

Paul told Philemon to prepare a room for him, as he expected to visit Colossae. Perhaps Paul needed to go there to counteract the Colossian heresy, and to strengthen his position in the churches of Asia.

At the same time Paul would visit Laodicea and Hierapolis, the other cities in the Lycus Valley. He and Epaphras had a great concern for these churches (Col 2:1; 4:12-13).

### 3) Spain (Rom 15:24, 28)

Paul's original intention was to travel to Spain after visiting Rome. He does not mention this intention in his Prison Epistles. However, it appears that he still had this desire. There is considerable discussion as to whether Paul actually did reach Spain. The primary evidence is the statement of Clement of Rome in his letter to the Corinthians (*1 Clement*, ch. 5, *ANF* 1:6; ca. A.D. 95):

Owing to envy, Paul also obtained the reward of patient endurance, after being seven times thrown into captivity, compelled to flee, and stoned. After preaching both in the east and west, he gained the illustrious reputation due to his faith, having taught righteousness to the whole world, and come to the extreme limit of the west, and suffered martyrdom under the prefects. Thus was he removed from the world, and went into the holy place, having proved himself a striking example of patience.

Clement's phrase "the extreme limit of the west" can be interpreted as "goal" (perhaps meaning Rome), but more probably as "limit" (indicating Spain).

For archaeological evidence concerning some of Paul's conjectural travels, see articles by Otto F. A. Meinardus, "St. Paul Shipwrecked in Dalmatia" (traditions appear early), and "Paul's Missionary Journey to Spain" (tradition late, but before 8th century), *Biblical Archaeology* 39:4 (Dec., 1976) 145-47, and 41:2 (June, 1978) 61-63.

During these last travels of Paul, James the Just, brother of Jesus, was put to death by the Jews in Jerusalem, A.D. 62. Within five years the Jewish rebellion was to begin, ending with the destruction of the city in A.D. 70.

## **Paul's travels mentioned in the Pastoral Epistles**

While it is not certain that Paul actually made the trips he hoped to, as mentioned in the Prison Epistles and Romans, according to the Pastoral Epistles, Paul did travel extensively after his first Roman imprisonment. He mentions having been in several different localities or cities:

### 1) Ephesus (1 Tim 1:3)