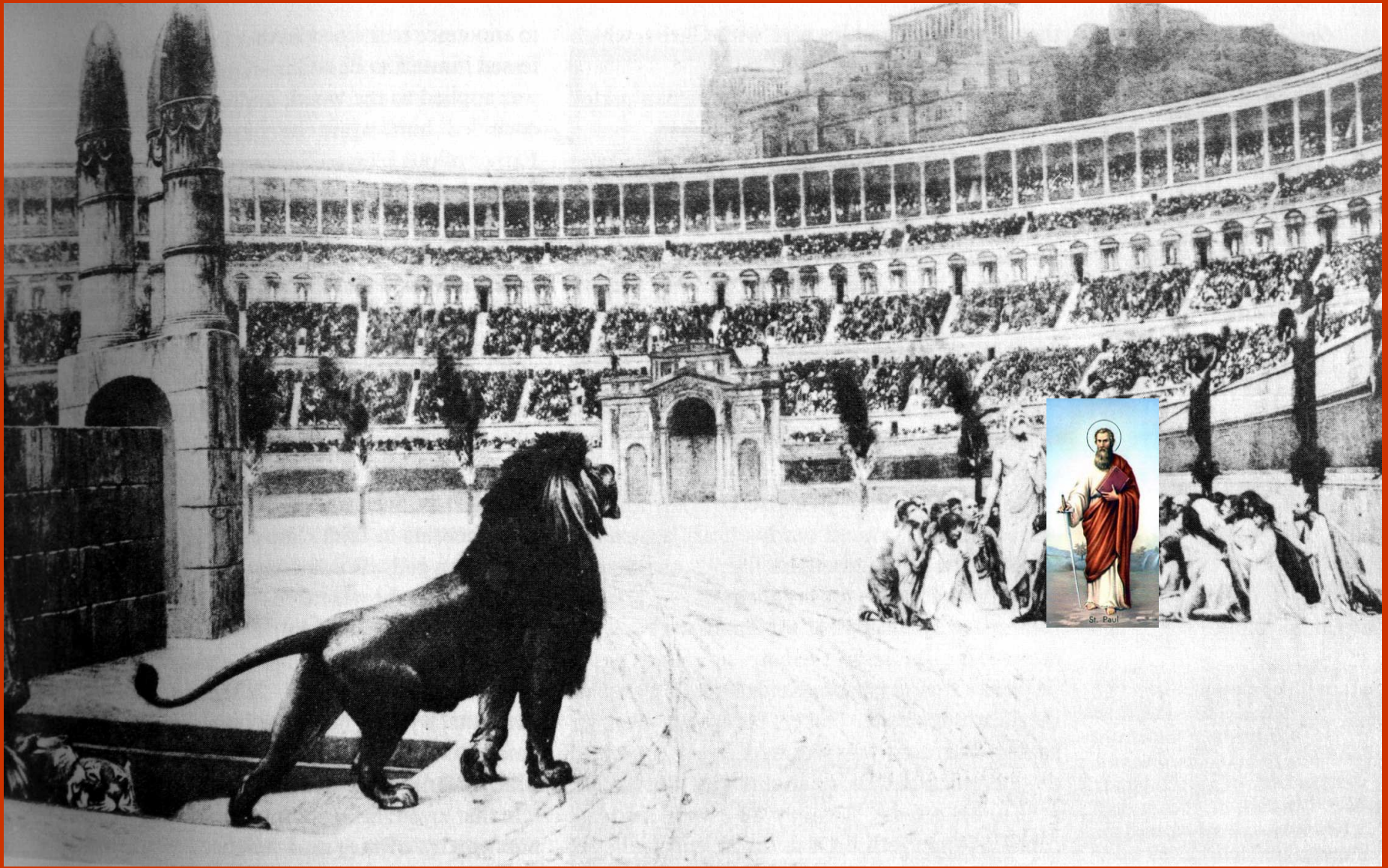
Paul was imprisoned a second time and later martyred by Nero in Rome in 67 A.D

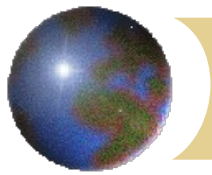
Eusebius stated that Paul was beheaded by Nero in Rome ([HE](#) 2.22.2; 2.25-3.1)



Mamertine Prison

At the base of the Capitoline Hill in Rome is the Mamertine Prison, where Paul may have been kept during his second Roman imprisonment. Access to the prison was through a hole in the ceiling—visible above; above the prison was a room for the prison guards.





The End

