



[Noble \(Apollos\)](#)

Selected texts

Wayne Braudrick

June 14, 2026

[Life Change: We are noble friends of the Lord](#)

Public Virtue cannot exist in a Nation without private [Virtue], and public Virtue is the only Foundation of Republics...There have been [several] Nations to display this Character, but they are no more. Our dear Americans perhaps have as much of it [Virtue] as any Nation now existing, and New England perhaps has more than the rest of America. But I have seen all along my Life, such Selfishness, and Littleness even in New England, that I sometimes tremble to think that, although We are engaged in the best Cause that ever employed the Human Heart, yet the Prospect of success is doubtful not for Want of Power or of Wisdom, but of Virtue. – John Adams to Mercy Warren

Noble: 1) having excellent moral character 2) relating to high moral principles 3) *Noah Webster 1828* A gold coin, the noble. This coin represents true nobility as our lives should be pure gold, refined by scripture to remove impurities.

Apollos

Acts 18:24-28

Mastery of the scriptures

Apollos

Acts 18:24-28

Teachable

Fervent in Spirit

Careful regarding truth

Courageous

1 Cor 1:11-13, 16:12

My quest for nobility

How knowledgeable am I in the scriptures?

1 2 3 4 5

How teachable am I?

1 2 3 4 5

How fervent am I in the Spirit?

1 2 3 4 5

How careful am I regarding truth?

1 2 3 4 5

How courageous am I?

1 2 3 4 5

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PAUL'S VALUABLE PARTNERS

V I R T U S

Aquila & Priscilla

John Mark

EPAPHRAS

Luke



Typollos

Epaphroditus

Titus **TIMOTHY**

Barnabas

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE

VIRTUS = the character traits that comprise the strength of society. These personal traits make for powerful relationships that change the world.

**Virtus celebrated on an AD
305 Roman coin**



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– John Adams to Mercy Otis Warren





**“The prospect of success is doubtful for want of Virtue.”
When you see public virtues eroding, it is always because relationships are weak. And relationships are weakened by a lack of private *virtus*.**

Dependable – Luke

Noble – Apollos

Industrious – Epaphroditus

Encouraging – Barnabas

Refreshing – Titus

Maturing – John Mark & Timothy

Unifying – Aquila & Priscilla

Gracious – Epaphras

**Virtues in Paul's
Friends**



Bouheliier Esc^r. Seig^r de Discouret et de
e, Roij et Heraut d'Armes de sa Mat^e es Pais
du Pais et Comte d'Artois est tres ancien
face source de l'Artois et Couleues a
equins aise Metaux et depeintes et
elles ont eij dessus depeintes et
ces nobles, comme a cell
et que dicelle Sa
la Ville

courtesy historic New Orleans; This must be Charlie Brown's family crest!

Christians can find true nobility through spiritual means only.

