

Acts Acrostic

Acts _____ (fill in reference)



As you read the Scripture and study the lesson, note **A**ctions of the Holy Spirit (those things that are directly attributed to Him in the passage), **C**hurch Facts, **T**ransitional Details, and **S**upernatural Events.

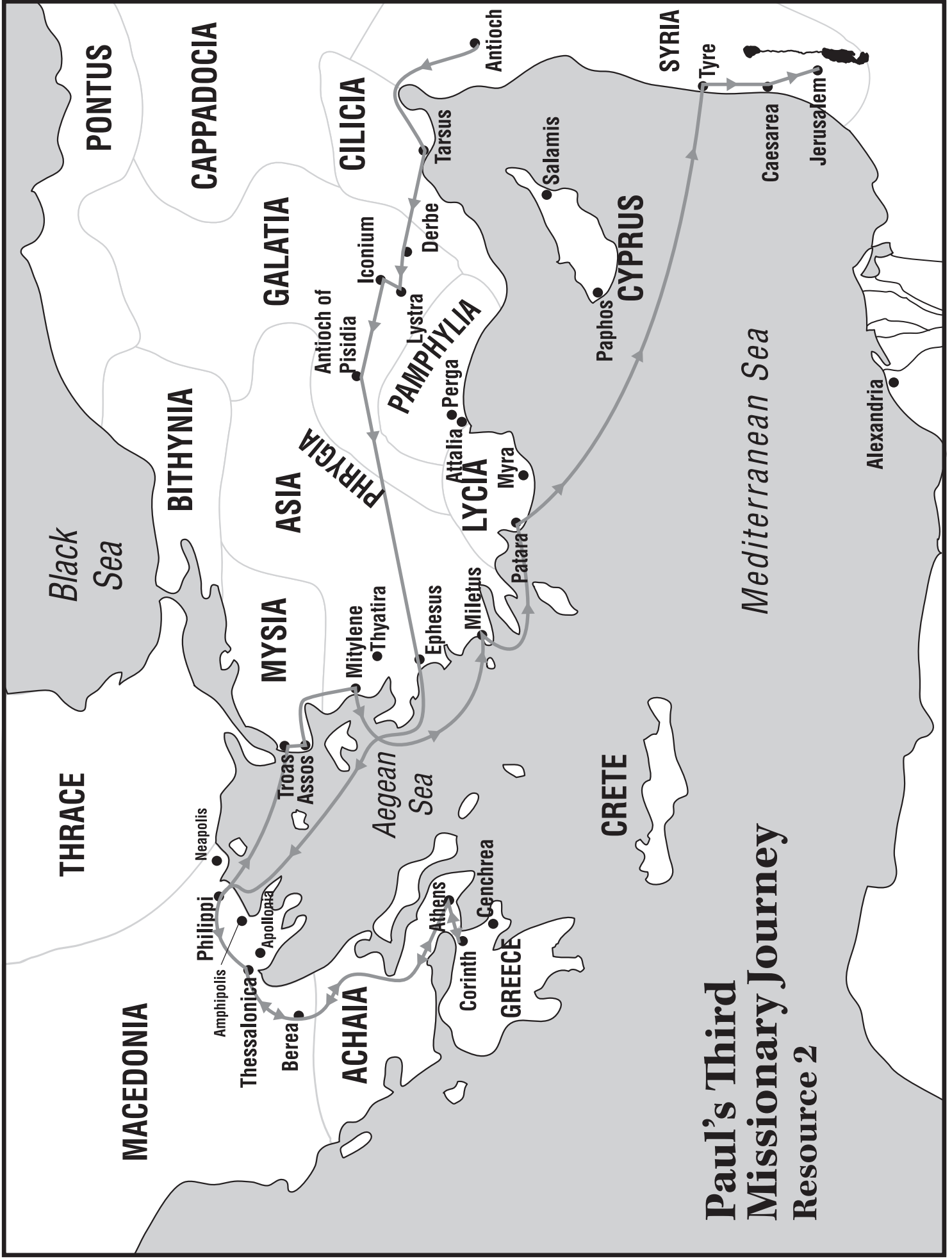
A

C

T

S

(Make 10 copies for this study.)



