

Philippians



The background image shows the archaeological site of Philippi. In the foreground, there are stone walls and a dirt path. Several tall, weathered columns stand in the middle ground. In the background, a large, rocky hill rises under a clear blue sky.

Philippians

Bringing the Letter **Alive**



Background



Background

koinonia



A photograph of ancient ruins, likely a temple or public building, featuring several tall, weathered stone columns. The ruins are set against a backdrop of a steep, rocky mountain under a clear blue sky. The foreground shows a dirt path and low stone walls. The text "Background" is overlaid in a white box in the top left corner.

Background

koinonia

God at work

Background



A wide-angle photograph of the ancient ruins of Philippi. In the foreground, there are low stone walls and a dirt path. Several tall, weathered columns stand in the middle ground. The background features a large, rocky hill under a clear blue sky.

Background

Welcome to Philippi!



Google

Imagery ©2021 Landsat / Copernicus, Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, IBCAO, U.S. Geological Survey, Map data ©2021

[United States](#)

[Terms](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Send feedback](#)

500 mi



Google



Google

Imagery ©2021 Landsat / Copernicus, Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO, Map data ©2021

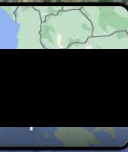
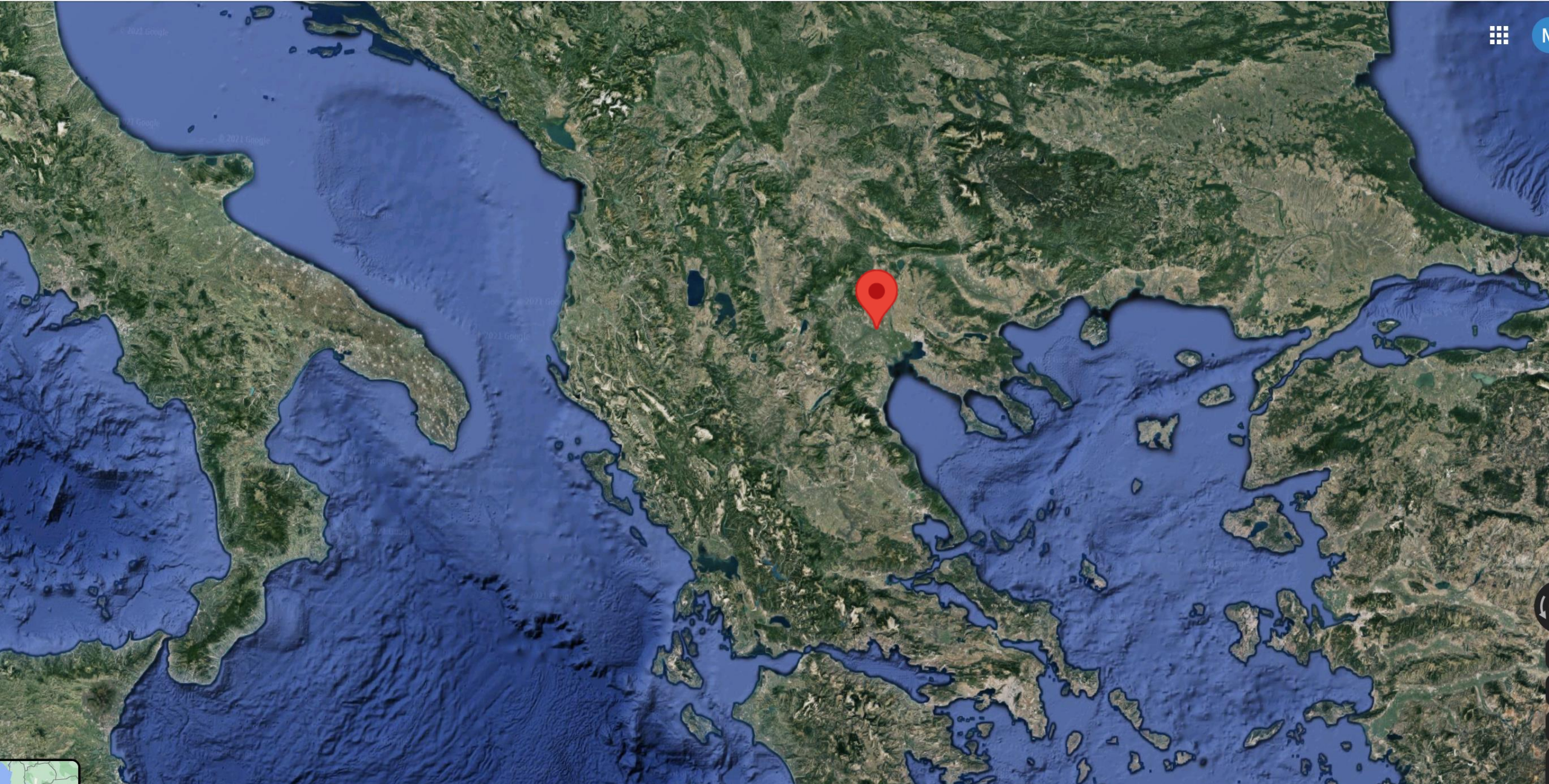
United States

[Terms](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Send feedback](#)

50 mi

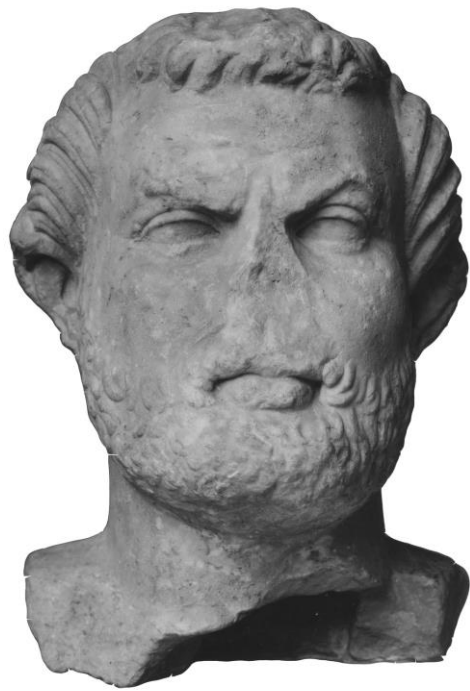


Google



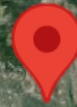
Pella

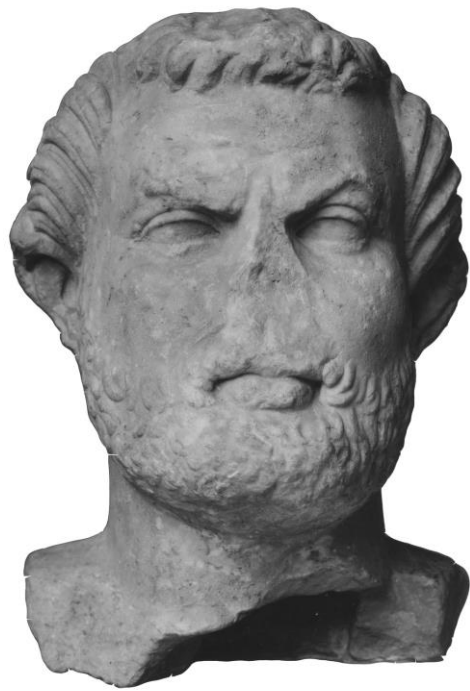
Google



Philip II of
Macedon

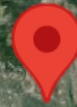
Pella





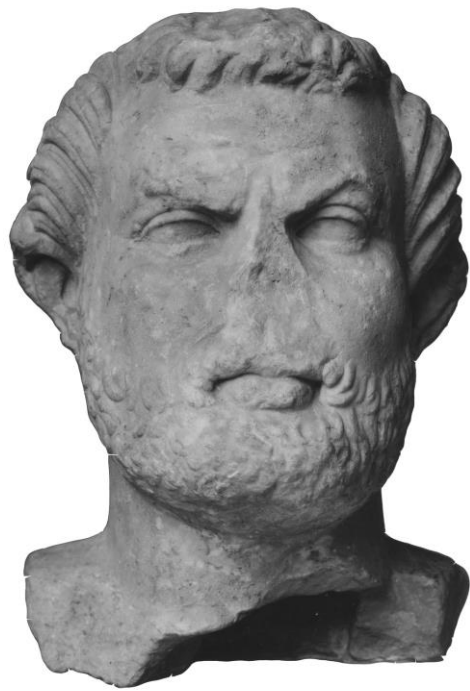
Philip II of
Macedon

Pella



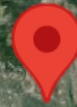
382

336



Philip II of
Macedon

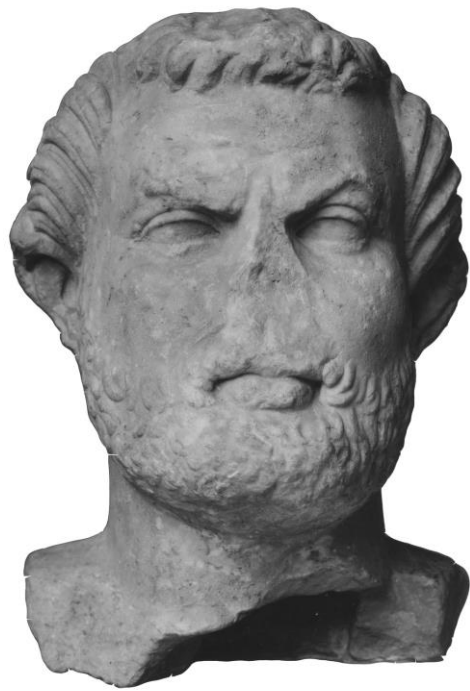
Pella



Philip II

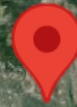
382

336



Philip II of
Macedon

Pella

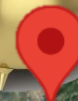
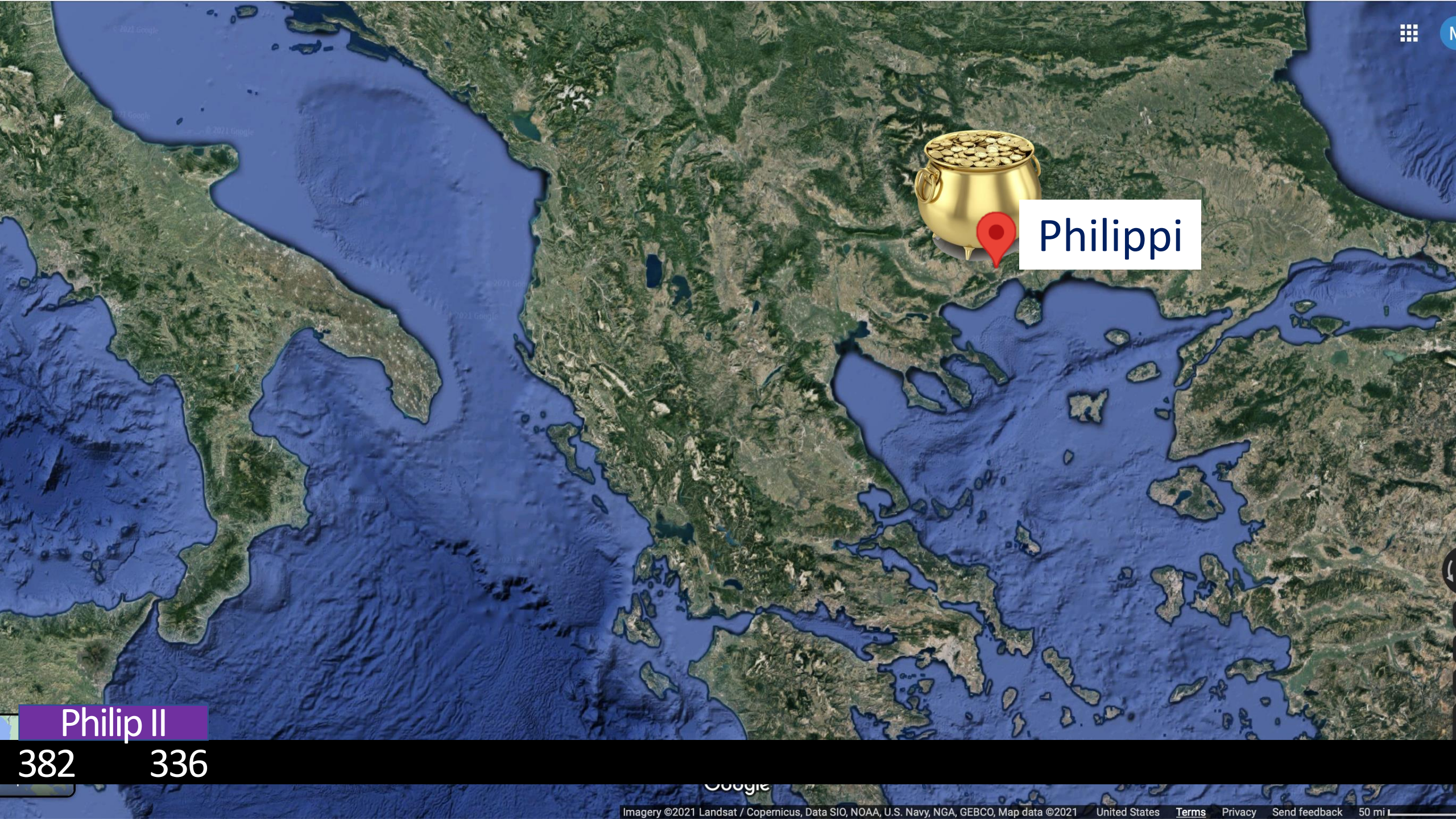