WILLIAM
LANGLAND'S

Piers Plowman

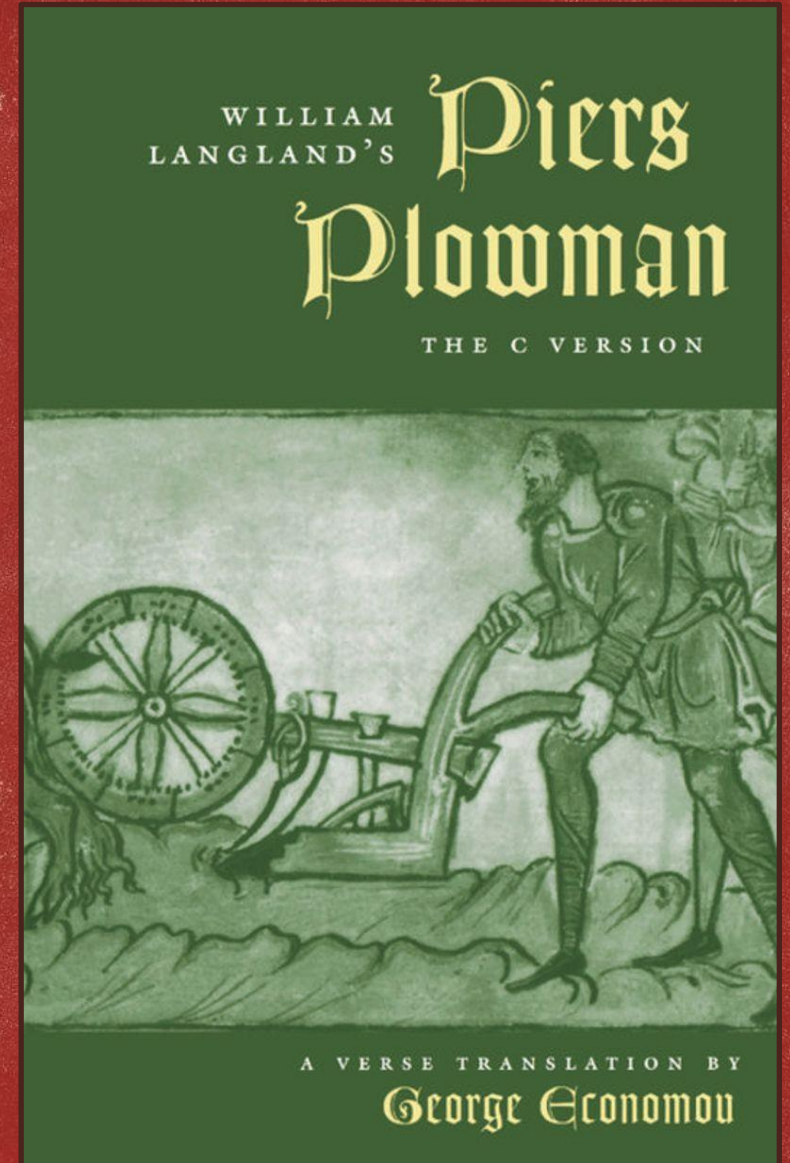
THE C VERSION



A VERSE TRANSLATION BY

George Economou

The Knight realizes that Piers – a simple plowman – is his superior on the scale of true nobility. In response, the Knight offers to plow Piers' field. The Plowman, however, graciously refuses the offer and urges the Knight to fulfill his proper earthly role instead. His role is to protect Piers while he plows. – WB summary of "Passus 6" in *Piers Plowman*



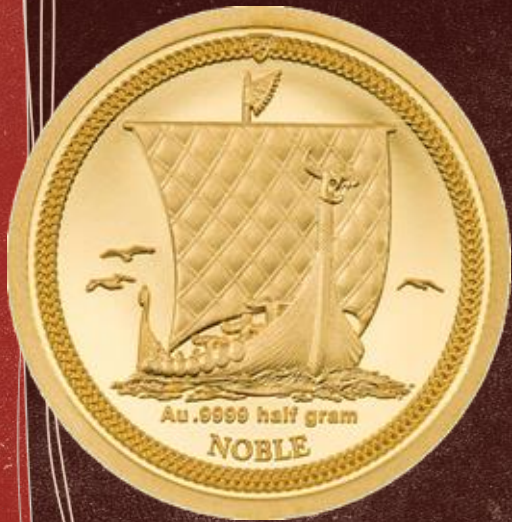
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3) A gold coin, the noble. This coin represents true nobility as our lives should be pure gold, refined by scripture to remove impurities. – Noah Webster, 1828



18:24 Now a Jew named Apollos, a native Alexandrian, an eloquent man who was competent in the use of the Scriptures, arrived in Ephesus. ²⁵ He had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately about Jesus, although he knew only John's baptism. ²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue.

MATT

MARK

LUKE

JOHN

ACTS

ROM

1 COR

2 COR

GAL

After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the way of God to him more accurately.

²⁷ When he wanted to cross over to Achaia, the brothers and sisters wrote to the disciples to welcome him. After he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. ²⁸ For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating through the Scriptures that Jesus is the Messiah.



Apollos:

- Grows up in Alexandria
- Likely schooled in rhetoric
- Learns about Jesus through the work of John the Baptizer
- Believes in Jesus as Messiah
- Masters scripture, speaking truth about Jesus



Alexandria

1st c. Greco-Roman world

24 Now a Jew named Apollos, a native Alexandrian, an eloquent man who was competent in the use of the Scriptures, arrived in Ephesus.

**Greek: ἀνὴρ λόγιος aner logios = a man of words;
one at home with expressions that have meaning**

Acts 18 CSB

%#)&%&!



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= a person of words; one at
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Acts 18 CSB

59:12 For the sin of their mouths
and the words of their lips,
let them [evildoers] be caught in
their pride.

They utter curses and lies.

94:4 They pour out arrogant words;
all the evildoers boast.

19:14 May the words of my
mouth and the meditation of
my heart be acceptable to you,
Lord, my rock and my
Redeemer.

24 Now a Jew named Apollos, a native Alexandrian, an eloquent man who was competent in the use of the Scriptures, arrived in Ephesus.

Greek: δυνατός dunatos = dynamic, competent at a high level. Apollos is powerful, dynamic, in biblical exposition. He is mighty in the scriptures.

Acts 18 CSB



courtesy altyba



courtesy istock

Greek:

άνήρ λόγιος aner logios = a man of words; one at home with expressions that have meaning

