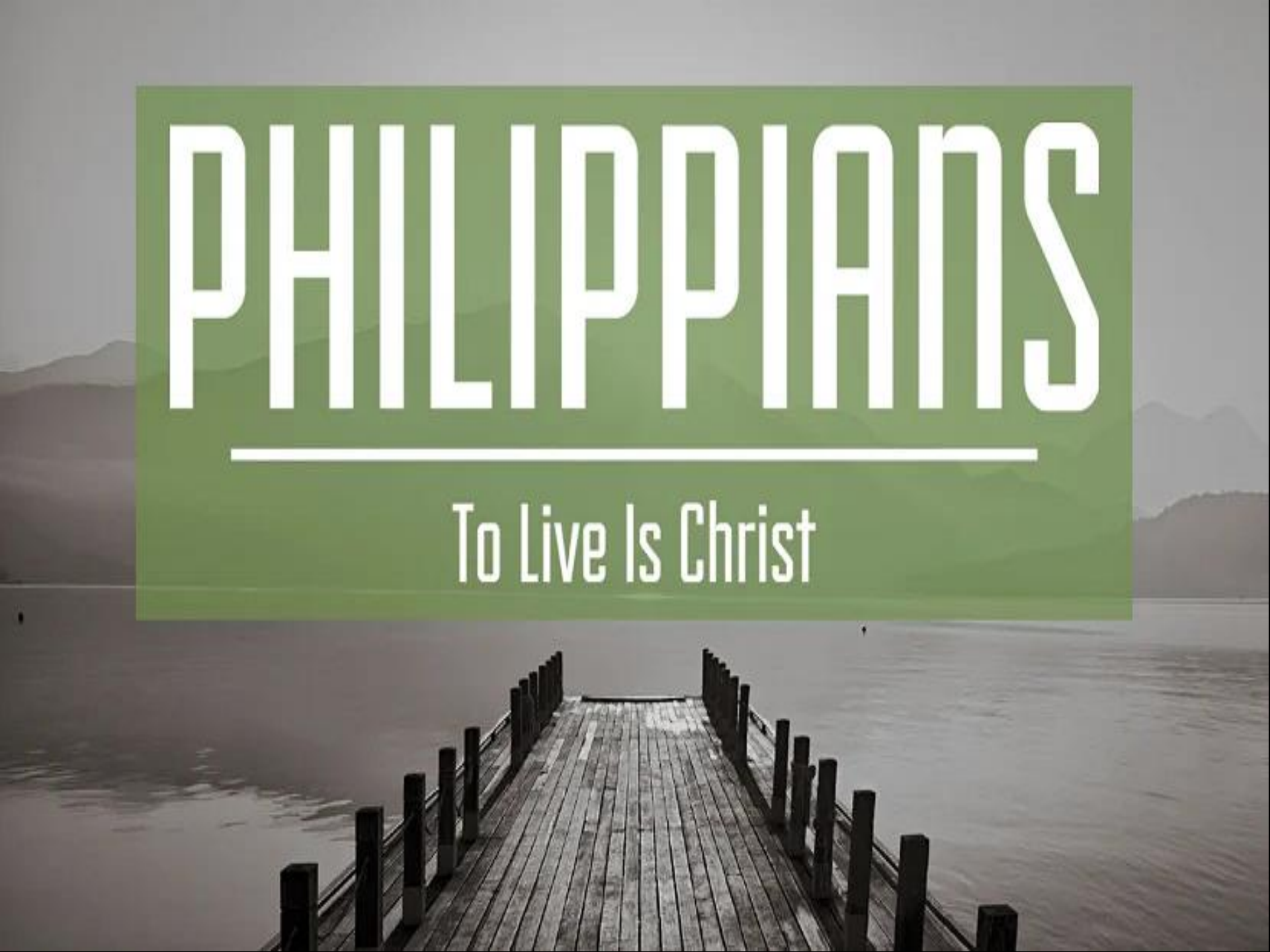


# PHILIPPIANS

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To Live Is Christ





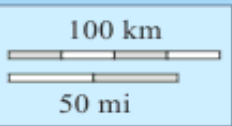
• **History**



*Philippi was the most Romanized city Paul had ever visited on his missionary journeys so far*

**Philippi**

**Alexandria Troas**





# The Third Macedonian War (171–168 BC)



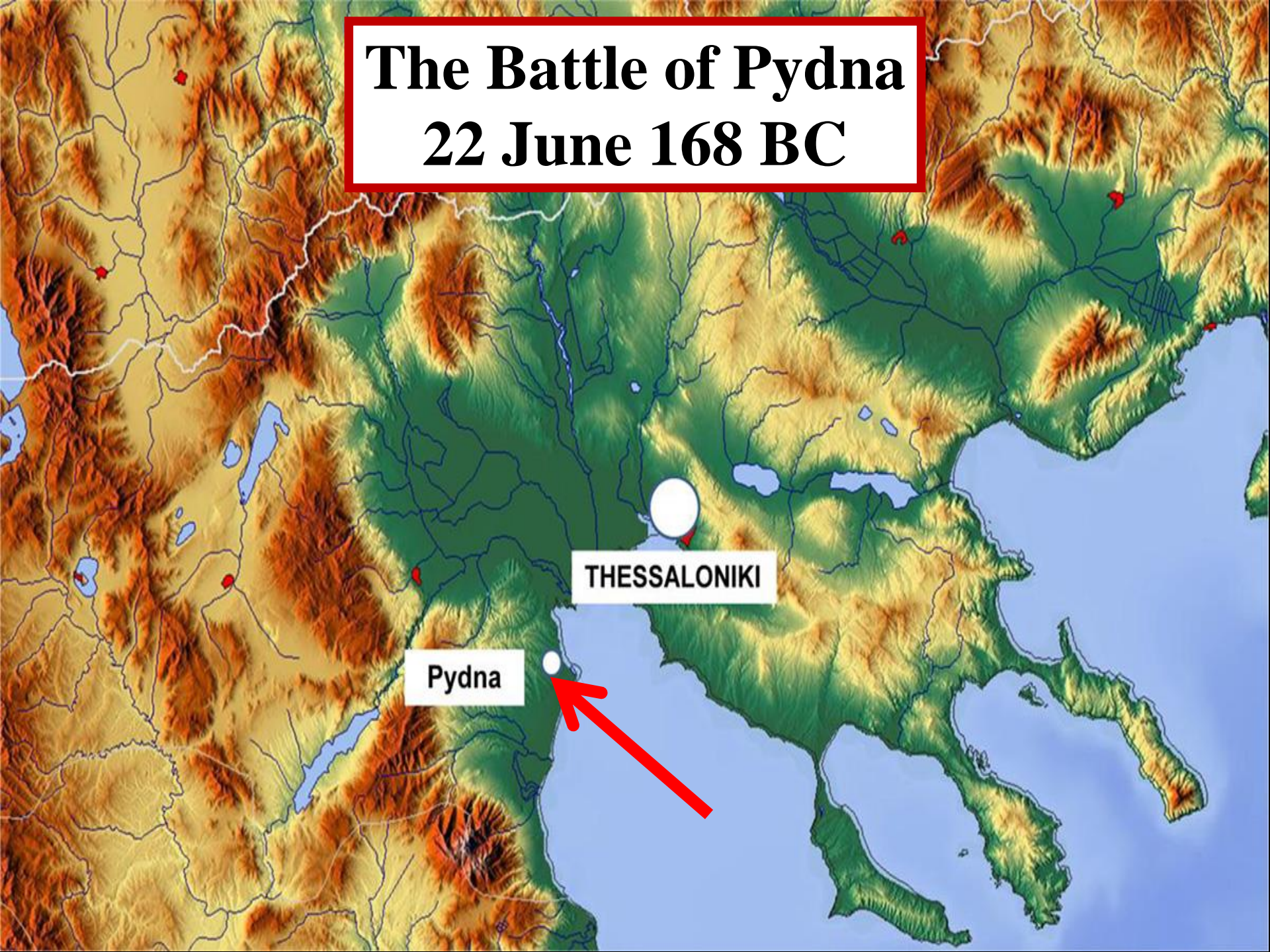
**King Perseus of Macedon**  
212-166 BC



**Aemilius Paullus**  
229 BC – 160 BC

# The Battle of Pydna

22 June 168 BC



Pydna

THESSALONIKI

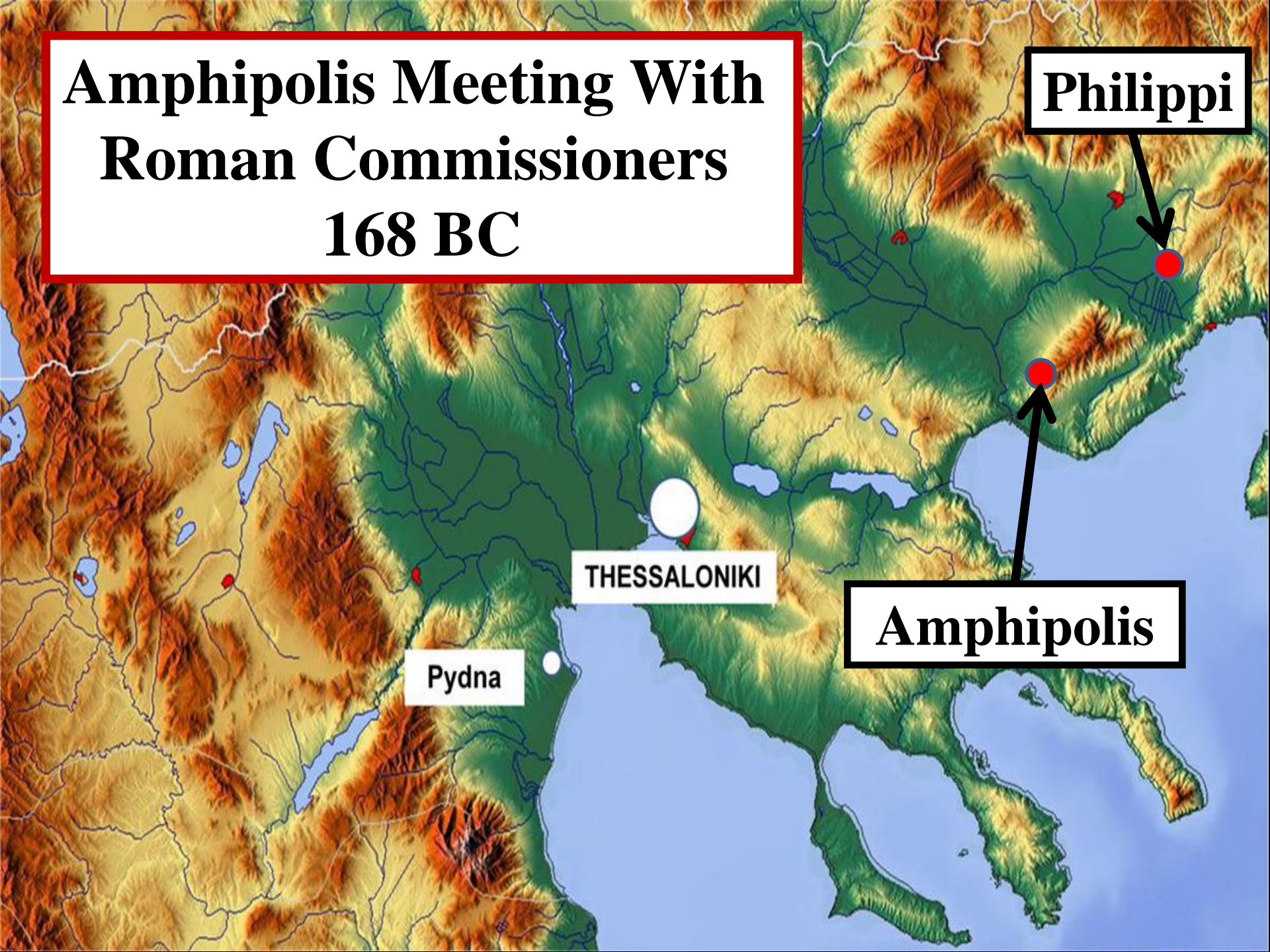
# Amphipolis Meeting With Roman Commissioners 168 BC

