

Acts 19:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.

Analysis

He sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus—The verb 'ministered' (διακονοῦντων) describes servant-leadership, the same root as 'deacon.' Timothy appears frequently in Paul's ministry as trusted delegate; Erastus is mentioned in Romans 16:23 as Corinth's city treasurer, showing prominent citizens' conversion. Paul's strategy of sending advance teams prepared regions for his arrival, multiplying ministry impact. **He himself stayed in Asia for a season** indicates Paul's flexible planning—Spirit-led mission requires both strategic scheduling and adaptable timing. The phrase 'for a season' (χρόνον) proved brief: the Demetrius riot (vv. 23-41) soon ended Paul's Ephesian ministry.

Historical Context

This occurred near the end of Paul's three-year Ephesian ministry (Acts 20:31), around AD 54-55. Timothy's mission to Macedonia and Corinth addressed problems in the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 4:17). Erastus's civic position demonstrates Christianity's penetration into governmental ranks.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does Paul's deployment of ministry teams model effective discipleship and leadership development?
2. What does Paul's 'staying in Asia for a season' teach about balancing long-term vision with present responsibilities?

Interlinear Text

ἀποστείλας	δὲ	εἰς	τὴν	Μακεδονίαν	δύο	τῶν
he sent	So	in		Macedonia	two	
G649	G1161	G1519	G3588	G3109	G1417	G3588
διακονούντων	αὐτὸς	Τιμόθεον	καὶ	Ἑραστον		
of them that ministered	but he himself	Timotheus	and	Erastus		
G1247	G846	G5095	G2532	G2037		
αὐτὸς	ἐπέσχευ	χρόνον	εἰς	τὴν	Ἀσίαν	
but he himself	stayed	for a season	in		Asia	
G846	G1907	G5550	G1519	G3588	G773	

Additional Cross-References

Romans 16:23 (Parallel theme): Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

2 Timothy 4:20 (Parallel theme): Erastus abode at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick.

Acts 19:10 (Parallel theme): And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

Acts 16:3 (Parallel theme): Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

Acts 13:5 (Parallel theme): And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

Acts 19:29 (Parallel theme): And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.

Acts 18:5 (Parallel theme): And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.

Acts 16:1 (Parallel theme): Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek: