## ~ACHAIA (93) (A-cha'ia)

- Prior to the Roman conquest in 146 B.C.E, Achaia properly referred only to a small region in the Peloponnesus, stretching across the southern coast of the Gulf of Corinth, in a position somewhat similar to that occupied today by the section of the same name.
- In Homeric poetry Greeks in general are spoken of under the name of Achaians. Due to the prominence of the Achaean League, a confederacy of cities, as the most powerful political body in Greece at the time of its conquest, the Romans thereafter generally spoke of all Greece as Achaia.
- In 27 B.C.E, when Caesar Augustus reorganized the two provinces of Greece, Macedonia and Achaia, the name Achaia then applied to all the Peloponnesus and to part of continental Greece. The province of Achaia was under the administration of the Roman Senate and was ruled through a proconsul from its capital, Corinth.
- Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus through God's will, and Timothy our brother to the congregation of God that is in Corinth, together with all the holy one's who are in all of Achaia. (2 Corinthians 1:1)
- Other cities of the province of Achaia mentioned in the Christian Greek Scriptures were Athens and Cenchreae. Achaia and its neighboring province to the North, Macedonia, were often linked together in common usage.
- After these things he departed from Athens and came to Corinth. (Acts of Apostles 18:1)
- However, after staying quite some days longer, Paul said goodbye to the brothers and proceeded to sail away for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila, as he had the hair of his head clipped short in Cenchreae, for he had a vow. (Acts of Apostles 18:18)
- Now when these things had been completed, Paul purposed in his spirit that, after going through Macedonia and Achaia, he would journey to Jerusalem, saving; After I get there I must also

## see Rome. (Acts of Apostles 19:21)

- For those in Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share up their things by a contribution to the poor of the holy one's in Jerusalem. (Romans 15:26)
- I recommend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a minister of the congregation that is in Cenchreae. (Romans 16:1)
- So that you came to be an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. (1 Thessalonians 1:7)
- The fact is, not only has the word of Yehowah sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith toward God has spread abroad, so that we do not need to say anything. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)
- In the year 15 C.E, in response to complaints over the severity of taxation, Tiberius placed Achaia and Macedonia under imperial control, to be governed from the province of Moesia. This continued until 44 C.E. when Emperor Claudius restored these provinces to senatorial control, thereby causing a proconsul again to take up governing powers in Corinth. Due to ignorance of these facts, in the past some critics objected to the Bibles reference to Gallio as the proconsul of Achaia, before whom Paul was brought.
- Now while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews rose up with one accord against Paul and led him to the judgment seat. (Acts of Apostles 18:12)
- However, the discovery of an inscription at Delphi made it evident that there was indeed a proconsul at Achaia named Gallio at the time described by the historian Luke, writer of Acts.

## **See Also GALLIO**

- For those in Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share up their things by a contribution to the poor of the holy one's in Jerusalem. (Romans 15:26)
- The apostle Paul speaks of the generosity of the Christians in the province of Achaia in providing help for their needy brothers in Jerusalem. During Paul's second and third missionary journeys a

considerable part of his time was spent in Achaia, and he expressed strong love for the brothers of that region.

It is a truth of Christ in my case that no stop shall be put to this boasting of mine in the regions of Achaia. (2 Corinthians 11:10)