Philippi

THESSALONIKI

Pydna

Amphipolis

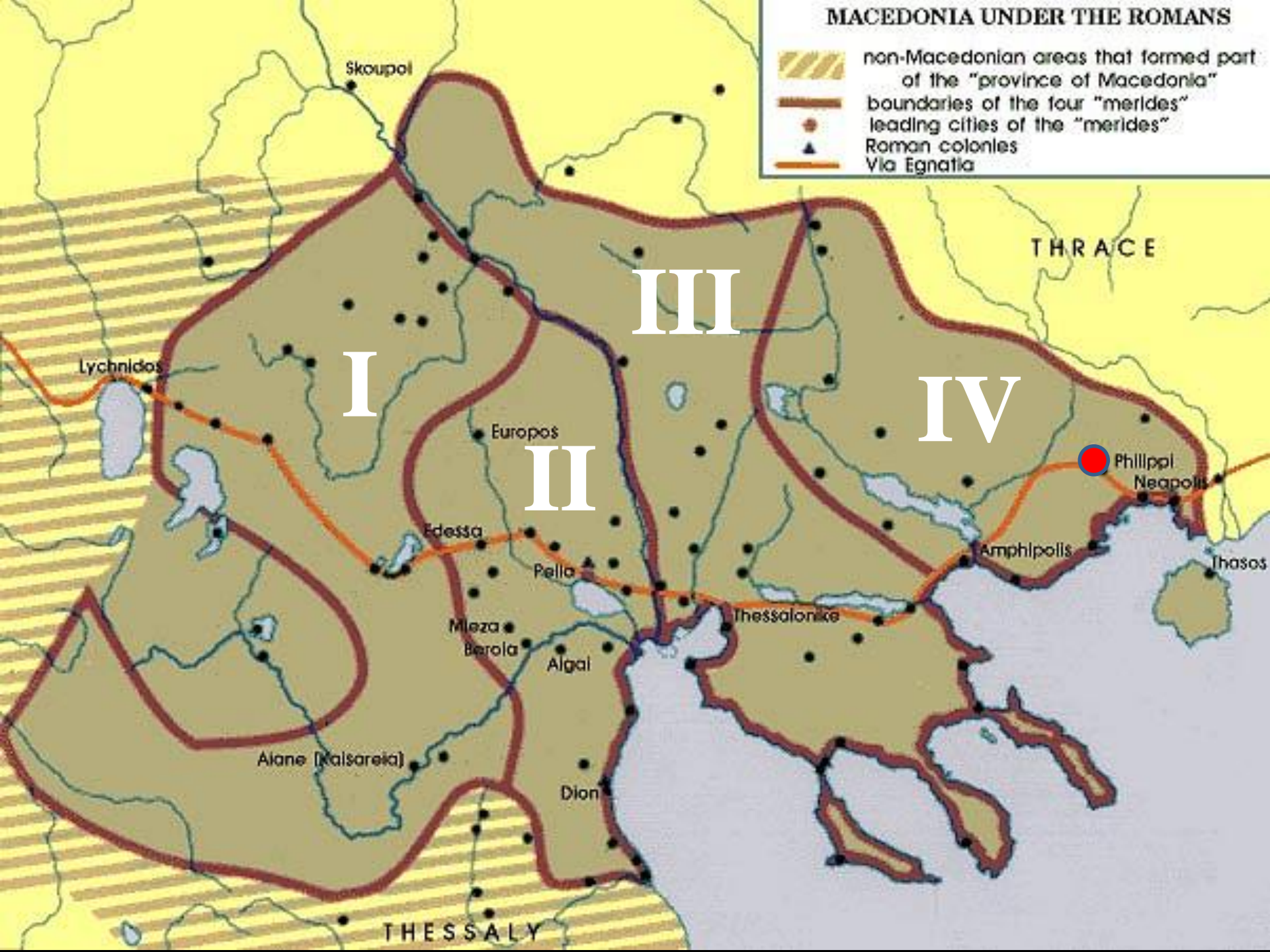




# Macedonia became a Roman Province 146 BC and was assigned a Proconsular Governor named Gnaeus Egnatius.



# MACEDONIA UNDER THE ROMANS



# As the Roman Governor Egnatius was responsible for building the Via Egnatia.





**May 2015**



**The Battle of Philippi  
42 BC**

# Battle of Actium

2 September 31 BC

## Order of Battle

-  Octavian
-  Mark Antony
-  Coastal fortification
-  Walls

0 20 km

Ionian Sea

EPIRUS

Louros

Camp of Octavian

Nicopolis

Ambracian Gulf

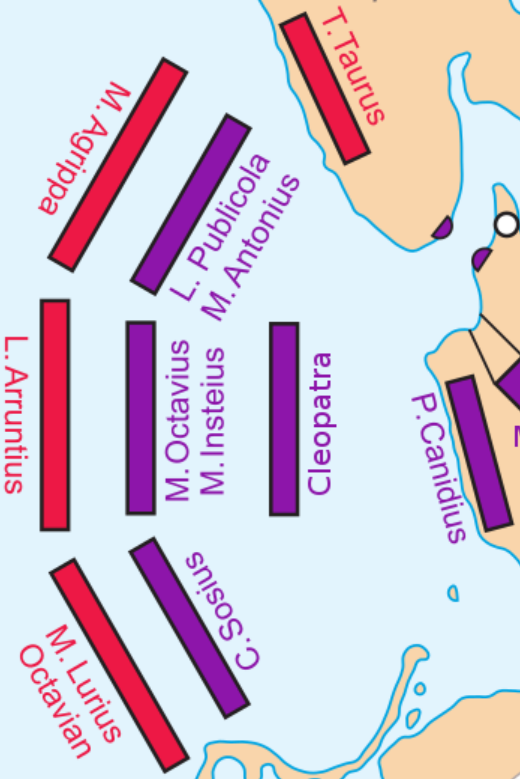
Actium

Anactorium

Camp of Mark Antony

LEUKAS

ACARNANIA





Ionian Sea

**Following these two battles several thousand military veterans were given land by the winning sides in the region around Philippi. When Octavian became the Emperor Augustus, he designated Philippi a Roman military colony, sort of a mini-Rome in Macedonia. The infusion of Roman citizen soldiers changed Philippi from then on.**



