# "Apollos: A Teachable Heart & Bold Spirit For God!"

Acts 18:24-28

Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by Birth, an Eloquent Man, came to Ephesus; and He was Mighty in the Scriptures. This Man (Apollos) had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and being Fervent in Spirit, He was Speaking (Preaching) and Teaching Accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the Baptism of John; and He began to Speak Out Boldly in the Synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard Him (Apollos), They took Him aside and explained to Him the Way of God More Accurately (Completely Concerning the Baptism of the Holy Spirit). And when He (Apollos), wanted to go across to Achaia (Corinth), the Brethren Encouraged Him and Wrote to the Disciples (Church in Corinth) to Welcome Him; and when He had arrived, He Greatly Helped Those Who had Believed through Grace, for He Powerfully Refuted (Debated) the Jews in Public, Demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

Acts 18:24-28 (NKJV)

Q

"Who Is Apollos & Where Is He From?"

**A**1

He Is A Christian Converted In The Early Alexandrian School of Theology

**A2** 

He Was A Travelling Merchant From Alexandria, Egypt

O

"Was There Differences In Early Christian Theological Understanding Concerning
The Person of Jesus Christ & The Essentials of the Christian Faith?"

A YES! CQ

"What Was The Main Differences In Understanding In The Early Years Of Christianity?"

CA

Two Schools of Theology Quickly Formed Leading To The Great Controversy of Christianity in the Latter 5<sup>th</sup> Century AD

Δ1

# **Antiochene School of Theology**

- 1) Emphasis on Jesus' Humanity Over His Divinity As Christ But Not A Complete Separation of Being Remains Mystery
- 2) A Need For Two Baptisms A) Baptism of John (Faith) & B) Baptism of the Pentecost (Spirit)

  Together They Form A Complete Baptism In God With An Indwelling Divine Presence
- 3) Possible Heresy of 'Sabellianism' Distinguish the Three Members of the Godhead Trinity
  By Their Modes / Personalities of Operation 'Moralistic Monarchianism'

**A2** 

#### Alexandrian School of Theology

- 1) Emphasis on Christ's Divinity Over His Humanity
  With Nearly A Separation Into Two Beings But Not Complete
  Remains A Mystery But Borders On Heresy of 'Docetism'
  Where Christ's Body Was Merely An 'Illusion' or 'Phantasm'
- 2) A Need For Only One Baptism The Baptism of John (Faith) Alone
  To Lift The Spirit / Soul Above the Flesh
- 3) Possible Heresy of 'Tritheism' Three Gods In One Which Leads To Another Heresy of 'Monophysitism' A Form of Gnosticism of a Single Divine Nature in Christ Alone

### Let's Now Look At Luke's Account of Apollos

Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by Birth, an Eloquent Man, came to Ephesus; and He was Mighty in the Scriptures. This Man (Apollos) had been instructed in the Way of the Lord; and being Fervent in Spirit, He was Speaking (Preaching) and Teaching Accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the Baptism of John; and He began to Speak Out Boldly in the Synagogue.

Acts 18:24-26a

Q

"What Did Aquilla & Priscilla Do In Paul's Absence (3rd Missionary Journey) in Ephesus When They Heard Apollos Preaching & Teaching With Great Eloquence & Fervor?"

A

They Instructed Him Away From All Heresy – Bringing Him Into All Truth ... But when Priscilla and Aquila heard Him (Apollos), They took Him aside and explained to Him the Way of God More Accurately (Completely – Concerning the Baptism of the Holy Spirit) ...

Acts 18:26b

Q

"What Do We Do As Orthodox & Mature Christians
When We Encounter Someone Who Claims To Be Christian But Is In Theological Error?"

A

We Meet With Them Privately & Offer To Mentor & Build Into Their Understanding - The Deeper Things of God

Q

"What Do We Do As Orthodox & Mature Christians When They Accept Our Instruction & Correction?"

Α

We Remain In Fellowship With Them & Work Side By Side In The Harvest Fields

Q

"What Do We Do As Orthodox & Mature Christians When They Do Not Accept Our Instruction & Correction?"

