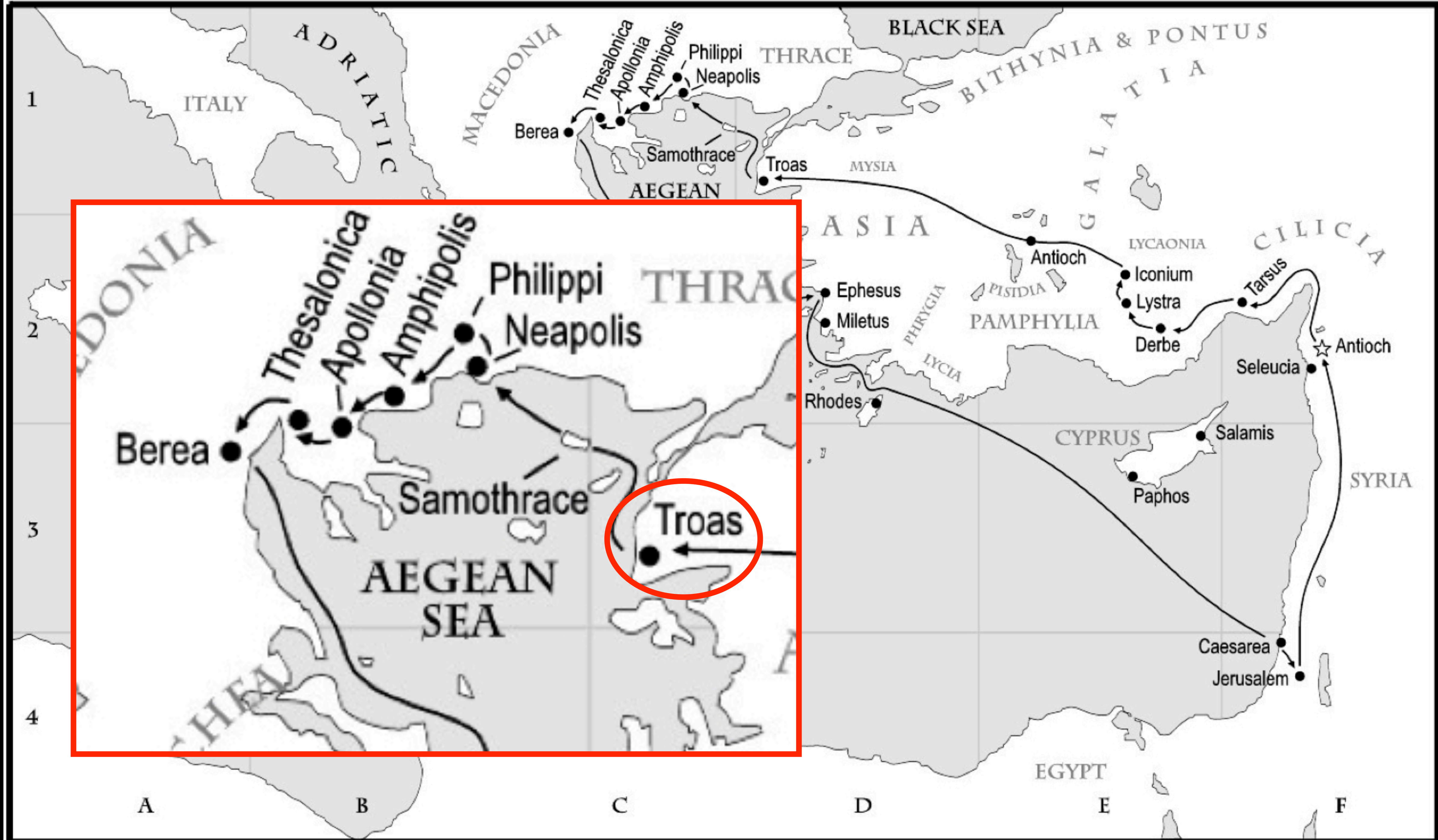