# Colonia Iulia Augusta Philippensis



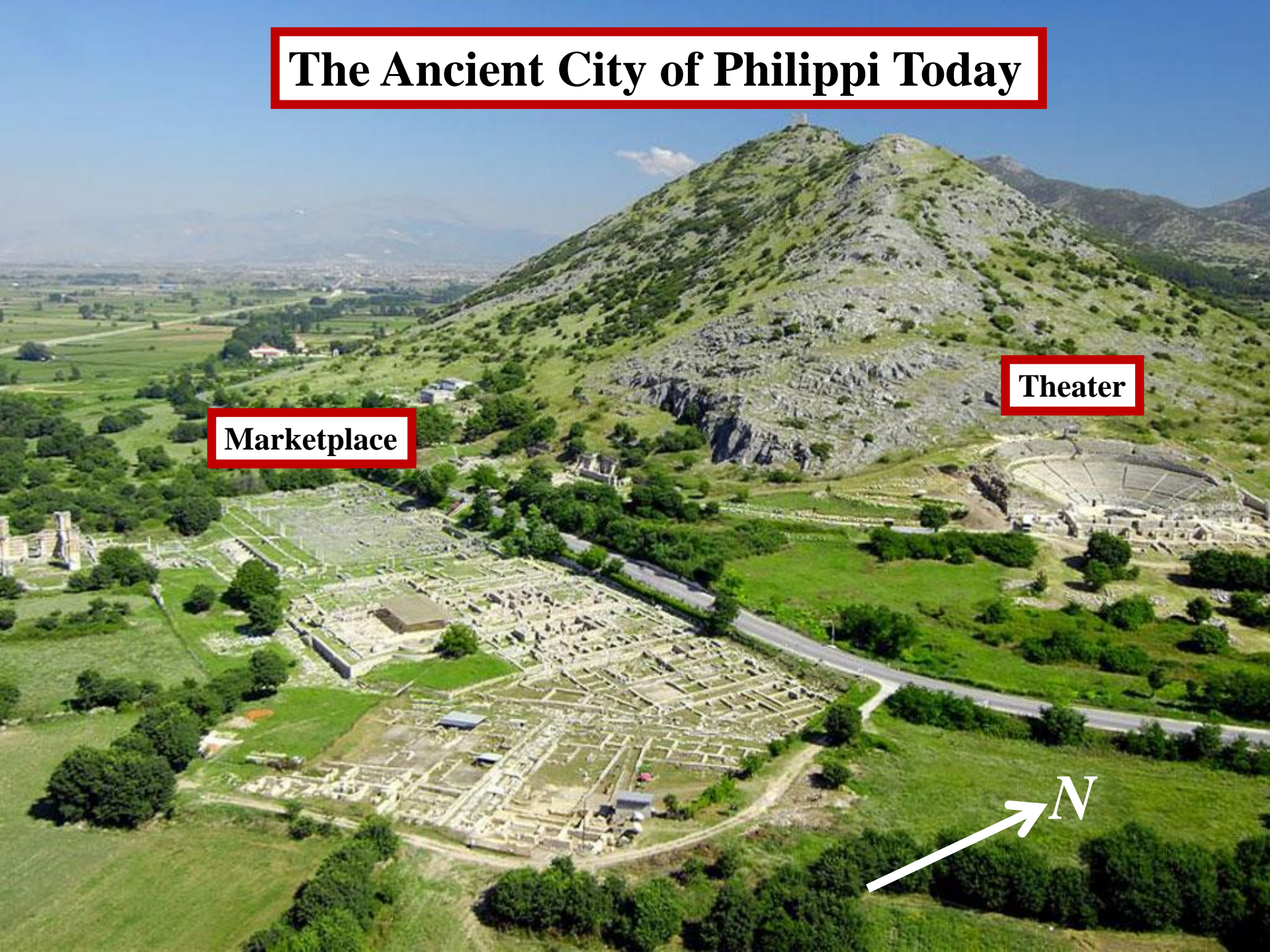


# The Ancient City of Philippi Today

Marketplace

Theater

N

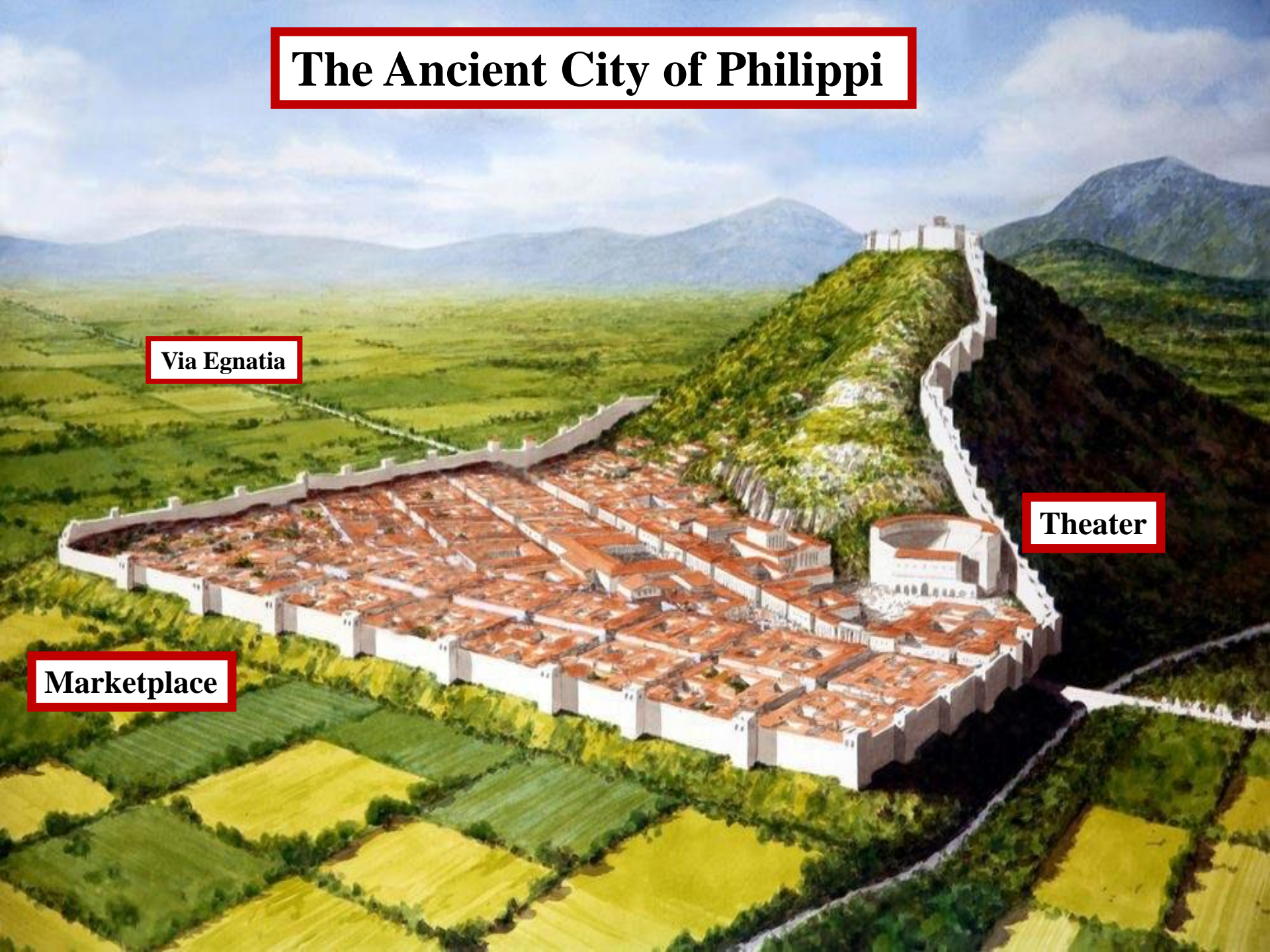


# The Ancient City of Philippi

Via Egnatia

Marketplace

Theater

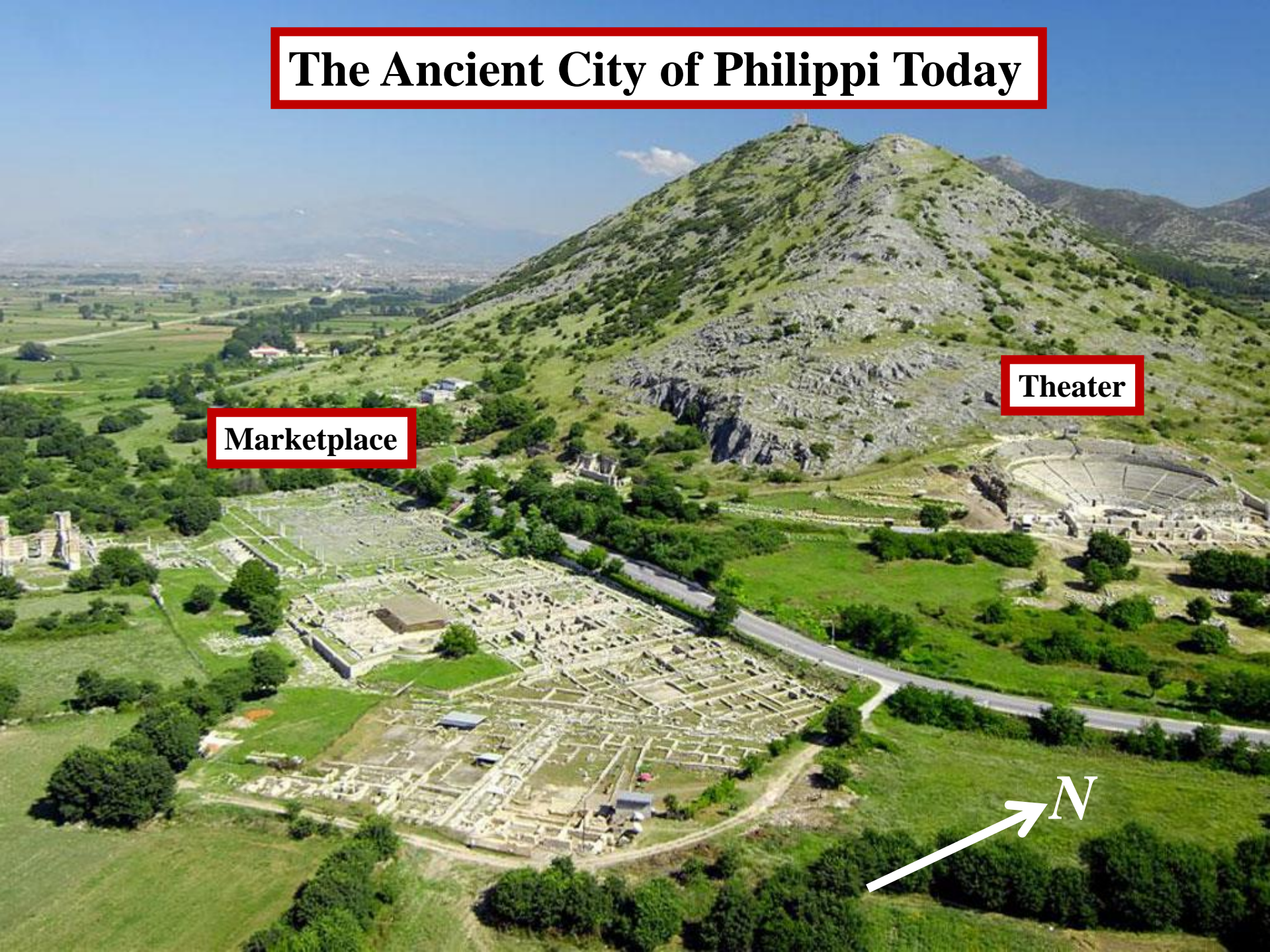


# The Ancient City of Philippi Today

Marketplace

Theater

N





**Baptismal Site**

**Via Egnatia**

**Museum**

**Marketplace**

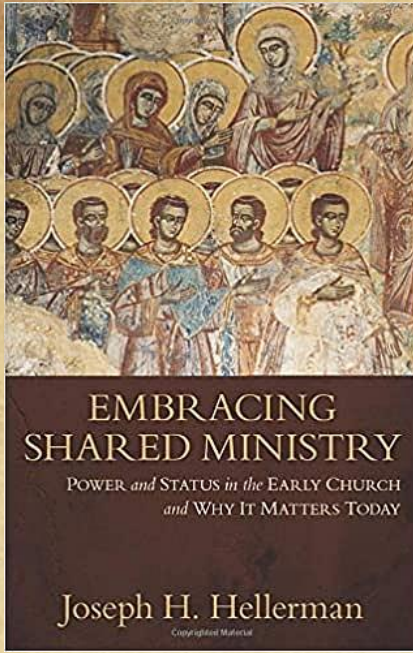