Paul's Third Missionary Journey

Resource 2

Jewish Religious Groups in Acts

A. Pharisees

After the Captivity, priests and scribes were virtually identical in Israel. The Pharisees eventually came from the ranks of the scribes. The characteristic feature of Pharisees was their legal tendency. They were known as separatists.

The Pharisees believed in the afterlife, angels, and spirits.

The Pharisees were a religious group, not political, and their main goal was strict adherence to the law, including the oral traditions of the law. They stressed outward conformity to the law. Paul had been a Pharisee (Philippians 3:5).

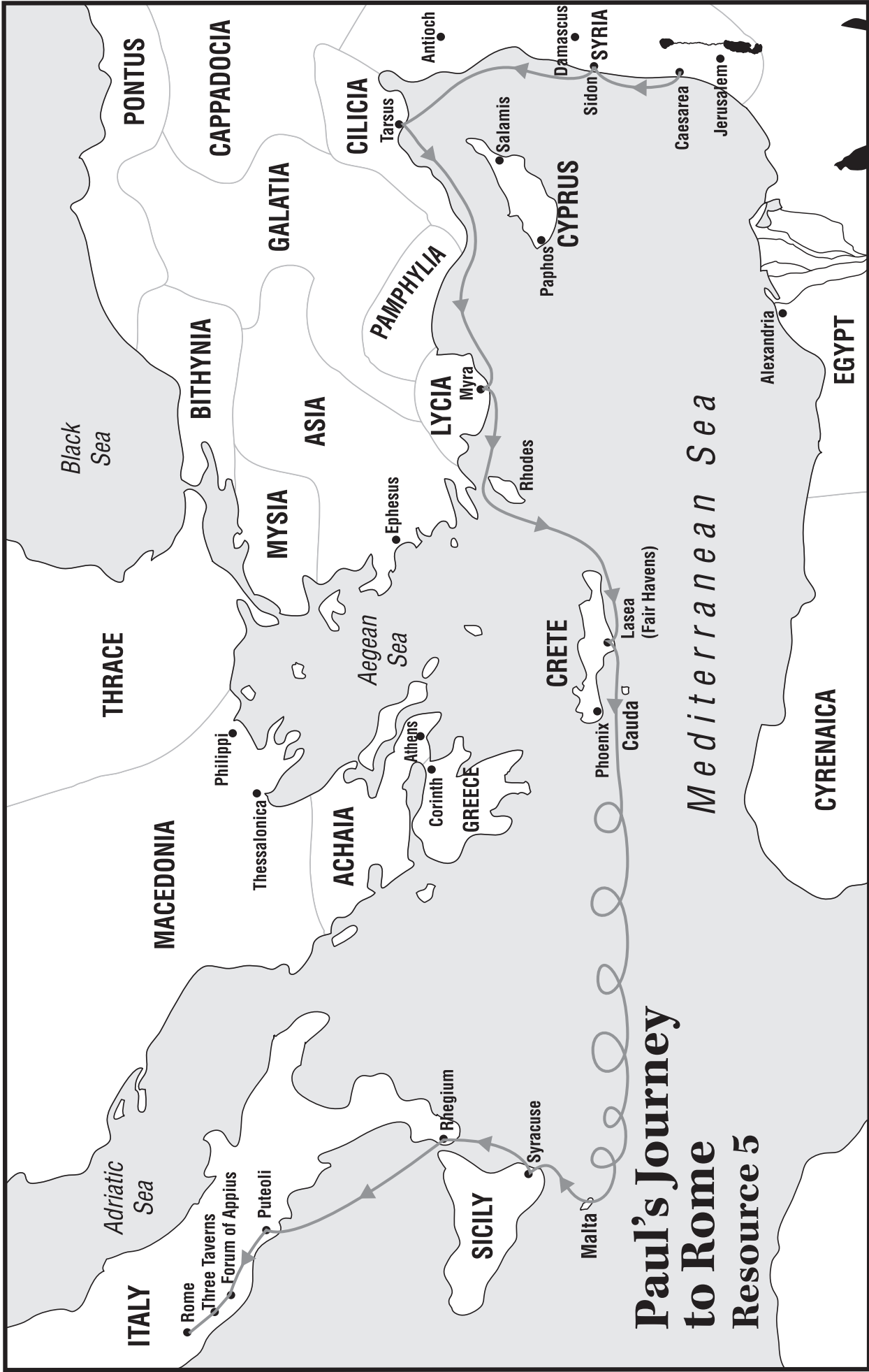
B. Sadducees

The Sadducees came from the ranks of the priests. The characteristic feature of Sadducees was their social position. They accepted the Law (the books of Moses) as the final authority, placing it above the Prophets and Writings. The Sadducean high priests were the leaders of the Sanhedrin.