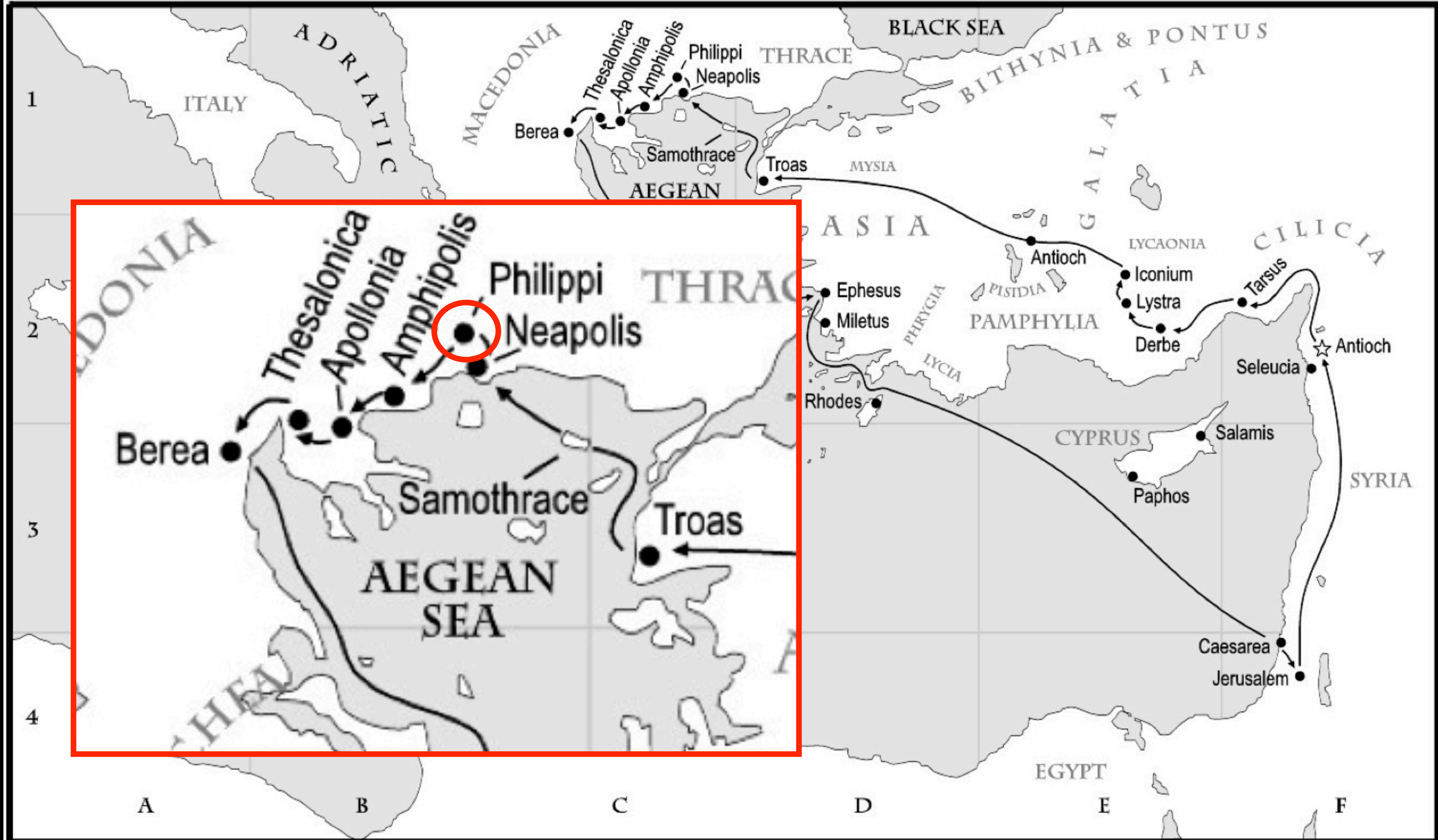