**Theater**



• Culture



*The Roman Empire  
was One of the Most  
Class Structured  
Societies in History*



*What determined one's  
place in society?*

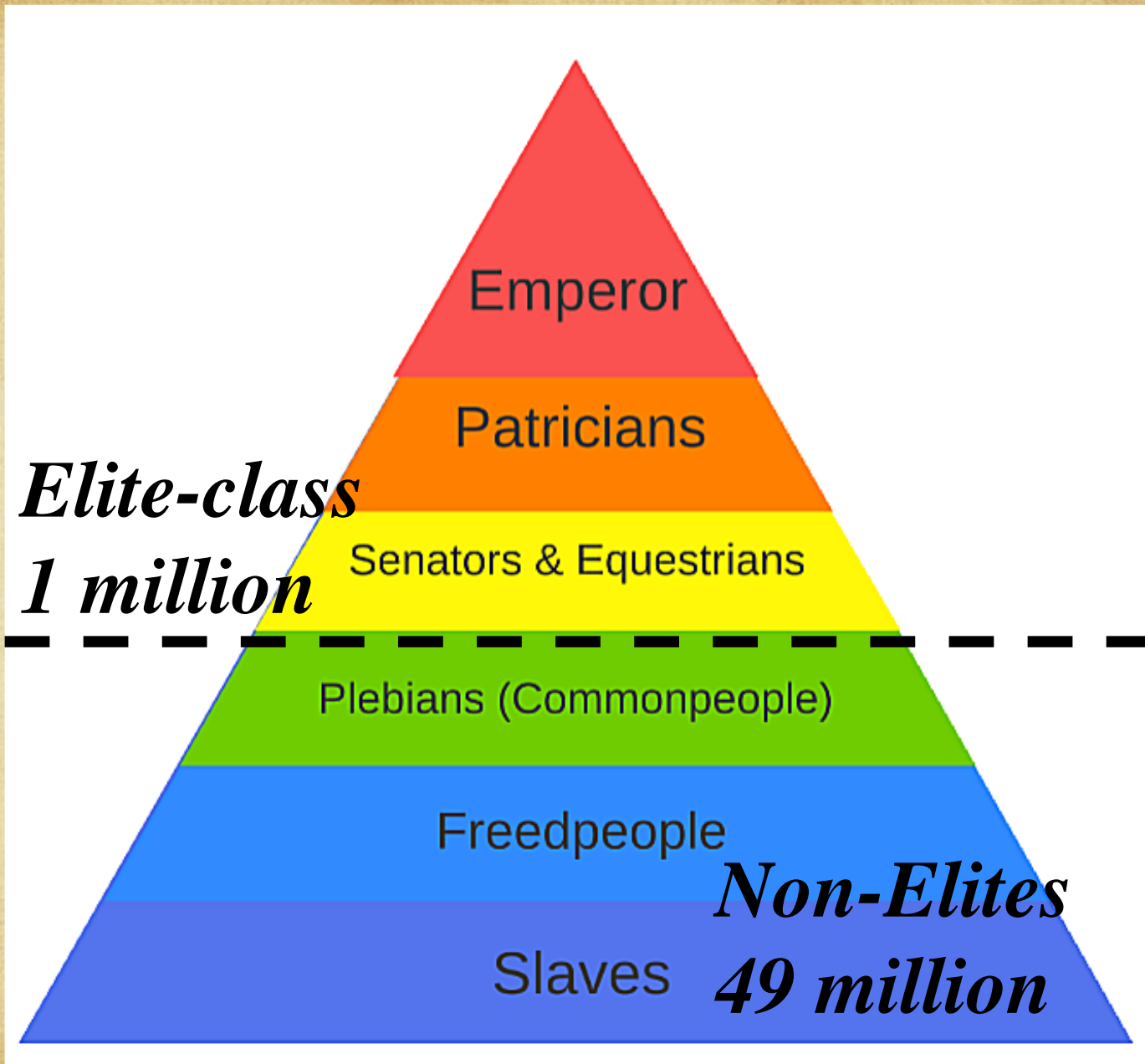
*Family (Tribe) and  
Wealth*



# The Roman Empire

*Roman society in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century was approximately 50 million according to Hellerman*