Philippi

Philip II

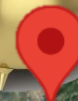
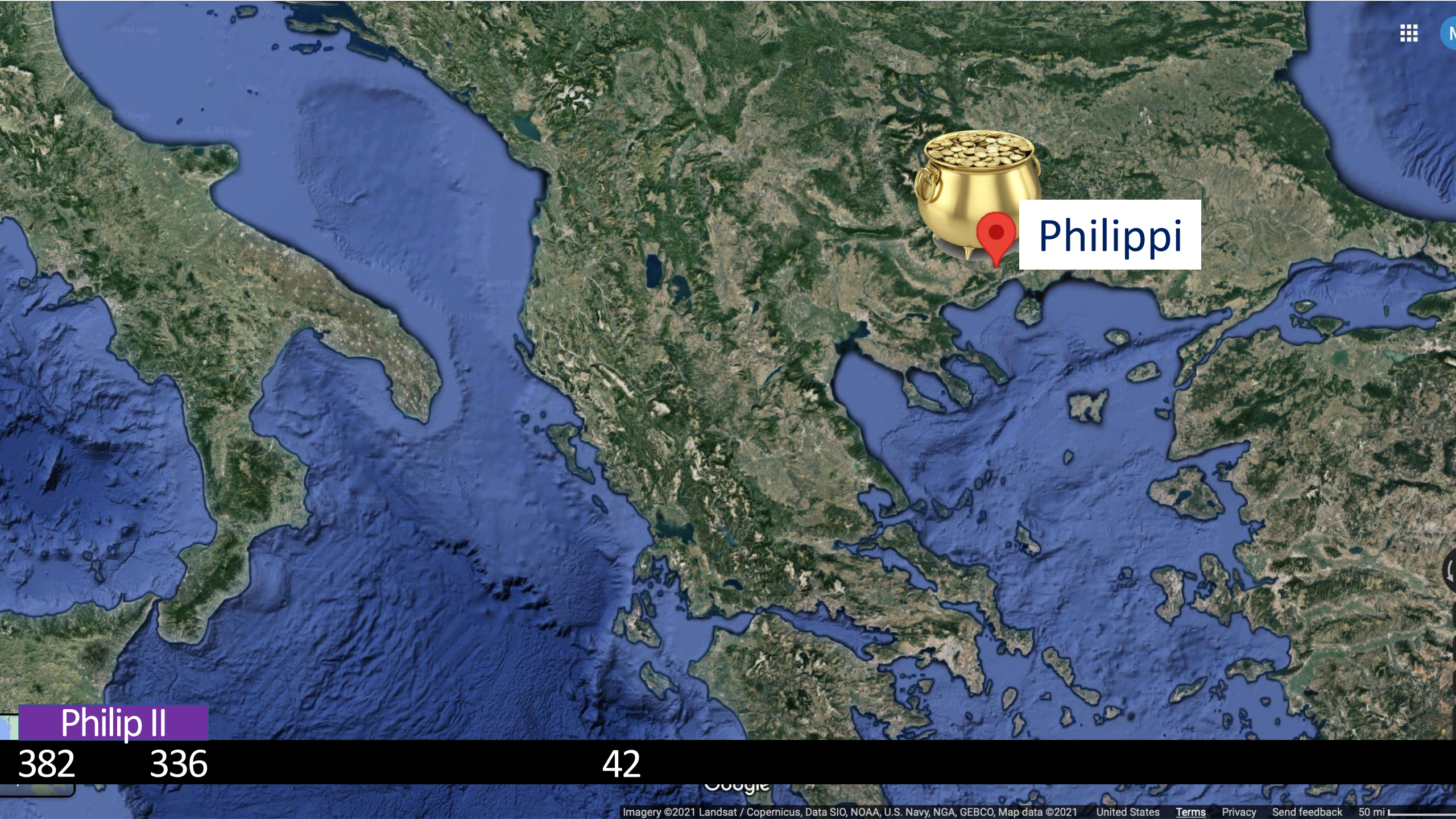
382

336



Philippi

Philip II
382 336



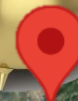
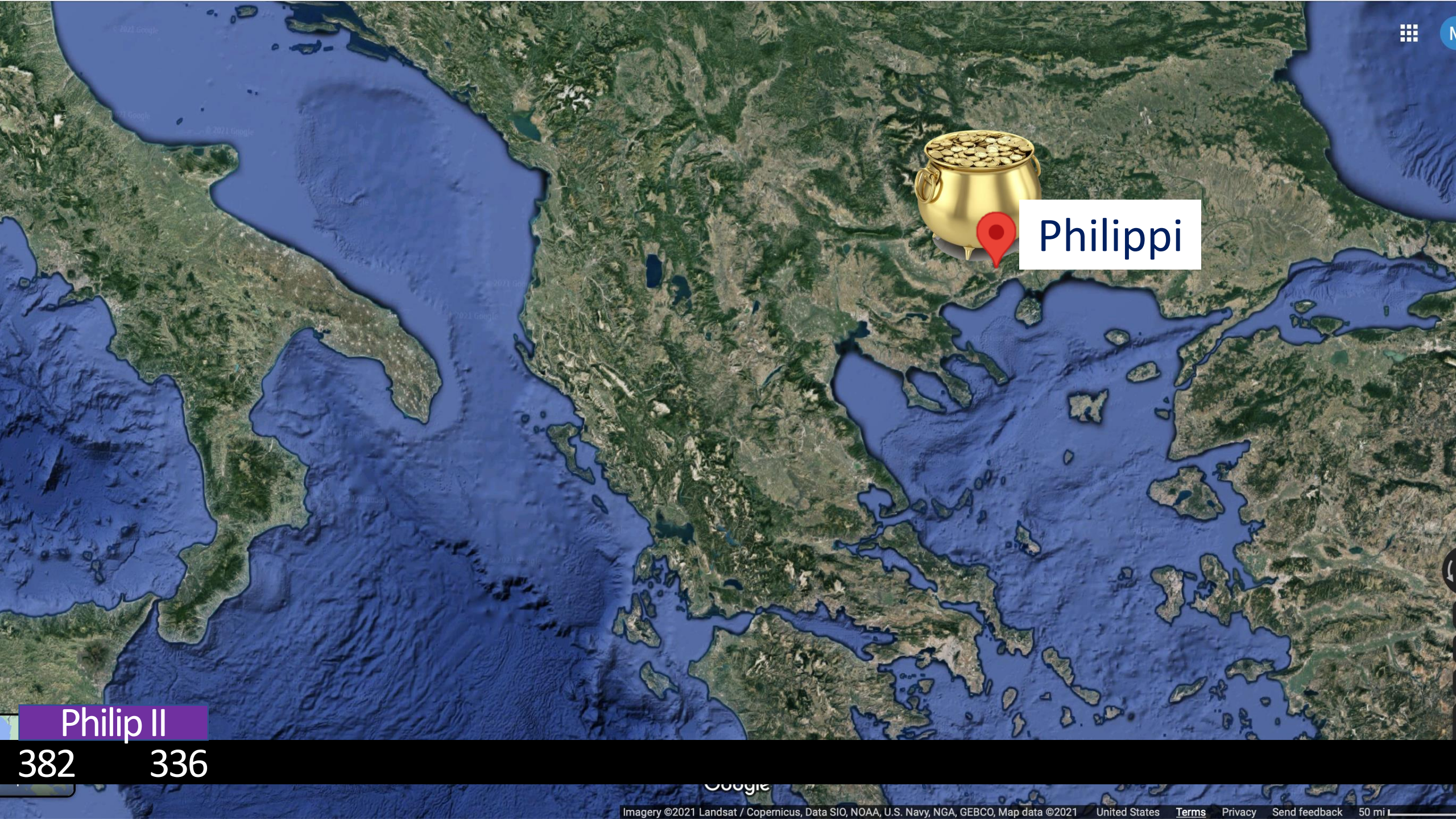
Philippi