δυνατός dunatos = dynamic, competent at a high level



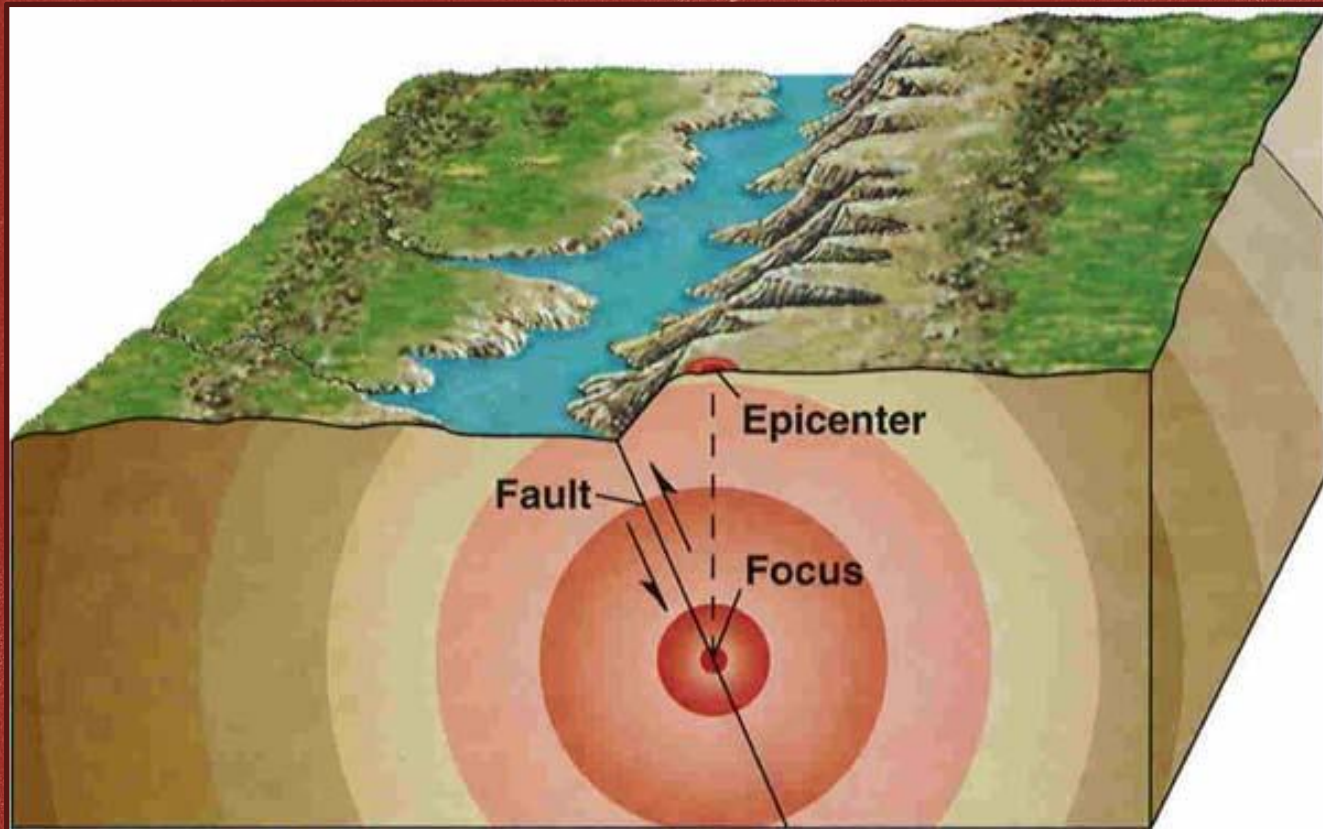
28 For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating through the Scriptures that Jesus is the Messiah.

Greek: ἐπιδείκνυμι epideiknymi = demonstrating

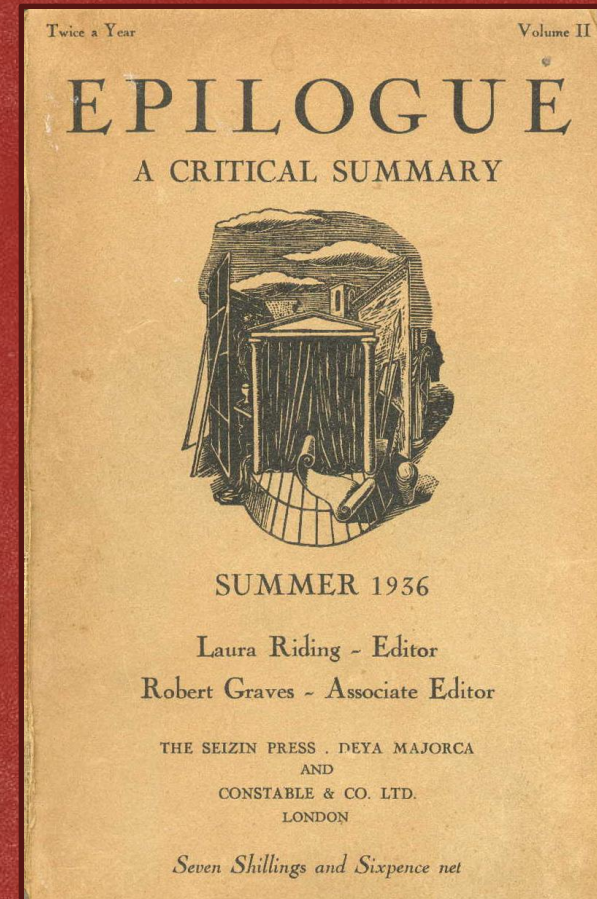
- **Deiknuo = one who shows**
- **Epi is a preposition the Greeks combined with words to heighten the impact.**