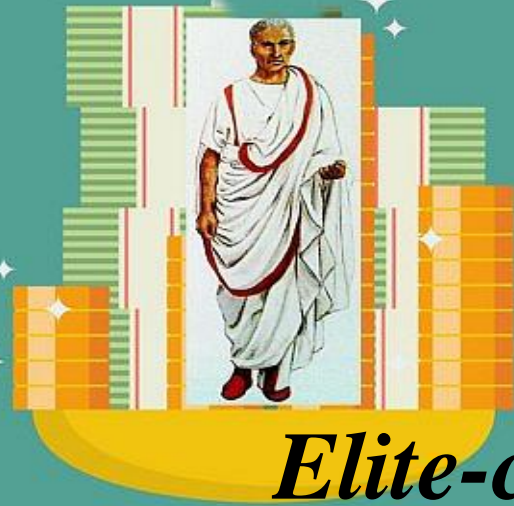




# Wealth



*Non-Elites*  
*49 million*



*Elite-class*  
*1 million*



*The Elite class controlled half the Empire's annual income.*

*Non-Elites  
49 million*



*Elite-class  
1 million*



*Honor and Status were  
the Goal for the Upper  
Class*



# *Wealth*



*Sesterce from the reign of Nero AD 64*

# *Wealth*




*Senators – 1,000,000*

*Equestrians – 400,000*

*Decurions – 200,000*



*Sesterce from the reign of Nero AD 64*



**Cursus  
Honorum**



**Consul**



**Legate**



**Proconsul**



**Praetor**



**Aedile**



**Quaestor**



**Vigintivir**





Caius Julius Cai, son of **Voltinia** Maximus, a distinguished man with a broad stake, honored by the late Pius, **quaestor, propraetor** in the province of Pontus and Bithynia, **The praetor-elect** was also **a member of the Council of Philippi**, and in the **province of Thrace for 35 years**: Caius Julius Teres was careful to make Thracians to his most pious brother



# *So why was Philippi so Roman?*

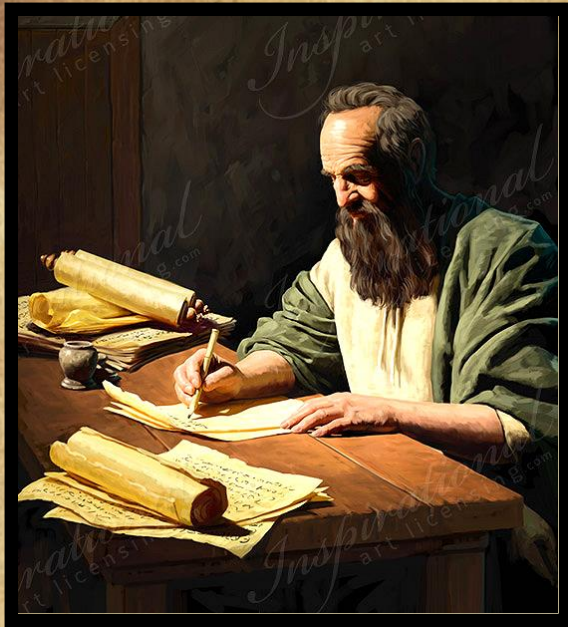
- *Almost 200 years of Roman domination*
- *Became a Roman Province in 146 BC*
- *Roman Governor Assigned*
- *Completion of the Egnatian Way in 120BC*
- *Influx of Roman veterans moving to the city (Twice)*
- *Local magistrates were two Roman military officers assigned by Rome.*

**Philippi: a “mini-Rome” in Macedonia**

*Honor and status that drove the Upper Class was duplicated to the classes below. Soon the class structure was spread across the Empire to places like Philippi.*



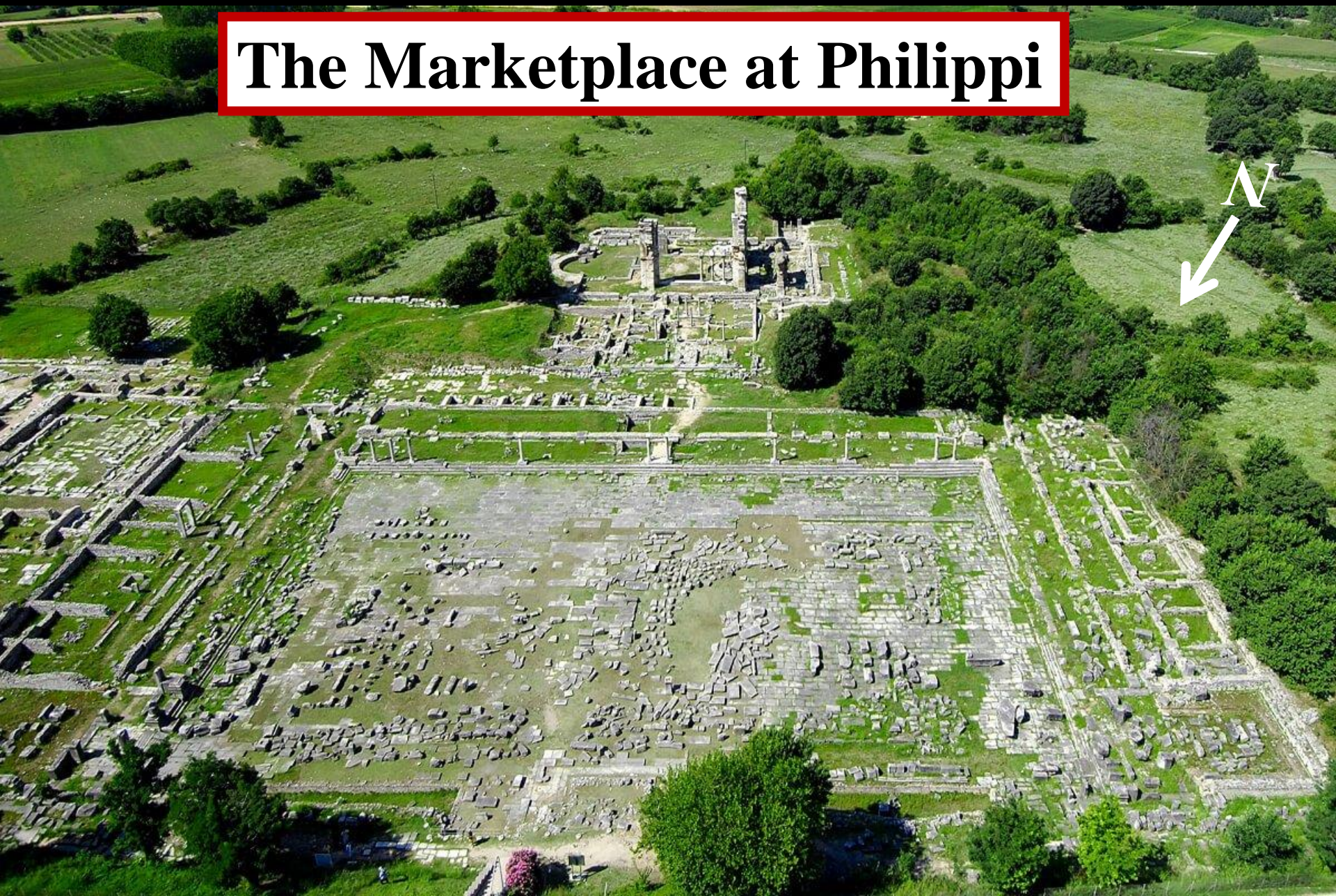
# • Evangelism Strategy



*Paul had an amazing grasp of Roman culture.*

*His understanding of that society enabled him to develop a church planting strategy that was both counter-cultural and cross-centered.*

