

# AQUILA & PRISCILLA

Acts 18:1-3

This lesson deals with a study of the life of Aquila & Priscilla and lessons we can learn from them.

1. Relatively little is known about them — yet what is revealed is a good study.
  2. They are first mentioned in Acts 18 as Paul came to Corinth on his 2nd missionary journey.  
**(ACT 18:1-3) After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; (2) And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. (3) And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. (KJV)**
- I. THIS COUPLE WAS A HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM IN THE GOSPEL. (CHRISTIAN COUPLE)**
- A. They were married. v2 says "Aquila...with his wife Priscilla"
1. This was a period when adultery and fornication were rampant and marriage was w/o respect and abused.
  2. The scriptures reveal many warnings about this terrible sin.
    - a. 1 Cor. 6:9 - **Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, (KJV)**
    - b. Gal. 5: - **Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are {these}; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, (KJV)**
    - c. Eph. 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it."
    - d. Eph. 5:28 "So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself."
- B. This Christian couple chose God's way.
1. Matt. 19:4-6 **And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made {them} at the beginning made them male and female, (5) And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? (6) Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. (KJV)**
  2. Gen. 2:22-24 "And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."
  3. Pro. 18:22 "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD."
  4. Heb. 13:4 **Marriage {is} honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge. (KJV)**
- C. They were spiritually bound together.
1. They were a team. Worked, prayed, studied, etc.
- II. THEY WERE A "WORKING" TEAM.**
- A. Tentmakers like Paul. Acts 18:3
- B. God has always willed that men work.
1. Gen. 2:15 Adam was to dress and keep the garden. - **(GEN 2:15) And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. (KJV)**
  2. Eph. 4:28 "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."
  3. 1 Thess 4:11 "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you."
  4. Rom. 12:11 - **(ROM 12:11) Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; (KJV)**
  5. 2 Thess 3:10-11 "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies."
- C. Aquila & Priscilla were example of productive Christian citizens.

### III. THIS WORKING TEAM WAS WELL VERSED IN THE TRUTH & KNEW HOW TO USE IT.

A. Acts 18:24-26 they taught Apollos

**And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, {and} mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. (25) This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. (26) And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto {them}, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly. (KJV)**

1. How could they have known he was wrong in his teaching unless they knew the truth?

B. They were not carried away with this man's eloquent speech.

1. Many are today!
2. When they heard error, they knew it!

C. They were knowledgeable of the scriptures and concerned enough to instruct this man correctly.

1. Note: this was both of them.
2. Acts 18:26 ``they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly."''
3. Christian couples today ought to be able to recognize error and refute it.

D. They were helpers of the work of God in many other areas.

1. Rom. 16:3 ``**Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus.**''
2. Acts 18:3 - (hospitable): **And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. (KJV)**
3. 2 Tim. 4:19 - (loyal): **Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. (KJV)**
4. Rom. 16:4 - (not prejudiced): **Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. (KJV)**
4. Matt 5:16 **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father...**
5. Titus 2:14 - **Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (KJV)**

### IV. THEY WERE A WORKING TEAM, WELL-VERSED, WHO PUT THE CHURCH FIRST!.

A. 1 Cor. 16:19 ``**Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.**''

B. This tells us a great deal about this couple.

1. The church no doubt was the biggest part of their lives.
2. They loved the church.
3. They used their own home as a place for the church to worship.
4. They were an active part of the local church.

C. They were committed to the truth and the Lord's church — they risked their lives.

(Preachers need friends who will stand by them when the going gets tough)

1. Rom. 16:3-4 ``**Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.**''
2. Rom. 12:1-2 We need such people today.  
``**I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**''

### CONCLUSION:

1. What we see in Aquila & Priscilla:
  - a. They were great examples of Christian business people working diligently for the Lord.
  - b. We see the proper role of women teaching men - privately, not publicly.
  - c. We see great patience and concern for religious leaders who are in error.
  - d. Let us love all of God's children no matter the race or nation (Rom 16:4).
  - e. May we always be the true friends of God's preachers as these two were.
2. As a husband, are you as Aquila?
3. As a wife, are you as Priscilla?