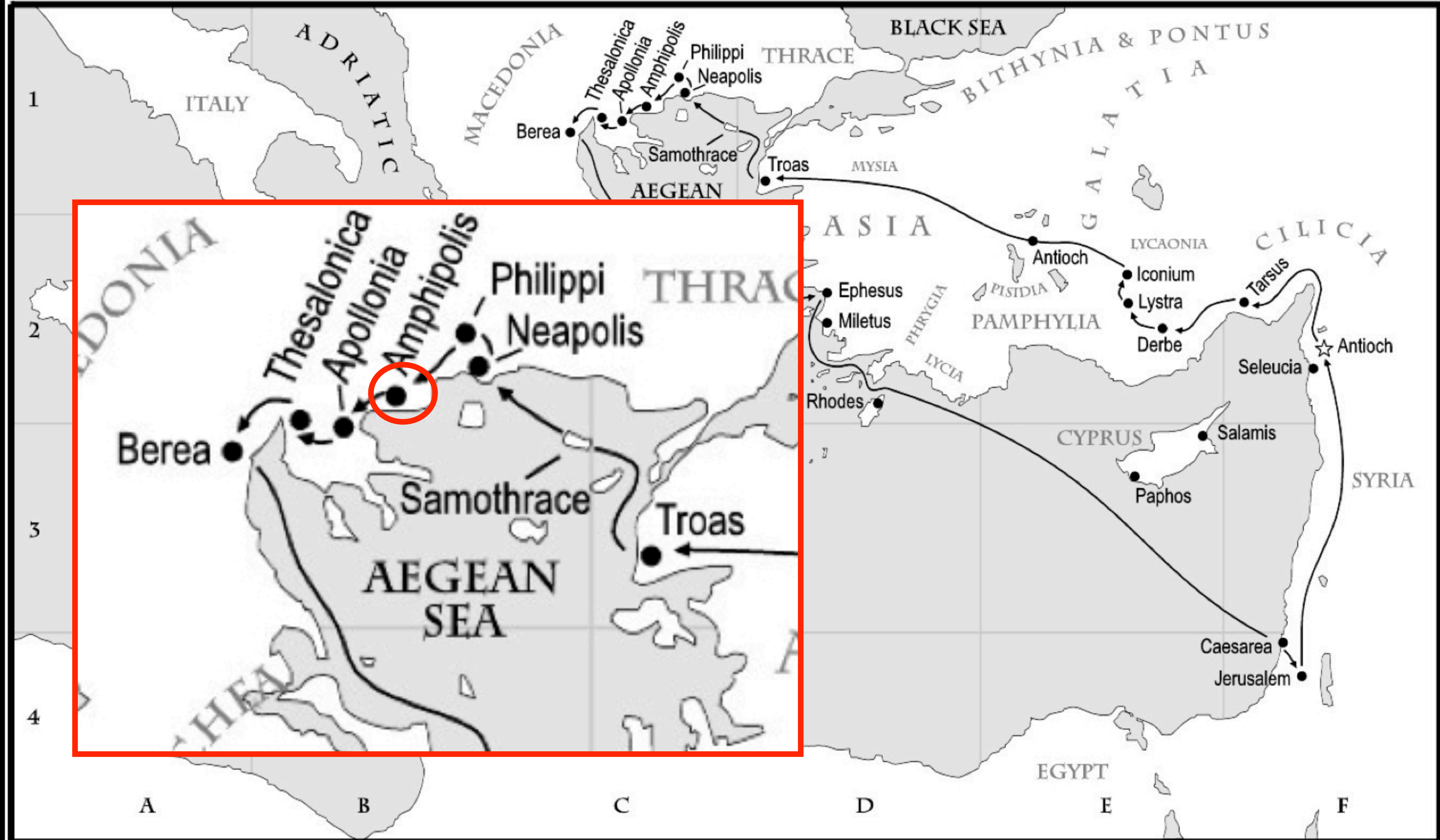
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