Philip II

382 336

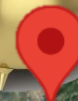
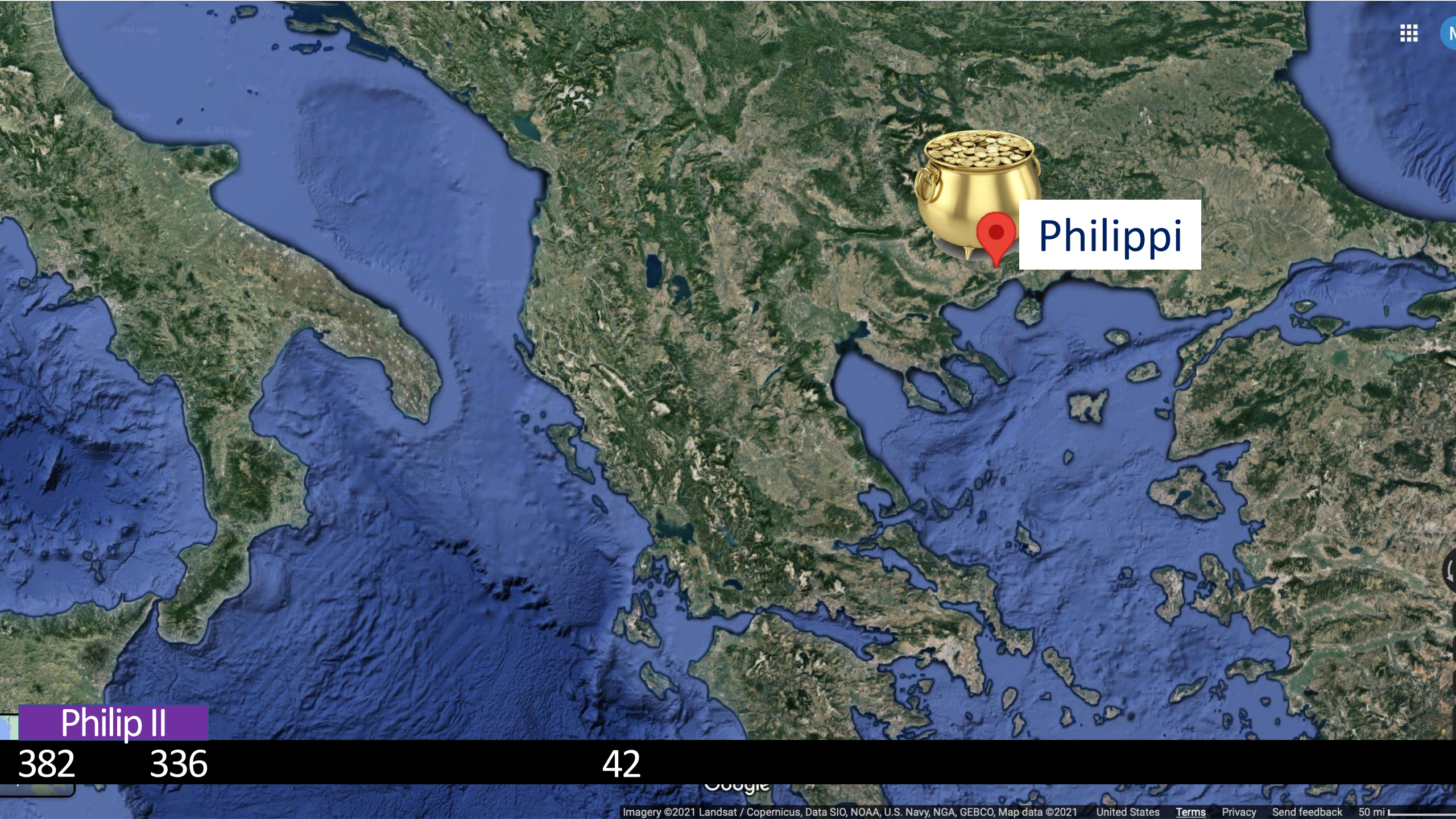
42