Acts 18 CSB

Epi = heightened



Epi-center



Epi-logue

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Acts 18 CSB

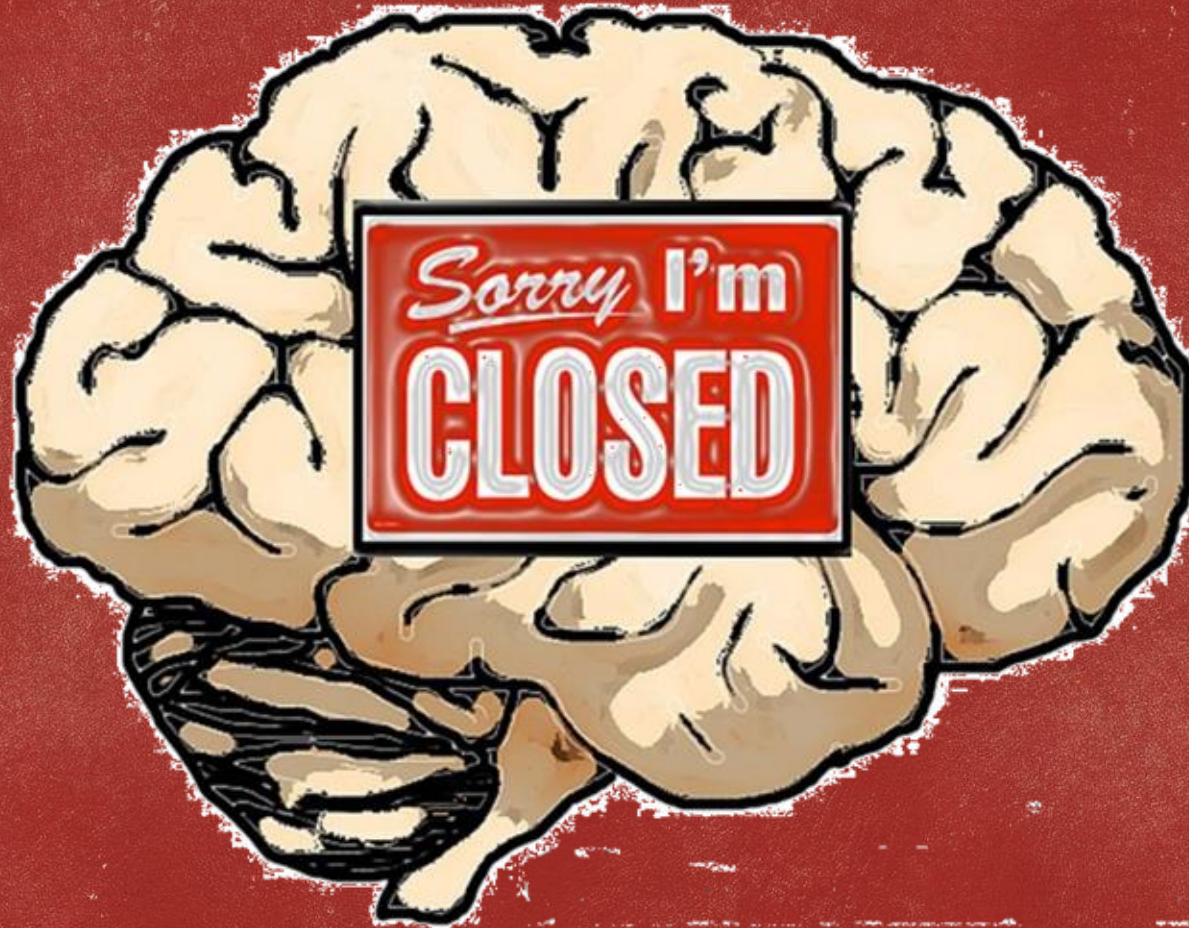
25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately about Jesus, although he knew only John's baptism. 26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the way of God to him more accurately.

Acts 18 CSB

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Acts 18 CSB

One of the main reasons nobility lacks in our day: we are lazy & prideful know-it-alls.





Sir, the author writes terribly. He's somehow boring and argumentative at the same time.





**Did it occur to you that I might have assigned it for that very reason?
I thought reading Berkouwer might serve as mirror for the boring & tendentious nature of your own papers.**

26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the way of God to him more accurately.