A

We Break In Fellowship With Them & Announce Their False Teaching (Heresy) Publicly, But We Continue To Pray For Their Mind & Soul To Be Awakened & Restored

Q

"Was Apollos Baptized in The Spirit Of Pentecost
& Did He Become A Faithful Teacher of the Complete Truth of Orthodox Christianity?"

A1 - Yes!

He Requested To Go To Achaia – Corinth & Was Given Permission & A Letter Of Introduction And when He (Apollos), wanted to go across to Achaia (Corinth), the Brethren Encouraged Him and Wrote to the Disciples (Church in Corinth) to Welcome Him; and when He had arrived, He Greatly Helped Those Who had Believed through Grace, for He Powerfully Refuted (Debated) the Jews in Public, Demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ ... Acts 18:27-28

A2 - Yes!

Apollos Is Spoken of Fondly & Lovingly As A Faithful Colleague of Paul In Corinth, Even When The Corinthians Are Confused & Need More Instruction & Correction Themselves. Paul Writes, "Now I exhort you, Brethren, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that You All Agree and that there be No Divisions Among You, but that you be Made Complete in the Same Mind and in the Same Judgment" ...

... "For I have been informed concerning you, My Brethren, by Chloe's People, that there are quarrels among You. Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, 'I am of Paul,' and 'I of Apollos,' and 'I of Cephas (Peter),' and 'I of Christ.' Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you Baptized in the name of Paul?" 1st Corinthians 1:10-13

## (Further Study)

"I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one would say you were baptized in my name. Now I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not in cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made void. For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.' Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God. But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, so that, just as it is written, 'LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.""

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:14-31

Paul Writes, "And I, Brethren, could not speak to you as to Spiritual Men, but as to Men of Flesh, as to Infants in Christ. I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for You were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now You are not yet able, for You are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among You, are You not fleshly, and are You not walking like Mere Men? For when one says, 'I am of Paul', and another, 'I am of Apollos', are You not Mere Men? What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants Through Whom You Believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to Each One. I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So, then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. Now he who plants, and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor. For We are God's Fellow Workers; You are God's Field, God's Building (God's Church). According to the Grace of God, which was given to Me, like a Wise Master Builder I laid a Foundation, and Another is Building on It. But Each Man must be careful how He Builds on It. For no man can lay a Foundation Other than The One which Is Laid, which is Jesus Christ."

#### (Further Study)

"Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up," ...

... "he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do You not know that you are a Temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in You? If any Man destroys the Temple of God, God will Destroy Him, for the Temple of God is Holy, and that is what You are. Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, he must become foolish, so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, 'He is THE ONE WHO CATCHES THE WISE IN THEIR CRAFTINESS'; and again, 'THE LORD KNOWS THE REASONINGS of the wise, THAT THEY ARE USELESS.' So, then let no one boast in men. For All Things Belong to You, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the World or Life or Death or Things Present or Things to come; All Things Belong to You, and You Belong to Christ; and Christ Belongs to God.

"Let Us As True Orthodox & Holy Spirit Indwelled Christians, Continue To Come Alongside All Of Those Who Preach & Teach, The Complete Truth & Fullness Of The Gospel Of Jesus Christ. Moving Daily & Growing From Faith To Faith! Let Us Also As True Orthodox & Holy Spirit Indwelled Christians, Separate From Those Who Preach Cheap Grace, A Single Baptism Of Faith Only, Who Neglect Going On Towards A Deeper Faith, By Allowing The Indwelling Holy Spirit To Baptize Us Fully & Bring Us Into The Sanctified Life Growing From Faith To Faith! Let Us As True Orthodox & Holy Spirit Indwelled Christians, Let Us Be People Of Service To Others & Not To Ourselves, Let Us Be People Of Liberation & Transformation, Calling People Out From Their Sinful Lives To Repent & Turn To Jesus Christ The Complete Son of Man & Son of God! Let Us As True Orthodox & Holy Spirit Indwelled Christians, Persevere Until The Day We Meet God Face To Face, Going On To The Final Step Of Faith, Glorification& Perfection, In The Eternal Presence Of The Perfect Triune Godhead - The Three In One. And All Of God's People Said, Amen!"