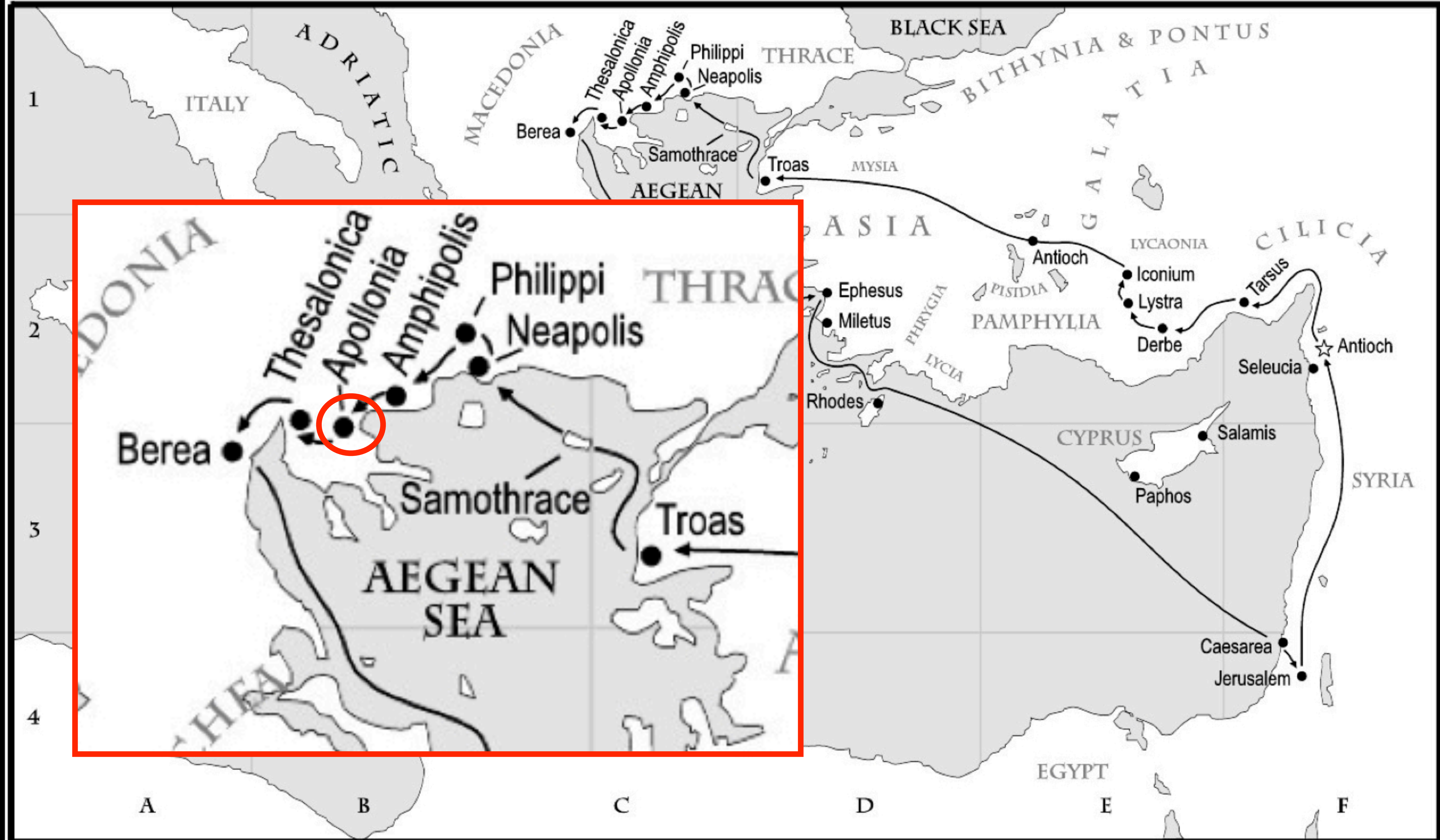
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