Google



Philippi

Philip II
382 336



Philippi

Philip II

382 336

42

Google



Philippi

Philip II

382 336

42



Philippi

Philip II
382 336

42



Battle of Philippi



Philippi

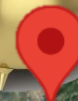
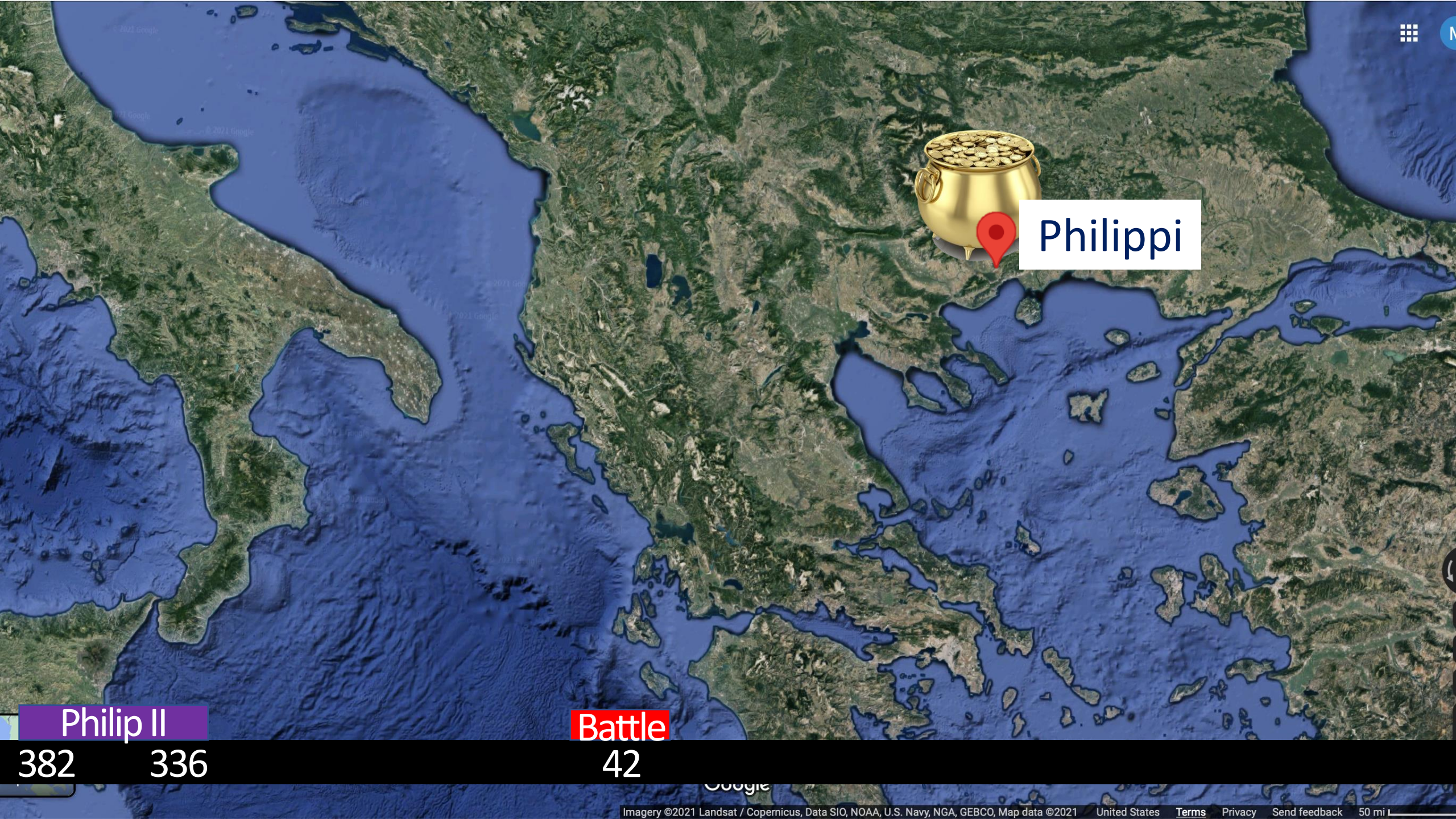
Philip II

382

336

Battle

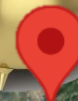
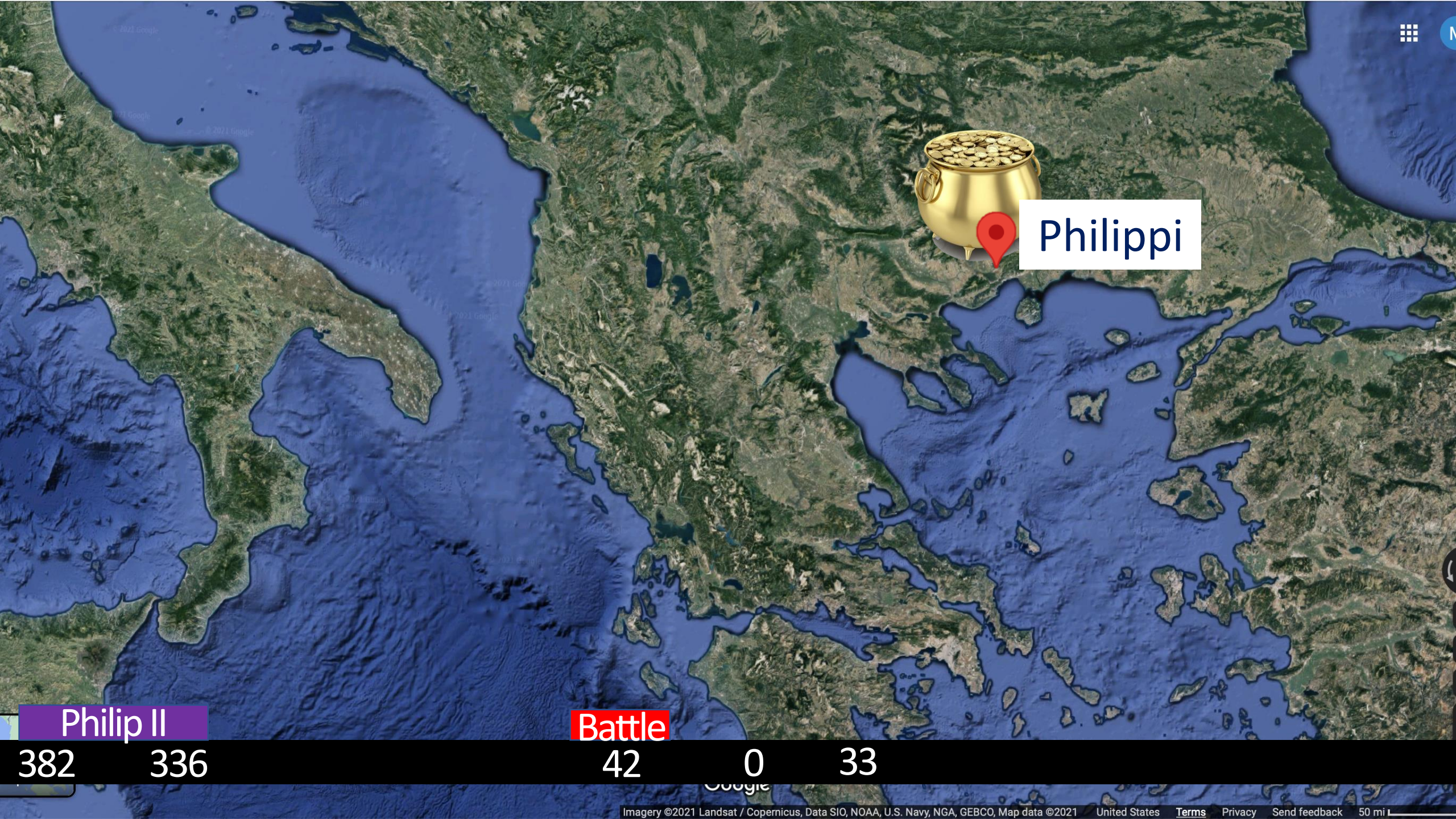
42



Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42



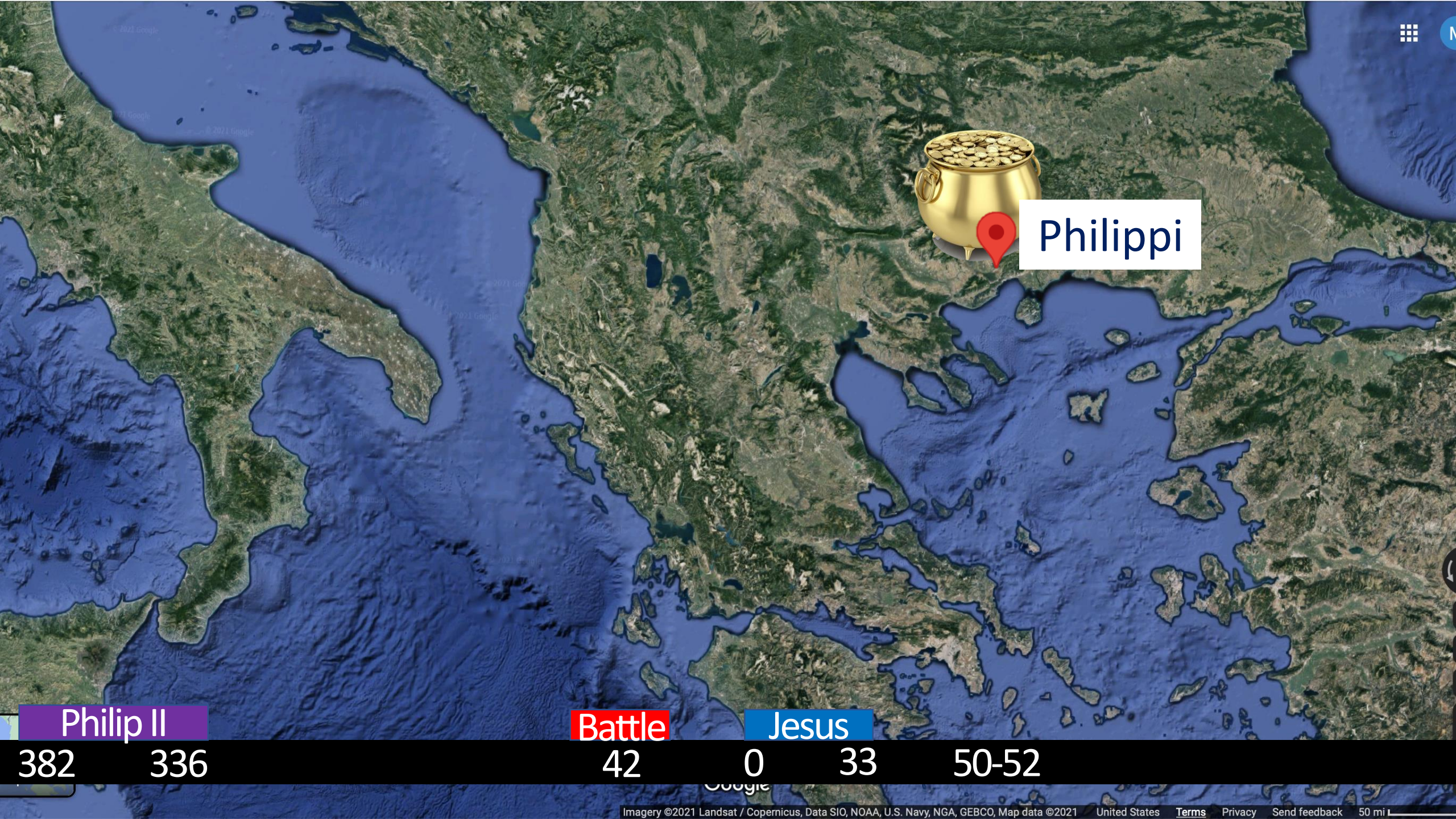
Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42

0

33



M



Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42

Jesus
0 33

50-52



Acts 16

 Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42

Jesus
0 33


Paul
50-52

Acts 16:1, 3 Paul came... to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek.... Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him...

Acts 16:1, 3 Κατήντησεν δὲ... εἰς Λύστραν. καὶ ἰδοὺ μαθητὴς τις ἦν ἐκεῖ ὀνόματι Τιμόθεος, υἱὸς γυναικὸς Ἰουδαίας πιστῆς, πατρὸς δὲ Ἑλληνοῦ... τοῦτον ἠθέλησεν ὁ Παῦλος σὺν αὐτῷ ἐξελθεῖν, καὶ λαβὼν... αὐτὸν

Acts 16:1, 3 Paul came... to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek.... Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him...

Acts 16:1, 3 Κατήντησεν δὲ... εἰς Λύστραν. καὶ ἰδοὺ μαθητὴς τις ἦν ἐκεῖ ὀνόματι Τιμόθεος, υἱὸς γυναικὸς Ἰουδαίας πιστῆς, πατὴρ δὲ Ἑλληνας... τοῦτον ἠθέλησεν ὁ Παῦλος σὺν αὐτῷ ἐξελθεῖν, καὶ λαβὼν... αὐτὸν

A woman with dark hair, wearing a blue collared shirt, is smiling and giving a thumbs up with her right hand. Her left hand is holding a white rectangular sign. The background is a solid light blue color.

