

## ~AQUILA (92)

(Aq'ui-la) [from Latin, meaning Eagle]

- A natural Jew and native of Pontus in northern Asia Minor. **Priscilla**, his wife and loyal companion, is always mentioned in association with him. Banished from Rome by Emperor Claudius decree against Jews sometime in the year 49 or early 50 C.E, they took up residence in Corinth.
- After these things he departed from Athens and came to Corinth. (Acts of Apostles 18:1)
- And he found a certain Jew named **Aquila**, a native of Pontus who had recently come from Italy, and **Priscilla** his wife, because of the fact that Claudius had ordered all the Jews to depart from Rome. So he went to them (Acts of Apostles 18:2)
- When Paul arrived there in the autumn of 50 C.E, **Aquila** and **Priscilla** kindly received him into their home. A very close friendship developed among them as they worked together at their common trade of tent making and as **Aquila** and **Priscilla** doubtless aided Paul in building up the new congregation there.
- And on account of being of the same trade he stayed at their home, and they worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. (Acts of Apostles 18:3)
- When Paul sailed for Syria at the end of his second missionary tour in the spring of about 52 C.E, **Aquila** and **Priscilla** went as far as Ephesus with him.
- 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)
- So they arrived at Ephesus, and he left them there, but he himself entered into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. (Acts of Apostles 18:19)

- They remained there at least until Paul wrote to the Corinthians from there about **55 C.E.** Their **home was used as the local meeting place for the congregation**, and there they had the privilege of **assisting the eloquent Apollos to a more accurate understanding of the way of God.**
- The congregations of Asia send you their greetings. **Aquila** and **Prisca** together with the **congregation that is in their house** greet you heartily in the Lord. (**1 Corinthians 16:19**)
- And this man started to speak boldly in the synagogue. When **Priscilla** and **Aquila** heard him, they took him into their company and **expounded the way of God more correctly to him.** (**Acts of Apostles 18:26**)
- By the time Paul wrote to the Romans, about **56 C.E.**, Claudius rule had ended and **Aquila** and Priscilla had returned to Rome, for Paul conveyed his greetings to them, his fellow workers.
- Give my greetings to Prisca and **Aquila** my fellow workers in Christ Jesus. (**Romans 16:3**)
- Here, also, the congregation met in their house.
- And greet the **congregation that is in their house.** Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is a firstfruits of Asia for Christ. (**Romans 16:5**)
- Sometime during their relationship with Paul, **Aquila** and **Priscilla** had **risked their own necks** in behalf of Paul, thus meriting the thanks of all the congregations.
- Who have **risked their own necks for my soul**, to whom not only I but also all the congregations of the nations render thanks. (**Romans 16:4**)
- Later they moved back to Ephesus, for Paul, while in Rome just before suffering martyrdom, **circa 65 C.E.**, asked Timothy to convey his greetings to them there.
- Just as I encouraged you to stay in Ephesus when I was about to go my way into Macedonia, so I do now, that you might command certain one's not to teach different doctrine. (**1 Timothy 1:3**)

- Give my greetings to **Prisca** and **Aquila** and the household of Onesiphorus. (**2 Timothy 4:19**)