

Apollos **Acts 18:24-28**

Apollos was a preacher. Powerful speaker

Bible describes as having great talent and ability. Kind of preacher we'd drive miles to hear at a gospel meeting.

Despite this not a word he uttered ever recorded. No great sermon, No eloquent statement, No profound proverb is accredited to him

The lesson we learn from him is one he delivers without words.

Apollos, The Man:

A Jew from Alexandria, eloquent **Acts 18:24**

There is some debate on how this word eloquent is interpreted.

Webster "marked by forceful and fluent expression". From this many affirm Apollos gifted, persuasive speaker.

Greek word *logios* used. Strong's "fluent, ie an orator: --eloquent"

Some say that this is not a reference to quality of speech. Rather denotes a state of being learned or cultured.

Acts 18:24 ... cultured and eloquent man, well versed and mighty in the Scriptures. (AMP)

Point out that Apollos probably possessed both these qualities.

Apollos was educated **Acts 18:24**

Note the verses say he was mighty in scriptures. Suggests knowledgeable in Jewish laws, prophets and writings.

The mentioning of him being from Alexandria is significant. Chief city of Egypt, Renowned center for learning, Famed library of ancient world. Apollos very likely reaped benefits from such a cultured place.

Luke stresses his speaking ability.

Verse 25 fervent in spirit **Verse 28** powerfully refuted the Jews

They had caused Paul to leave the synagogue **Acts 18:5-7**

Whether spoke rich smooth tones/flowing sentences, don't know.

We know what talents he had, he used them for the Lord.

Lesson learned.

Used natural abilities God gave him w/opportunities afforded him. He accomplished good things.

We should strive to do likewise.

Apollos, The Preacher:

Possessed great faculties. Able speaker with keen mind. One might say he had it all. Until he met Aquila and Priscilla!

Came to Ephesus. Was accurately teaching Jesus. **Acts 18:25**

Except of a problem he was unaware of. He had only been taught the baptism of John.

A baptism of repentance which looked forward to the coming of the Messiah and His kingdom. When Aquila and Priscilla detected this in his teaching, they took him aside and taught him more accurately.

Taught what he needed to know about Jesus and His kingdom.

Upon learning complete message began to teach it **Acts 18:27-28**

Greatly helped the brethren at Achaia. **Acts 19:1**

Publicly and powerfully refuted the Jews. Demonstrated Jesus was the Christ. **1Corinthians 3:5-6**

He was still busy preaching years later when Paul instructed Titus to help him **Titus 3:13**

Apollos, Lessons Learned:

The importance of possessing the whole truth.

Apollos was sincere and fervent in his teaching. He taught what he believed was the truth. His message was found lacking. Incomplete, neither sincerity or fervency make up for lack of truth.

Sincere preachers, eloquent speakers, and knowledgeable teachers all fall short in their efforts if they fail to present all the truth. Good intentions without the truth will lead people to hell.

Aquila and Priscilla teach an important lesson.

They approached one they saw needing further instruction. Did not allow themselves to be intimidated or dissuaded by his eloquence and knowledge. Taught the truth, so his understanding could be more accurate.

They taught us that it is possible for us to teach someone who may be more talented and knowledgeable than ourselves. You can teach people smarter or more book learned than yourself. Can learn from people less gifted and less intelligent than yourself.

This great eloquent man Apollos listened to the instruction of these two, and when he saw it to be true, he accepted it. No display of big ego or foolish pride kept him from receiving proper instruction. Even if it was from the mouths of tent makers.

Be Like Apollos

Are you following the whole Truth? Are you using the talents God has given you?

If not, correct today.

James Dunigan