Acts 18 CSB



courtesy hopenm

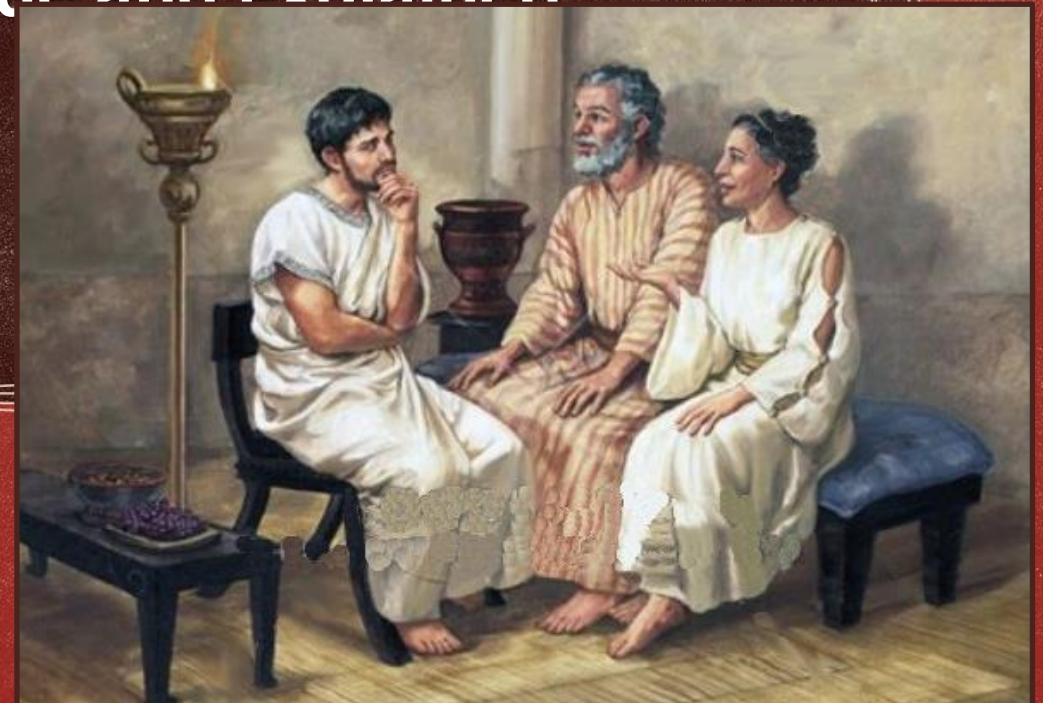
²⁵ He...knew only John's baptism... ²⁶ After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the way of God to him more accurately.

Acts 18 CSB

¹⁹ "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28 CSB

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**Apollos is a lively, affectionate preacher.
– Matthew Henry, *Acts***



courtesy NBA

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Acts 18 CSB



Pastor Wayne, a friend from church here, an Air Force officer home on leave, shared at dinner that his 18-year-old brother came home for Thanksgiving with a surprise. He unbuttoned his shirt to reveal big letters tattooed collarbone to collarbone reading "Georgius V D. G. Britt. Omn. Rex F. D. Ind. Imp." The teen said he got the tattoo while away for his first semester as a college freshman.

Aghast, the parents asked what it meant and the teen said it was Latin for “Whatever it is, it will take much work to discover.” The older and more learned siblings and their scholarly wives said that was certainly not correct. The teen protested and said the translation was done by a scholar they all respected, a local pastor.

After further questions, the 18-year-old explained that the saying came off an old British coin owned by his college roommate. Thinking it sounded cool but not mentioning it might be tattooed onto his body, the teen had emailed the pastor on a Sunday afternoon asking him what the Latin meant. The pastor was always exhausted after services and traditionally rested and did nothing Sunday afternoons.

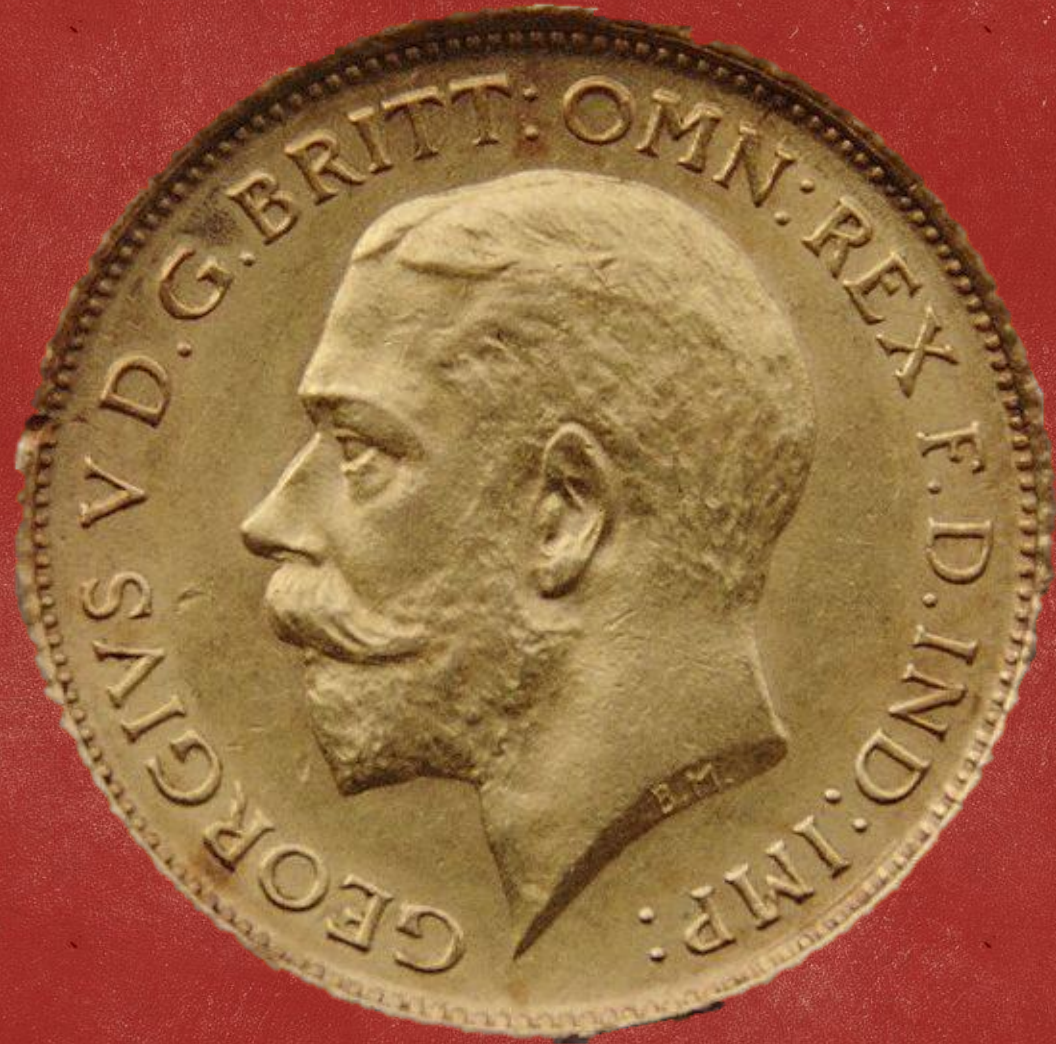
Hey pastor: can you please tell me what this means?