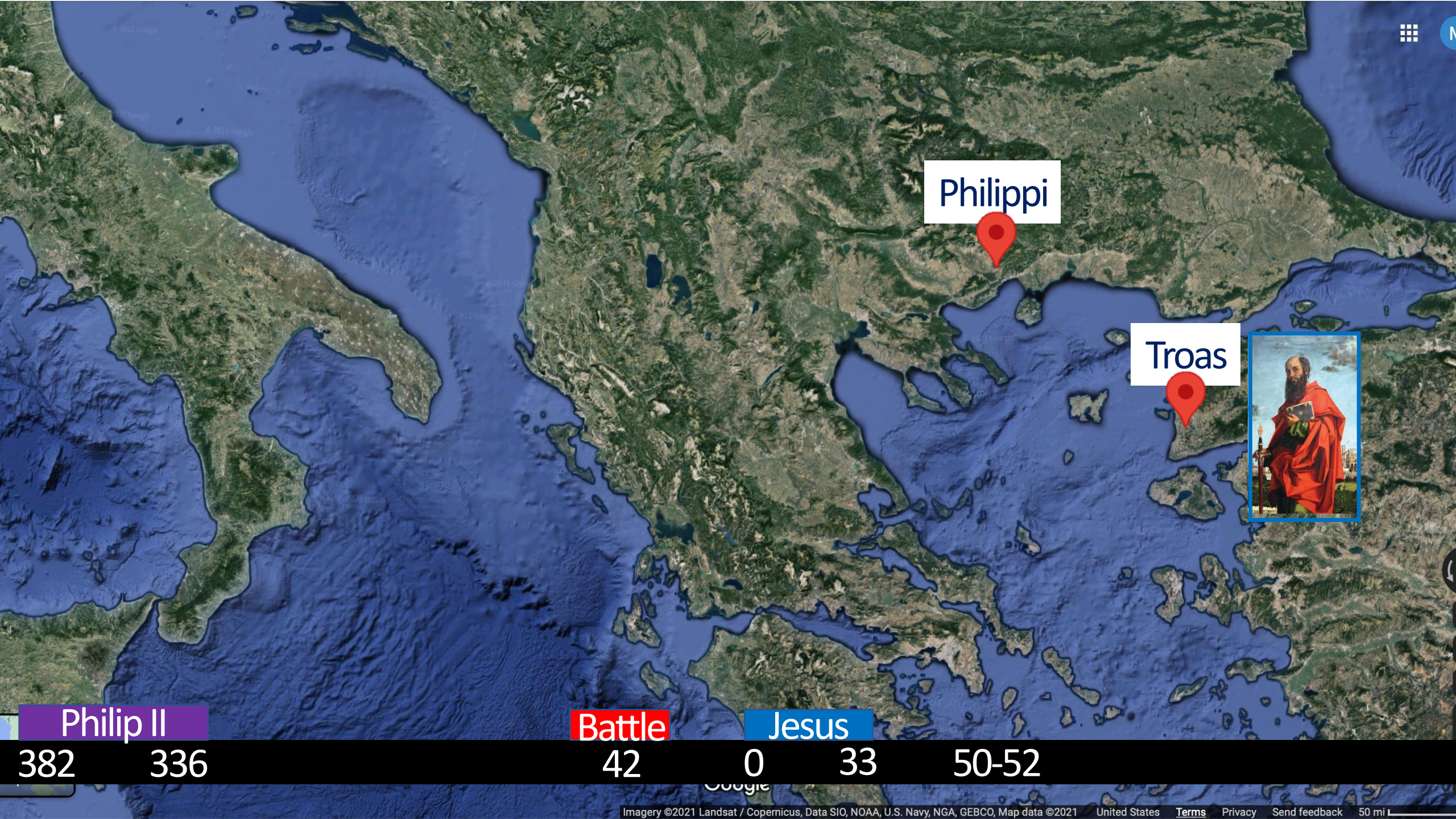
Timothy was JUST
the right guy for
Paul to take!

Acts 16:9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Acts 16:9 Καὶ ὄραμα διὰ [τῆς] νυκτὸς τῷ Παύλῳ ὤφθη, ἀνὴρ Μακεδὼν τις ἦν ἐστὼς καὶ παρακαλῶν αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· διαβὰς εἰς Μακεδονίαν βοήθησον ἡμῖν.

Acts 16:9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Acts 16:9 Καὶ ὄραμα διὰ [τῆς] νυκτὸς τῷ Παύλῳ ὤφθη, ἀνὴρ Μακεδὼν τις ἦν ἐστὼς καὶ παρακαλῶν αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· διαβὰς εἰς Μακεδονίαν βοήθησον ἡμῖν.



