

GREECE

HISTORY OF ATHENS. Named after goddess Athene, capital of Attica. Acropolis is 512 ft high. Founded 1558. Worship of Athene or Minerva est. by Erechtheus, 1383 BC. Theseus ascended throne 1235. In 1069 kings succeeded by archons. After victory over Persians at Marathon in 490 and at Salamis in 480 Athenians est. small empire. Had to surrender to Sparta in 404 B.C. Captured by Roman general Sulla in 86 B.C. and under Roman rule when P came. Platonism, Epicureanism and Stoicism flourished at time of P. *Pop. 2 mill. Grues - 8,357 on.*

BIBLICAL REFERENCES. Acts 17:15, 16, 22; 18:1; 1 Thess. 3:1.
P came on 2nd miss. journey. Macedonian call--Philippi, Thess, Berea, Athens. Prob August 51 and P about 50 years old. Alone (1 Thess 3).

STATISTICS. Less than 800 mi from Is to Athens. Buildings restricted to 92 ft so as not to obscure Parthenon. Of 8 mill in Greece, 97% belong to Greek Orthodox Church. Evangelicals in jail often. Use newspaper evangelism. 1½+ in Athens. Land in city as scarce as in N.Y.

SITES. Stadium. Built 1896 for Olympic games out of Pentelic marble (same as used for ancient temples.) On site of ancient stadium from before P's day. Seats 70,000.

Parthenon. Completed in 9 yrs in 438 B.C. Lines curved slightly; columns tapered; flutes diminished in width to eliminate optical illusion. On platform 228x100, 46 Doric columns. In nave once stood gold and ivory statue of Athena, 42½ high. In 5th c. A.D. converted into Xn ch and later a mosque. Turks stored explosives there and when Venetians besieged them, ignited and ruins.

Temple of Zeus begun in 514 B.C. and completed in 135 A.D. under Hadrian. Outer structure and marble roof complete in P's day.

Temple of Theseus. 5th c B.C. 34 Doric columns. Friezes depict deeds of Theseus.

Erechtheum. Burned in 480 B.C. by Persians and replaced 420 by present temple. On south side is porch of Maidens of Caryatids

Propylaea. Gateway to Acropolis. Built in 5 yrs, 437 B.C.

Mars' Hill. Hill of Ares, Greek god of war = Roman Mars. 377 ft high NW of Acropolis. Refers either to the hill or to the court which met there. Sometimes met in Royal Stoa which is NW corner of agora. Interested in educational and religious matters in P's day. Formerly a supreme court.

Agora. Acts 17:17, P met daily there.