The Sadducees did not believe in angels or resurrection (Mark 12:18; Acts 23:8).

C. The Sanhedrin

The word *Sanhedrin* means “council” or “assembly.” The head of the Sanhedrin was the high priest. The council was formed of high priests (i.e., the acting high priest, those who had been high priests, and members of the privileged family from which the high priests were taken), elders and scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees. The Sanhedrin had seventy members plus the high priest. It appears that membership was for life. The Sanhedrin was the final court of appeals for all issues regarding the Mosaic law. It acted as the supreme court of the land. It could impose punishment, but it could not execute offenders. Israel was under Roman domination, but Roman authorities allowed the Sanhedrin to maintain authority over religious matters.



Paul's Journey to Rome

Resource 5

Resource 6

Timeline of Paul's Life

(All dates are AD; most dates are approximate.)

- 5–10** Birth of Saul in Tarsus; raised in either Jerusalem or Tarsus (Acts 22:3)
- 15–20** Trained as a Pharisee by Gamaliel (Acts 22:3)
(30/33 Death and resurrection of Christ)
- 31–34** Stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:58; Galatians 1:13)
- 33/34** Conversion of Saul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1–19)
- 33/34–36/37** Stayed in Damascus a short time; went to Arabia; returned to Damascus; escaped over the wall in a basket (Acts 9:19; Galatians 1:17; Acts 9:23, 24)
- 36/37** Met with Peter (and saw James) in Jerusalem; fled to Tarsus (Acts 9:26–30; Galatians 1:18)
- 37–45** Ministry in Samaria and Cilicia (Acts 9:30)
- 42–44** Received thorn in the flesh (2 Corinthians 12:7–10)
(44 Death of Herod Agrippa I)
- 44–47** Spent a year in Antioch with Barnabas; visited Jerusalem (Acts 11:25, 26)
- 46–47** First missionary journey; 1½ years? (Acts 13:2–14:28)
- 48** Spent time in Antioch; wrote Galatians (Acts 14:28; Galatians 2:11–14)
- 48/49** Went to Jerusalem for the Council; returned to Antioch (Acts 15)
- 48/49–51** Second missionary journey; 2½ years? (Acts 15:36–18:22)
(49 Edict of Expulsion by Claudius, causing Jews to leave Rome)
- 49–51** Wrote 1 and 2 Thessalonians from Corinth (Acts 18:11)
- 49–51** Appearance before Gallio (Acts 18:12–17)
- 51** Returned to Jerusalem and Syrian Antioch (Acts 18:22)
- 52–57** Third missionary journey; 5 years? (Acts 18:23–21:17)
- 52–55** Spent three years in Ephesus (Acts 19:1; 20:31); wrote 1 Corinthians
(54 Nero canceled Claudius's Edict of Expulsion, thus allowing Jews to return to Rome)
- 55/56** Wrote 2 Corinthians from Macedonia (Acts 20:1; 2 Corinthians 2:12, 13)
- 57** Spent the winter in Corinth; wrote Romans
- 57** Arrested in Jerusalem (Acts 21:27–36)
- 57–59** Imprisoned in Caesarea (Acts 24:27)
- 59/60** Voyage to Rome; shipwrecked for three months on Malta (Acts 27:1–28:16)
- 60–62** First Roman imprisonment (Acts 28:16–31); wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon
- 62** Released from house arrest
- 62–67** Traveled to previous churches and perhaps Spain
- 63–65** Wrote 1 Timothy (from Philippi?) and Titus (from Nicopolis?)
- 67** Rearrested in Rome; imprisoned in Mamertine dungeon; wrote 2 Timothy
- 67/68** Executed in Rome

Resource 7

Overview of Paul's Letters

Book:

Date and place of writing:

Paul's contact with or knowledge of this church or person:

Reason for writing:

Overall theme:

Autobiographical material:

Favorite verse in this book:

(Make 13 copies for this study.)

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