

# **A Defense of the Ministry**

2 Corinthians

Wednesday evening, December 1, 2010

***2 Corinthians 1-7: The Ministry Explained***

***2 Corinthians 8-9: The Ministry of Giving Encouraged***

***2 Corinthians 10-13: The Ministry Enforced***

## **1. The Ministry of Explained (2 Corinthians 1-7)**

### **A. The Suffering of the Ministry (1:1-2:13)**

*1. Paul suffered because his enemies persecuted him (1:3-11)*

*2. Paul suffered because his converts misunderstood him (1:12-2:11)*

*3. Paul suffered because his co-workers miscommunicated with him*

*(2:12-13)*

A) Paul saw an Open Door at Ephesus (1 Corinthians 16:5-9)

B) Paul sees an Open Door at Troas (2 Corinthians 2:12-13) Paul starts a church (Acts 20:1-7)

- 1) Paul was troubled but he looked for opportunities (Colossians 4:2-4).
- 2) Paul was troubled but focused on the positive.

(2 Corinthians 2:14-7:4 has been called “The Great Digression” where Paul focuses on the Glory of the Ministry instead of the Suffering of the Ministry)

- a) *The Ministry is Victorious (2:14-17)*
- b) *The Ministry is Transforming (3:1-18)*
- c) *The Ministry is Powerful (4:1-18)*
- d) *The Ministry is Motivated (5:1-21)*
- e) *The Ministry is Separated (6:1-7:1)*
- f) *The Ministry is Comforting (7:2-16)*

## **B. The Glory of the Ministry (2 Corinthians 2:14-7:16)**

### *1. The Ministry is Victorious (2:14-17)*

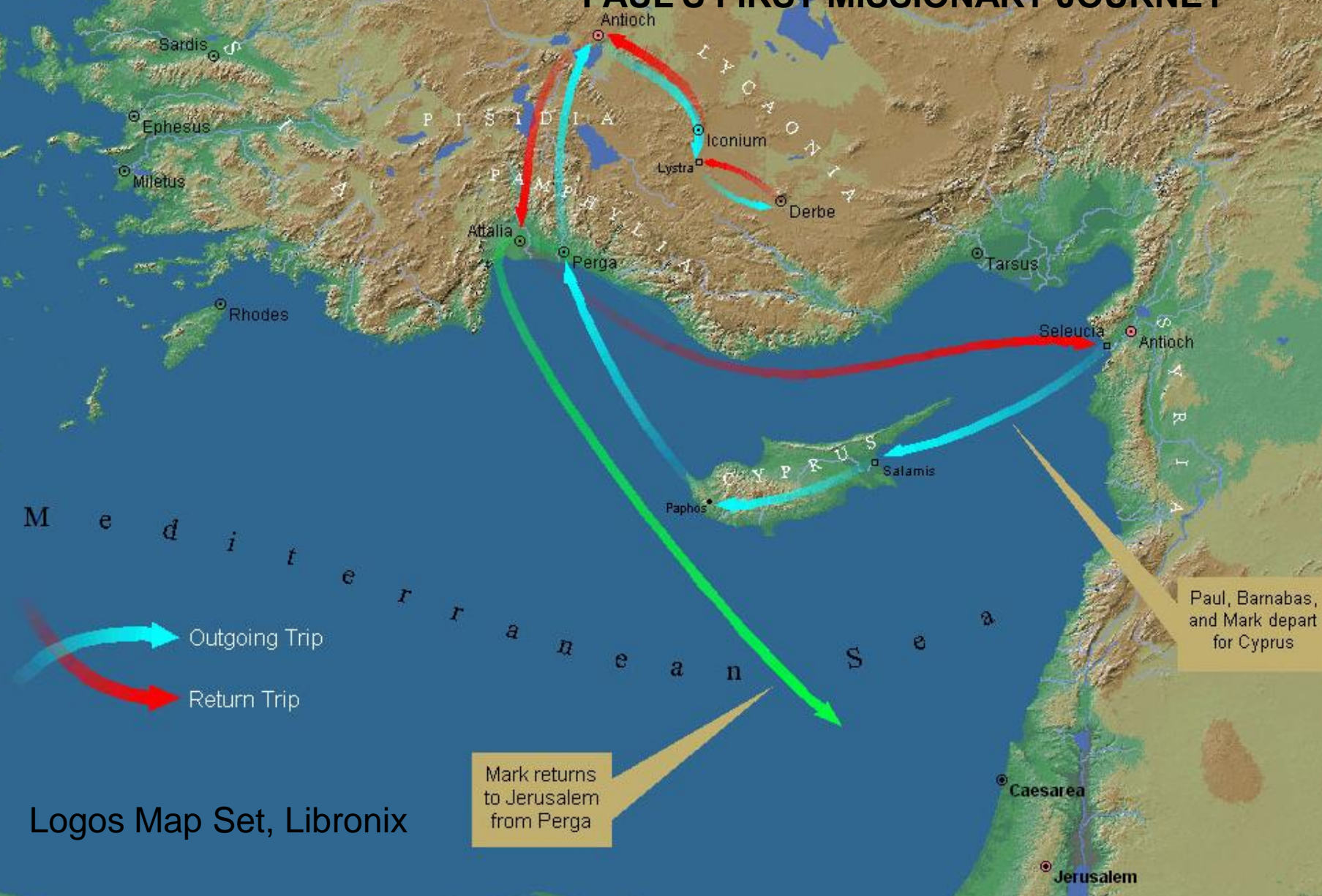
A) We can express thanks for God’s leading (2:14)