# The Marketplace at Philippi



# **The Marketplace at Philippi**



**Paul was faced with planting a church in a culture that was driven by the pursuit of honor and status. But when he entered the marketplace that day, Paul had a plan and we begin to see it unfold in Acts 16 and in his letter to the Philippians**

*Philippians 4:1*

*Therefore, **my brothers and sisters**, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!*

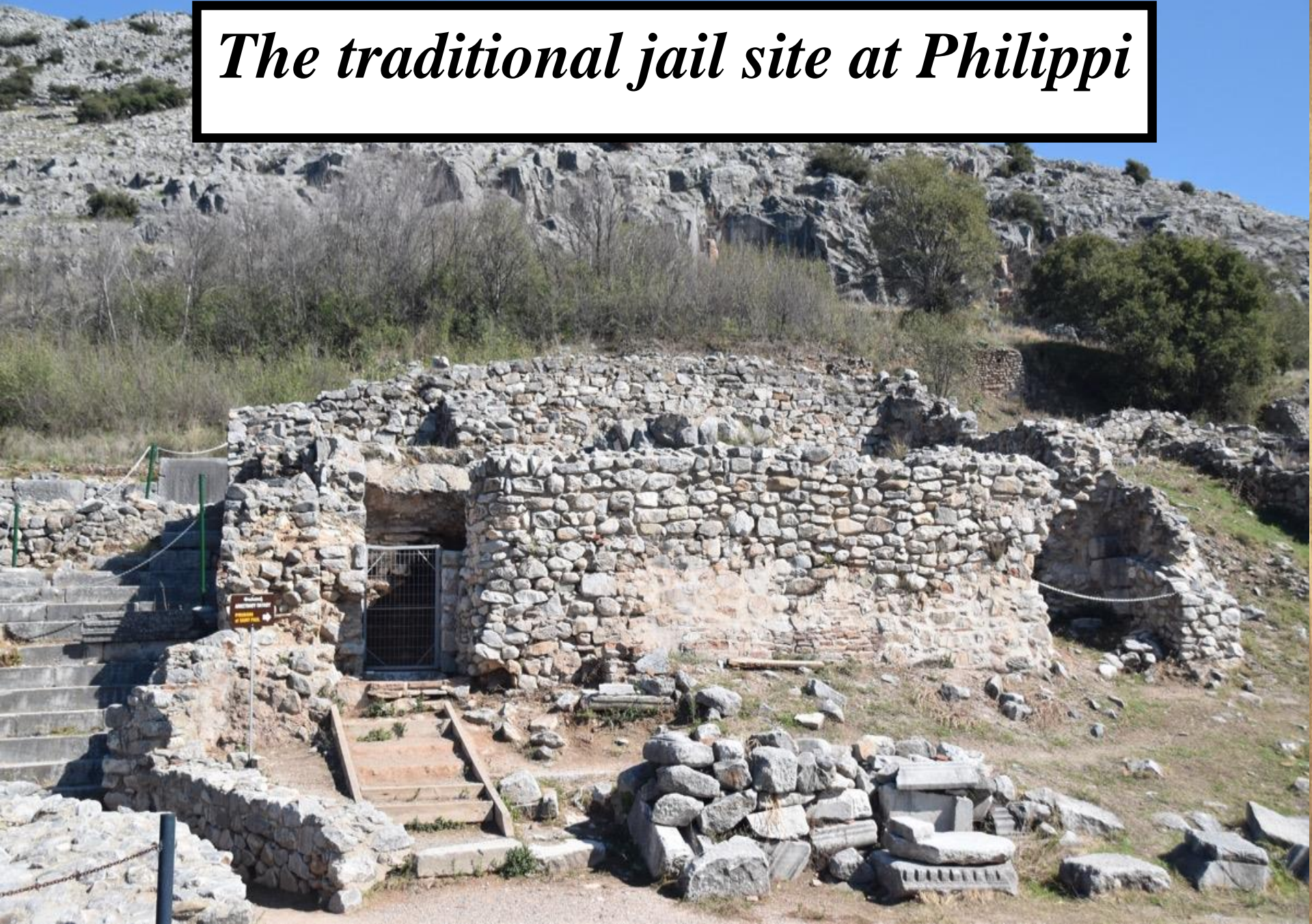
**Paul refers to the Church as family. In Roman society, all the struggling and competition to win more honor than the next guy did not apply within the family.**



## *Acts 16:22-23*

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and **The magistrates** ordered them to be **stripped and beaten with rods.** <sup>23</sup> After they had been **severely flogged**, they were **thrown into prison**

*The traditional jail site at Philippi*





## Phil 3:5-6

**<sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day,  
of the people of Israel,  
of the tribe of Benjamin,  
a Hebrew of Hebrews;  
in regard to the law, a  
Pharisee;  
<sup>6</sup> as for zeal, persecuting  
the church;  
as for righteousness based  
on the law, faultless.**

*Paul rejects the kind of self-promotion in Roman and Jewish culture that he talked about in Philippians 3:5-6*