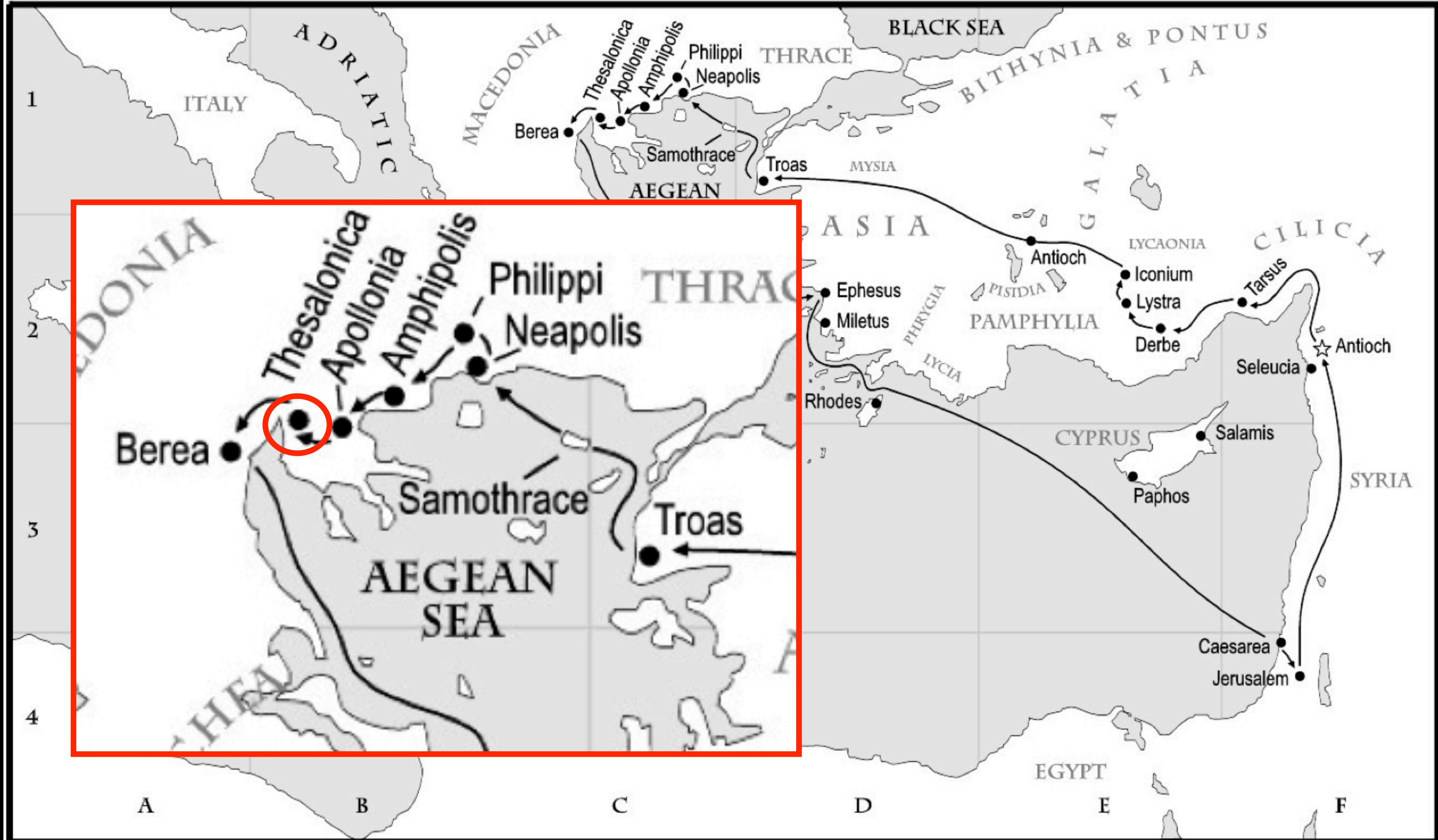
The account of the growth of the Church