*“Georgius V D. G. Britt. Omn. Rex F. D. Ind. Imp.” Thanks,
Andrew*

*Dear Andrew, I am really tired this afternoon. Whatever
it is, it will take much work to discover.*

Love, Pastor

**George V, by the grace of
God, of all the Britains
king, defender of the
faith, Emperor of India**

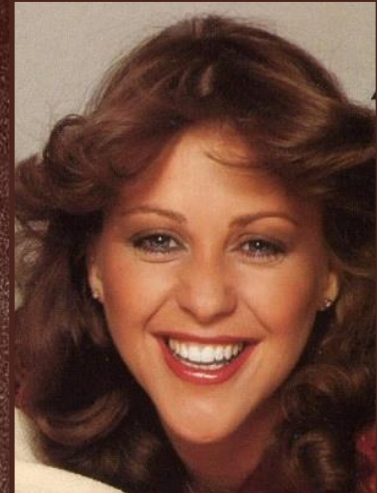




25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately about Jesus, although he knew only John's baptism.

Acts 18 CSB

**You've got to find it in the Word, my brother
Find it in the Word
Makes no difference what you've heard
You've got to find it in the Word
Whether you hear it from a brother
Whether you hear it from this world
If it's not in the Word
No matter what you've heard
It can't be of the Lord
"Find It in the Word" by Jayne Farrell**



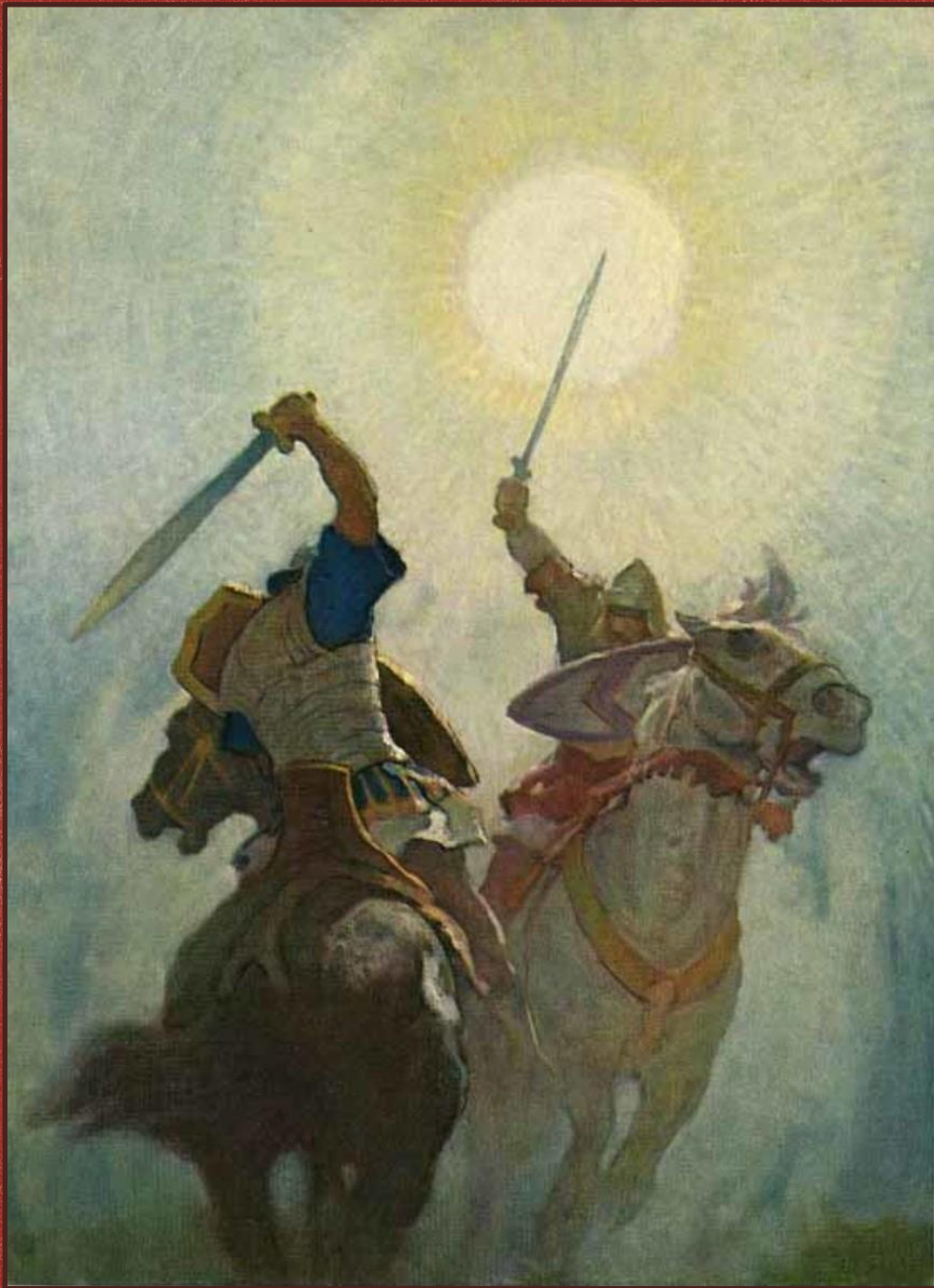
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Acts 18 CSB