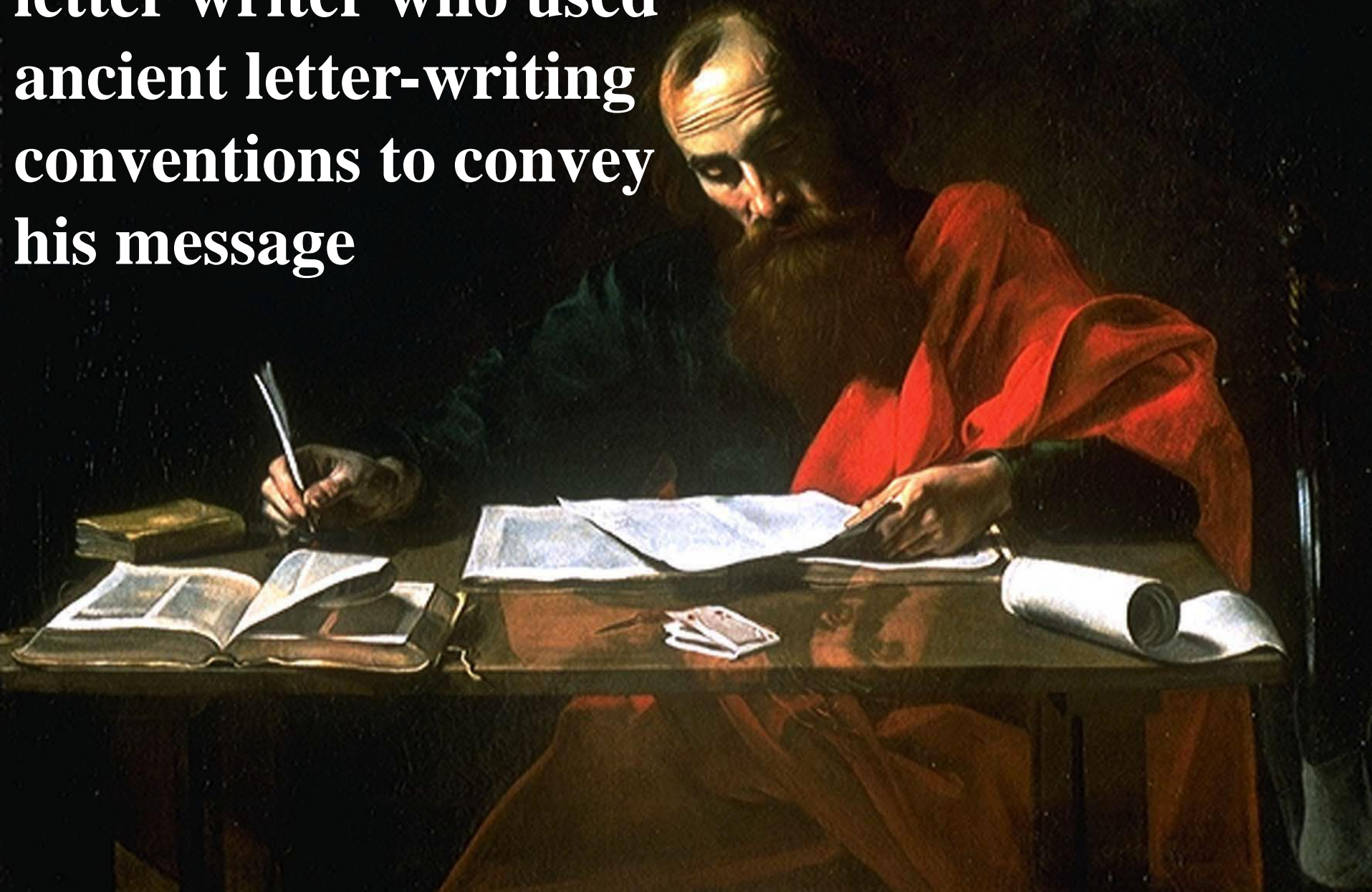
## Phil 3:7-9

*<sup>7</sup> But whatever were gains to me **I now consider loss** for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> What is more, **I consider everything a loss** because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake **I have lost all things. I consider them garbage**, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.*



# • Paul's Letter Structure

**Paul is considered a master letter writer who used ancient letter-writing conventions to convey his message**




The background of the slide is a dense, repeating pattern of stylized envelopes. Each envelope is depicted in a light gray color with black outlines, showing the characteristic triangular flap. The envelopes are scattered across the entire frame, creating a textured, geometric background.

**We have 100's of examples  
of Greco-Roman letters**





# Letter Opening Phil 1:1 - 2

- I. Introduction (1:1–11)
  - A. Greeting (1:1–2) 
  - B. Thanksgiving and Prayer for Participation in the Gospel (1:3–11)
- II. Paul's Circumstances and the Gospel (1:12–26)
  - A. The Gospel Continues to Advance (1:12–18c)
  - B. Paul's Future Expectations (1:18d–26)
- III. Body of the Letter (1:27–4:9)
  - A. Summary Exhortation to Unity and Steadfastness (1:27–30)
  - B. Unity Among Believers (2:1–30)
    - 1. Plea for Unity Through Humility (2:1–4)
    - 2. Christ Our Example (2:5–11)
    - 3. Humility Lived Out in Community with Others (2:12–18)
    - 4. Paul Commends Timothy as an Example of Humility (2:19–24)
    - 5. Paul Commends Epaphroditus as an Example of Humility (2:25–30)
  - C. Steadfastness Toward Opponents (3:1–4:1)
    - 1. Resisting the Opponents' Fleshly Confidence (3:1–16)
      - a. Paul's Relationship with Judaism (3:1–11)
      - b. Pressing Toward the Goal (3:12–16)
    - 2. Resisting the Opponents' Fleshly Behavior (3:17–4:1)
  - D. Final Words of Exhortation (4:2–9)
    - 1. Restoring a Broken Relationship (4:2–3)
    - 2. The Joy and Peace of Knowing Christ (4:4–7)
    - 3. The Common Good and the Apostle's Example (4:8–9)
- IV. Paul's Circumstances and the Philippians' Gift (4:10–20)
- V. Closing Greeting and Benediction (4:21–23)

*Today, it is widely recognized that the openings of the Pauline letters reflect many of the concerns raised in the letters themselves. The opening of Philippians contain three unique features that illustrate this.*

*Dr David Alan Black  
Linguistics for Students of New Testament Greek  
2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, pg 174*

1. *Paul breaks with his normal procedure and condescends to grant Timothy the same title as himself = slave*
2. *Paul uses the all-inclusive word “all” to address the readers – to all the saints*
3. *Paul singles out for special mention the overseers and deacons of the church and in so doing emphasizes that they are extensions of the church and not over it.*

*Dr David Alan Black  
Linguistics for Students of New Testament Greek  
2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, pg 174*

**1:1 Paul and Timothy, slaves of  
Christ Jesus, To all God's holy  
people in Christ Jesus at  
Philippi, together with the  
overseers and deacons <sup>2</sup> Grace  
and peace to you from God our  
Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ.**




**Paul levels the playing field in the Church. Everyone is equal. No better. No worse. There is no self-promotion, no honor-seeking like Roman culture. Status in the Body of Christ is MEANINGLESS. In contrast, we are to be humble and value others above ourselves.**



# Thanksgiving

## Phil 1:3-8

- I. Introduction (1:1–11)
  - A. Greeting (1:1–2) 
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## Introductory Thanksgiving

### Notice All The Unity Words

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God **every** time I remember you. <sup>4</sup> In **all** my prayers for **all** of you, I **always** pray with joy <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> It is right for me to feel this way about **all** of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, **all** of you share in God's grace with me. <sup>8</sup> God can testify how I long for **all** of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.



# Prayer

## Phil 1:9 - 11

# Intercessory Prayer

<sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,  
<sup>10</sup> so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.


# Love With the Brain Engaged

- **love may abound more and more**
- **knowledge**
  - Knowledge of God's will
  - how we need to change our behavior & thinking to conform to His will
- **depth of insight**
  - Insight that informs behavior
- **discern what is best**
  - Choose between what's good, better, or best



# Letter Body

## Phil 1:27-4:9

- I. Introduction (1:1–11)
  - A. Greeting (1:1–2)
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- **Resources**

*Joseph H. Hellerman*



EXEGETICAL  
GUIDE TO THE  
GREEK  
NEW  
TESTAMENT

# PHILIPPIANS

*Andreas J. Köstenberger*

*Robert W. Yarbrough*

GENERAL EDITORS





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*POWER and STATUS in the EARLY CHURCH  
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Joseph H. Hellerman



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A Survey of Basic Concepts  
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David Alan Black

Foreword by Moisés Silva

**See Chapter 7**  
**Discourse**  
**Analysis**  
**pp 170 - 198**

CHRISTOPHER D. STANLEY



A ROOSTER  
FOR  
ASKLEPIOS



BOOK ONE IN THE  
A SLAVE'S STORY TRILOGY





**May 2015**



**May 2015**

# PHILIPPIANS

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To Live Is Christ

**The End**

**The End**