B) We can live a life that pleases God (2:15-17)

1) This attitude of gratitude pleases God (2:15-16)

2) This attitude is possible only with God’s help (2:16)

# PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

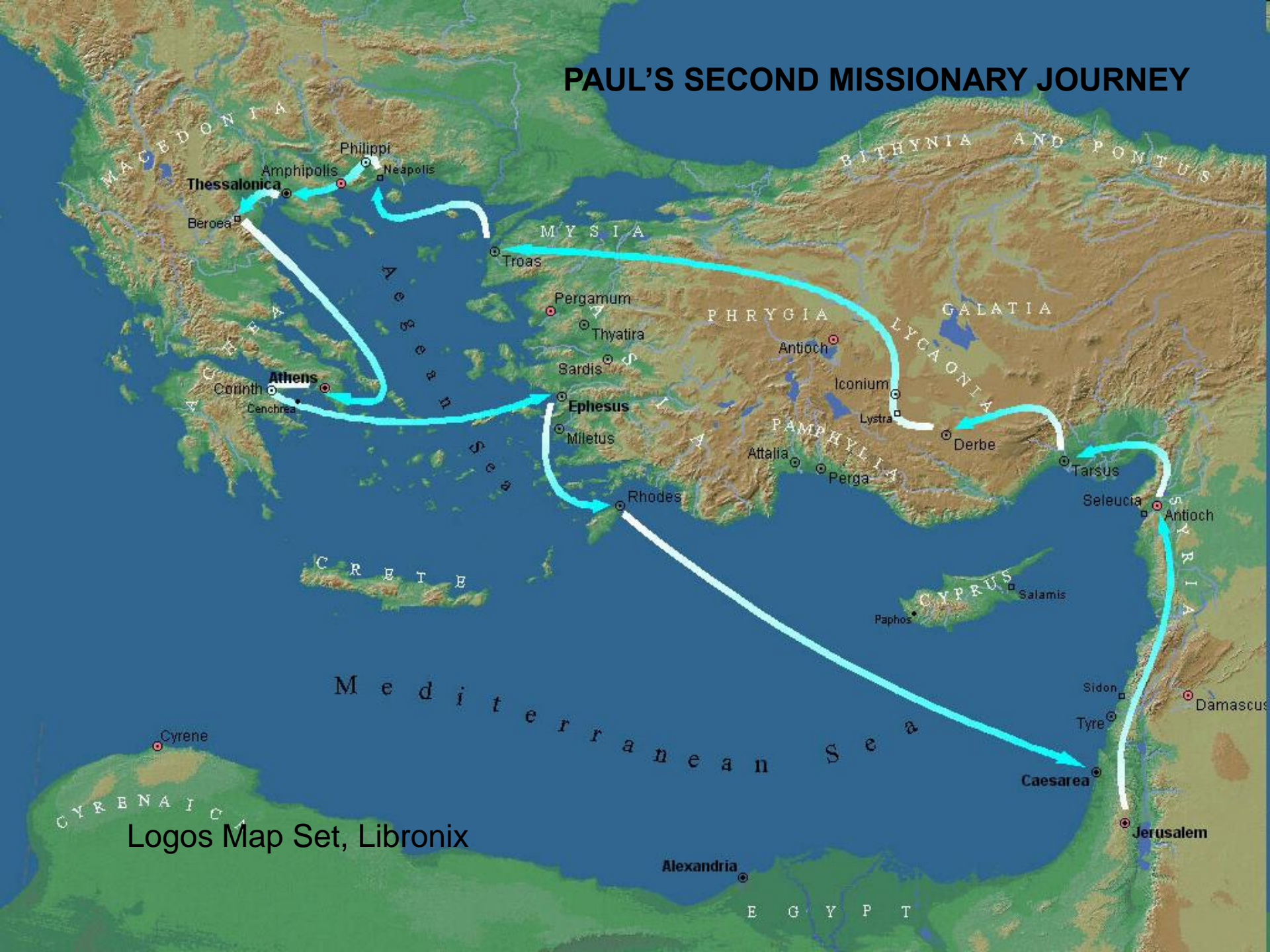


Paul, Barnabas, and Mark depart for Cyprus

Mark returns to Jerusalem from Perna

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# PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY



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# PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY



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