²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue.





Knights Fighting
NC Wyeth
1923



courtesy Samaritan's Purse



courtesy TIME



courtesy The White House

11 For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters, by members of Chloe's people, that there is rivalry among you. **12** What I am saying is this: One of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." **13** Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in Paul's name?

1 Corinthians 1 CSB

1:11 For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters, by members of Chloe's people, that there is rivalry among you.

12 What I am saying is this: One of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ."

13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in Paul's name?

16:12 Now about our brother Apollos: I strongly urged him to come to you with the brothers, but he was not at all willing to come now.

1 Corinthians CSB



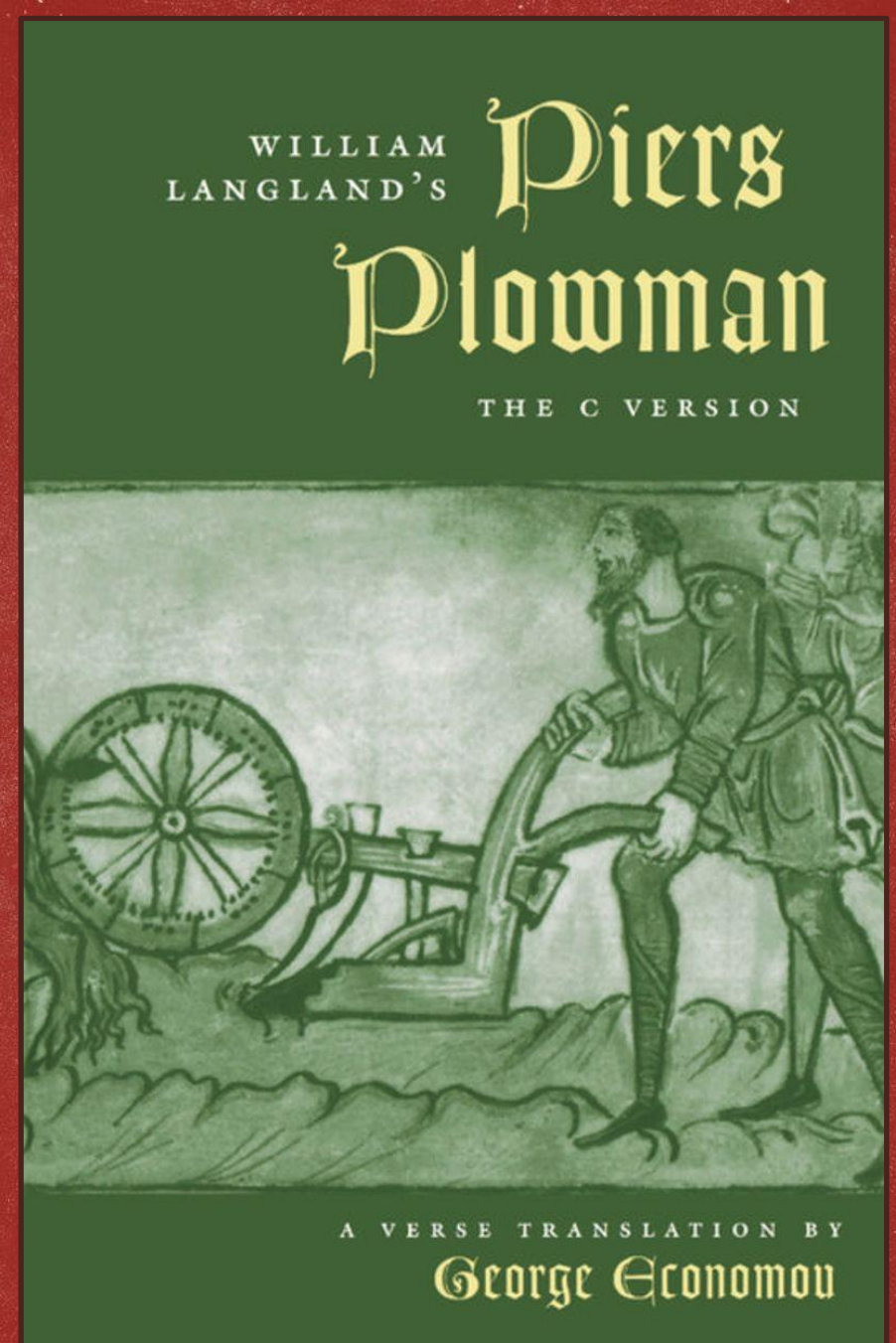
courtesy Frisco First



Real courage is being an effective pastor in our roles. That's what I like about us, Wayne, we're courageous enough to just fulfill our calling without seeking to become some kind of famous "brand." – Chuck Martin