(Acts Odyssey, Rene Schlaepfer, p.178)

² As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on **three Sabbath days** he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,” he said. ⁴ Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.

Acts 17:1- 15

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Acts 17:1- 15

⁵ But other Jews were **jealous**; so they rounded up some bad characters from the marketplace, formed a mob and started a riot in the city. They rushed to Jason's house in search of Paul and Silas in order to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶ But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here," ⁷ and Jason has welcomed them into his house.

Acts 17:1- 15

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Acts 17:1- 15

They are all defying Caesar's decrees, saying that there is another king, one called Jesus.”⁸ When they heard this, **the crowd and the city officials were thrown into turmoil.**⁹ Then they made Jason and the others post bond and let them go.

Acts 17:1- 15

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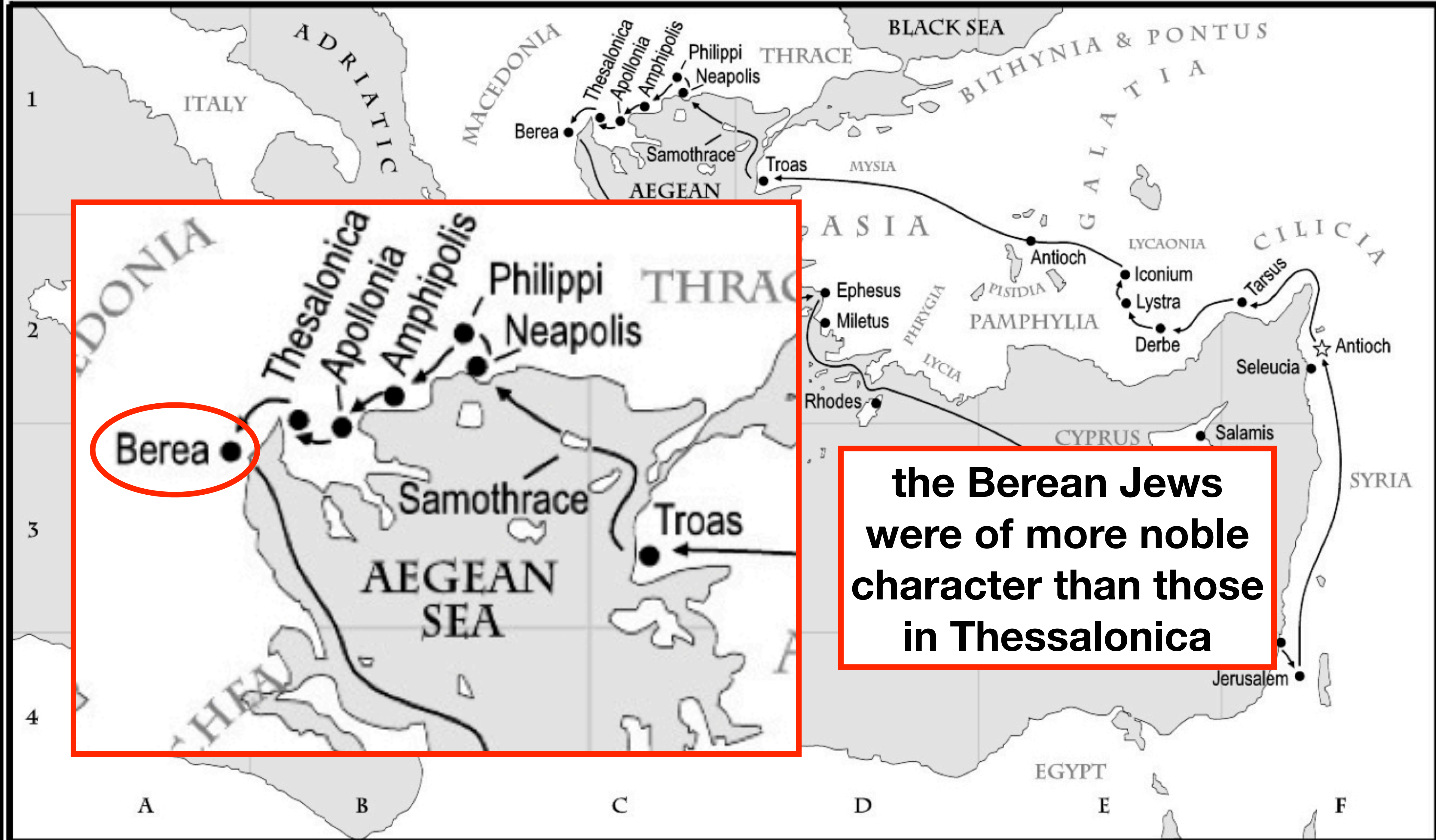
Acts 17:1- 15

¹⁰ As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

Acts 17:1- 15

¹³ But when the Jews in Thessalonica learned that Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea, some of them went there too, agitating the crowds and stirring them up. ¹⁴ The believers immediately sent Paul to the coast, but Silas and Timothy stayed at Berea. ¹⁵ Those who escorted Paul brought him to Athens and then left with instructions for Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible.

Acts 17:1- 15



Berea


**the Berean Jews
were of more noble
character than those
in Thessalonica**

Reasoned – The word Luke uses has the idea of *preaching* or *teaching*, but also includes the sense of *discussion* along with it.

Explaining – The word Luke uses literally means *to open*.

Luke 24: 32 - “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and *opened* the Scriptures to us?”

Proving – Offered *proof* from the Hebrew Scriptures concerning the identity of Jesus as the Messiah with the goal of *persuading* them.



You are
responsible for
your spiritual
growth & health
and for the
spiritual formation
of *your children*.

JUST
ONE
THING

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:4—9

. . . be *prepared* to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

1 Peter 3:15

How do you Prepare?

Commit to deepening your understanding of Christianity and the arguments skeptics use to undermine it. Apologetics

Schedule a regular time to work on growing your understanding of and relationship with God

Resource: The Bible Project Classroom - <https://bibleproject.com/classroom/>

Exercise critical thinking skills

Work on deepening your knowledge of the Scriptures

