

Episode: Other Letters Series No. 06

Narrator: Apollos

Primary Scriptures: Acts 18:24-28

Story Summary: Apollos teaches accurately and more adequately

Location: Ephesus

Time: 50's AD

Suggested Memory Scriptures: Acts 18:26

What does it mean to be accurate? In the Western world, accuracy often means you have the correct facts. That is one of the reasons many Christian teachers teach verse by verse through the Bible. They assume if they teach the Bible that way, they will automatically be accurate.

In many other times and places, teaching accurately means you teach the truth of a message correctly. The teaching might be made in several different ways, including using the lifestyle of the teacher as an example.

Acts 18:24-26 shows both of these examples. Acts 18:24-25 tells the story of Apollos. He came from Alexandria to Egypt. He had a reputation as a learned man who knew the Scriptures thoroughly. Alexandria was a center of knowledge and learning. No doubt it was prized in Alexandria to have extensive knowledge and be accurate in what you knew and taught.

Luke, a Greek and the author of *Acts*, was surely giving Apollos a high compliment when he said Apollos taught about Jesus accurately. With the exception of baptism, Apollos seems to have been knowledgeable about the life and teachings of Jesus, and how they fit with the Scriptures of the Old Testament.

Priscilla and Aquilla were wife and husband. They had been personally taught by Paul and were leaders of the Ephesian church. They were impressed when they heard Apollos preach, and graciously invited him to their home. While there, the Bible says they “explained to him the way of God more adequately.”

The Bible doesn’t detail what “the way of God more adequately” means, but it makes sense that it would include showing him what living a godly life means. Knowing the facts is not enough.

Jesus made that point many times. Once he told the Pharisees, “You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”¹ Applying knowledge appropriately is the key.

¹ John 5:39-40