

The Scriptures reveal an ideal couple...



Aquila and Priscilla

# Aquila and Priscilla

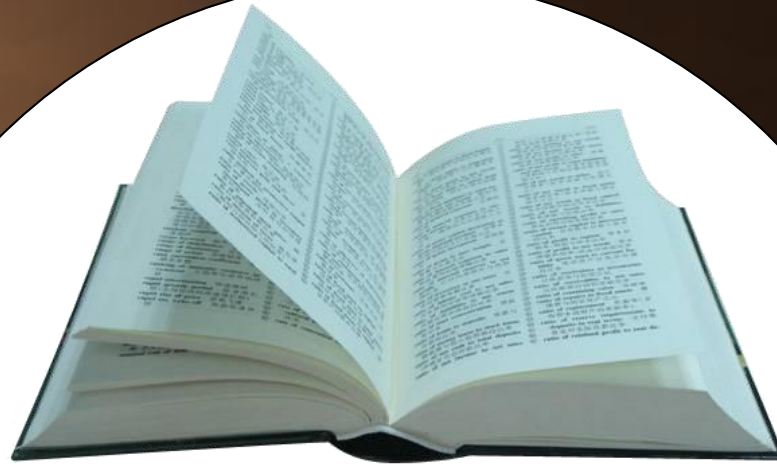


They are the type of couple a church needs

- They were appreciated in their day and they would be appreciated today
- Such people are the hope of a congregation surviving and prospering

Acts 18:1-3

1 Corinthians  
16:19



Acts 18:26

2 Timothy  
4:19

Six passages in  
the NT mention  
Aquila and Priscilla

Romans 16:3-5

Acts 18:18

# Aquila and Priscilla



In this lesson we will look at those passages in order to:

- Understand the lives of Aquila and Priscilla
- Gain profitable lessons from them as we apply their situations to our own

# Aquila and Priscilla



Learning from Their Example



# Aquila and Priscilla



Acts 18:1-3



## Acts 18:1-3

After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth. 2 And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them. ↓



## Acts 18:1-3

3 So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers.



# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:1-3**



When we first meet them, they are in Corinth

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:1-3**



Having lived in Rome, they were banished from there with all other Jews by emperor Claudius (41-54 A.D.)

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:1-3**



Aquila is a Jew born in Pontus, the northern portion of Asia Minor

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:1-3**



They were tentmakers, the same profession as the apostle Paul

# Tentmakers

Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, *St. Paul's Corinth: Text and Archaeology*



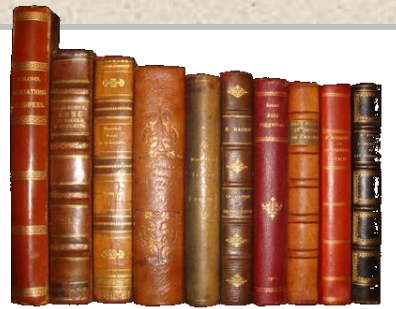
Paul was in all probability a leatherworker who could turn his hand to the production of the wide variety of articles made of this material: thongs, gourds for water and wine, harness, saddles, shields, etc. Tents were also made from leather and a ready market would have existed at Corinth.





# Tentmakers

Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, *St. Paul's Corinth: Text and Archaeology*



The great crowds of visitors who came for the Isthmian games were housed in tents, and the traders who flocked out from the city to serve them needed portable booths. Tents were used by travelers on merchant ships, and the crews sometimes camped on shore when in port.

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:1-3**



With this meeting in Corinth, we have the beginning of one of the dearest friendships in Scripture

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:1-3**



Were Aquila and Priscilla already Christians at this time?

- Probably
- If not, they were before leaving Corinth

# Aquila and Priscilla



Acts 18:18-19



## **Acts 18:18-19**

So Paul still remained a good while. Then he took leave of the brethren and sailed for Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila were with him. He had his hair cut off at Cenchrea, for he had taken a vow. 19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there; but he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.



# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:18-19**



The apostle Paul departed from Corinth and went to Ephesus

- Aquila and Priscilla accompanied Paul to the city of Ephesus
- They remained in Ephesus when Paul journeyed on to Jerusalem (v. 21)

# Aquila and Priscilla



Acts 18:24-28



## Acts 18:24-28

Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John. ↓



## Acts 18:24-28

26 So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. 27 And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; ↓



## Acts 18:24-28

28 for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.



# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



Aquila and Priscilla, while in Ephesus, heard a preacher named Apollos “who knew only the baptism of John”

- After hearing him, “they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately”

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



**From This Incident We Can Conclude:**

They knew the truth Apollos  
at this time did not know

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



**From This Incident We Can Conclude:**

They were courageous enough to endeavor to teach him that which he taught in error

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



**From This Incident We Can Conclude:**

They taught him in such a manner  
not to embarrass him

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



**From This Incident We Can Conclude:**

They could distinguish eloquence from truth

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



**From This Incident We Can Conclude:**

They loved souls to the extent that they took the time and effort to teach him the truth



# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



What would you have done?

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Acts 18:24-28**



What do you do when confronted with teaching that is inconsistent with truth?

- Adopt the course of least resistance and say nothing thinking, “It wouldn’t do any good anyway?”
- Make a scene? Get angry? Call names?
- Lovingly seek to correct (Gal. 6:1)

# Aquila and Priscilla



1 Corinthians 16:19



## **1 Corinthians 16:19**

The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.

# Aquila and Priscilla

**1 Corinthians 16:19**



When writing to the Corinthians from Ephesus in 53-54 A.D., Paul extended greetings from Aquila and Priscilla

- They knew members at Corinth
- No doubt they too were eager to see the church at Corinth be more spiritually-minded

# Aquila and Priscilla

**1 Corinthians 16:19**



That there was a church in the house of Aquila and Priscilla implies:

- Their home was open to Christians – it could even be used for a meeting place
- They were not so concerned with their house but that they could experience inconveniences by permitting the church to meet there



# Aquila and Priscilla



Romans 16:3-5



## Romans 16:3-5

Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. 5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ.

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Romans 16:3-5**



As Paul closes the Roman letter, he sends greetings to Aquila and Priscilla in Rome

- They had obviously moved from Ephesus back to Rome
  - They did not leave their religion behind – they had not forsaken the truth, the church or Paul

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Romans 16:3-5**



Notice what Paul had to say about them:

- “My fellow workers in Christ”
- “Who risked their own necks for my life”
- He was thankful for them as were all the churches of the Gentiles
- “Greet the church that is in their house”
  - As it had been in Ephesus, a church was meeting in their house

# Aquila and Priscilla

**Romans 16:3-5**



Everything Paul said about them was highly commendable. Why?

- They loved the truth
- They loved the Lord
- They loved the church
- They loved people
- They were loved by others



# Aquila and Priscilla



2 Timothy 4:19





## 2 Timothy 4:19

Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus.

# Aquila and Priscilla

**2 Timothy 4:19**



This is their final mention in Scripture

# Aquila and Priscilla

**2 Timothy 4:19**



In this brief statement, Paul saluted them in Ephesus

- “My fellow workers in Christ”

# Aquila and Priscilla

**2 Timothy 4:19**



This was Paul's last letter, yet amid all that was happening in his life and on his mind, he took the time and space to remember them

# Aquila and Priscilla



Lessons to Be Learned

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Lessons to Be Learned



The oneness God desires in marriage



# Aquila and Priscilla

## Lessons to Be Learned



Their industriousness in serving  
the Lord and others

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Lessons to Be Learned



Their friendship and support  
of a preacher of the gospel

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Lessons to Be Learned



Their house was open to Christians

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Lessons to Be Learned



They took their religion with them wherever they went

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Lessons to Be Learned



They knew the truth and were courageous enough to contend for it

# Aquila and Priscilla



Conclusion



# Aquila and Priscilla

## Conclusion



Is the spirit of Aquila and Priscilla in you?

- If not, why not?

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Conclusion



The Lord, and this church, needs such couples

# Aquila and Priscilla

## Conclusion



Why not determine to be such ideal Christians as Aquila and Priscilla?