The simple unsophisticated heart of the ploughman is held forth as the dwelling of virtue and truth. It was the ploughman, and not the pope with his proud hierarchy, who represented on earth the Noble Saviour.

– Thomas Wright, “Introduction to Piers Plowman” in 1877



My quest for nobility must involve:

- **Mastery of the Bible**
- **Teachability**
- **Fervency in Spirit**
- **Carefulness regarding truth**
- **Courage**

How knowledgeable am I in the scriptures?

1

2

3

4

5

Little knowledge

Mastery

How teachable am I?

1

2

3

4

5

Lazy &/or prideful

Humble

Apollos was hot for the Lord. How fervent am I in the Spirit?

1

2

3

4

5

Cold

**In step with
the Spirit**

How careful am I regarding truth?

1

2

3

4

5

Flippant

**Testing everything
against the Bible**

How courageous am I?

1

2

3

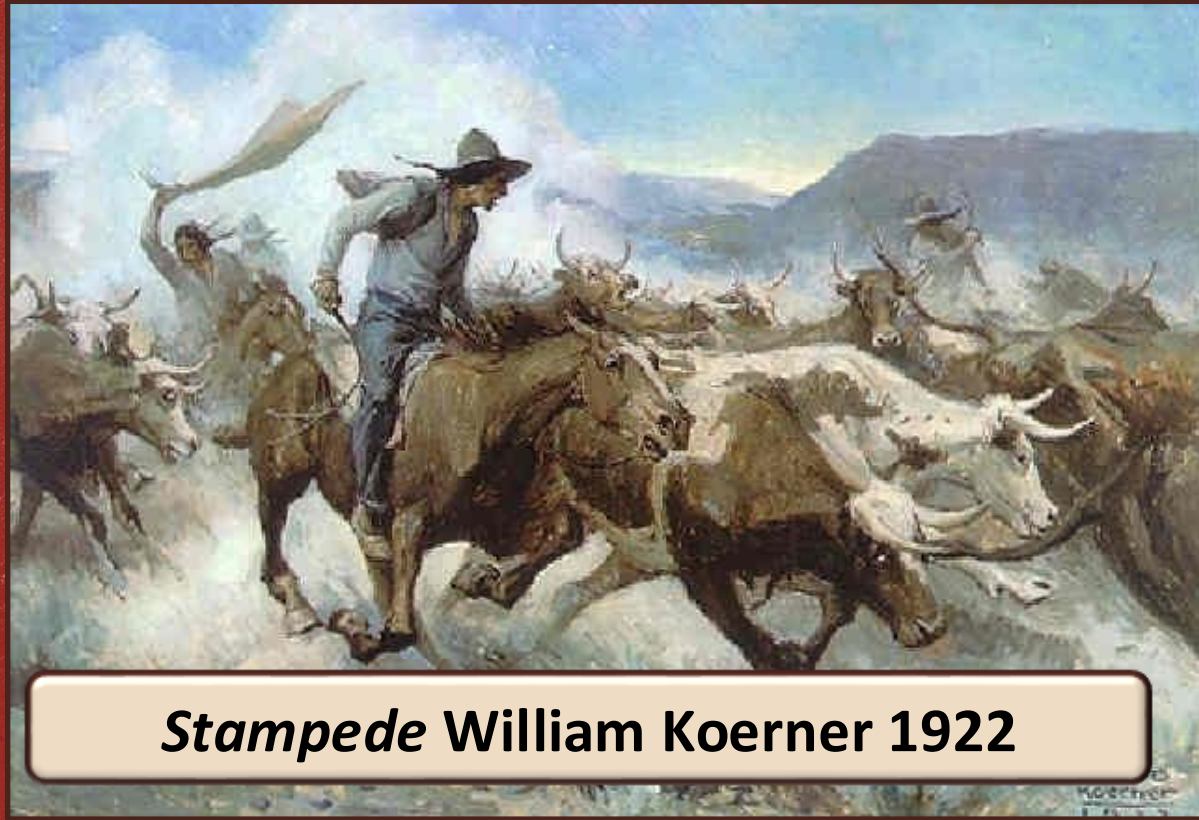
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5

Hiding behind
a "brand"

Living according
to my calling

Driven animals run in fear.



***Stampede* William Koerner 1922**

Called run to the caller.



PAUL'S VALUABLE PARTNERS

V I R T U S

Aquila & Priscilla

John Mark

EPAPHRAS

Luke



Apollos

Epaphroditus

Titus **TIMOTHY**

Barnabas