Philippi

Troas



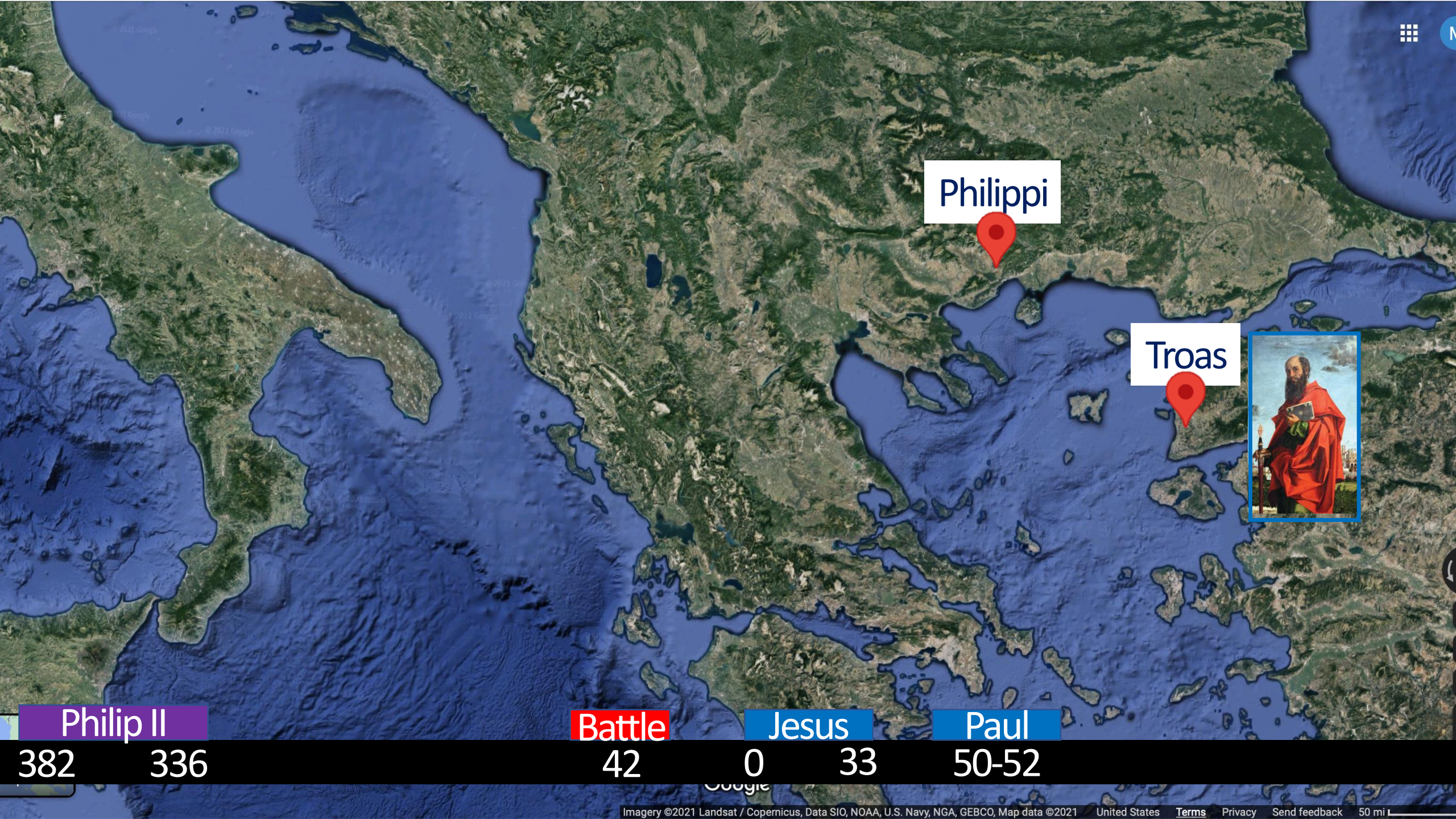
Philip II

Battle

Jesus

382 336

42 0 33 50-52



Philippi

Troas



Philip II

382 336

Battle

42

Jesus

33

Paul

50-52



Philippi

Macedonia

Troas



Philip II

382 336

Battle

42

Jesus

0

Paul

33

Paul

50-52

Acts 16:10 And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16:10 ὥς δὲ τὸ ὄραμα εἶδεν, εὐθέως ἐζητήσαμεν ἐξελθεῖν εἰς Μακεδονίαν συμβιβάζοντες ὅτι προσκέκληται ἡμᾶς ὁ θεὸς εὐαγγελίσασθαι αὐτούς.

Acts 16:10 And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God **had called** us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16:10 ὥς δὲ τὸ ὄραμα εἶδεν, εὐθέως ἐζητήσαμεν ἐξελθεῖν εἰς Μακεδονίαν συμβιβάζοντες ὅτι **προσκέκληται** ἡμᾶς ὁ θεὸς εὐαγγελίσασθαι αὐτούς.

Acts 16:10 And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God **had called** us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16:10 ὥς δὲ τὸ ὄραμα εἶδεν, εὐθέως ἐζητήσαμεν ἐξελθεῖν εἰς Μακεδονίαν συμβιβάζοντες ὅτι **προσκέκληται** ἡμᾶς ὁ θεὸς εὐαγγελίσασθαι αὐτούς.

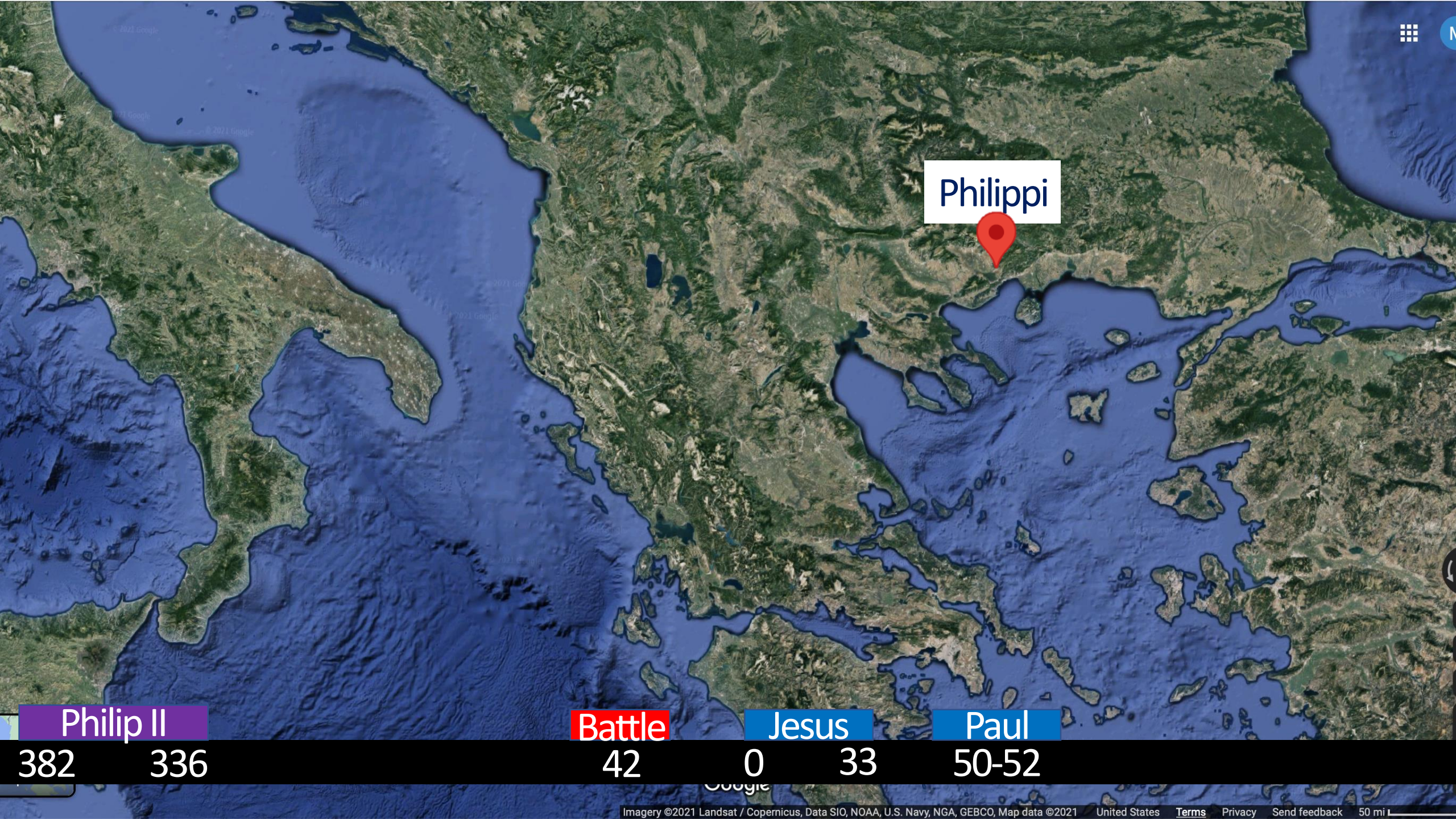
The Greek “perfect tense” indicates a completed action whose effects are felt in the present

Amazing things happen
in the present when
we heed the voice of God!



Acts 16:11-12a So, setting sail from Troas, **we** made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.

Acts 16:11-12a Ἀναχθέντες δὲ ἀπὸ Τρωάδος εὐθυδρομήσαμεν εἰς Σαμοθράκην, τῇ δὲ ἐπιούσῃ εἰς Νέαν πόλιν καὶ κεῖθεν εἰς Φιλίππους, ἥτις ἐστὶν **πρώτη[ς]** μερίδος τῆς Μακεδονίας πόλις, **κολωνία**.



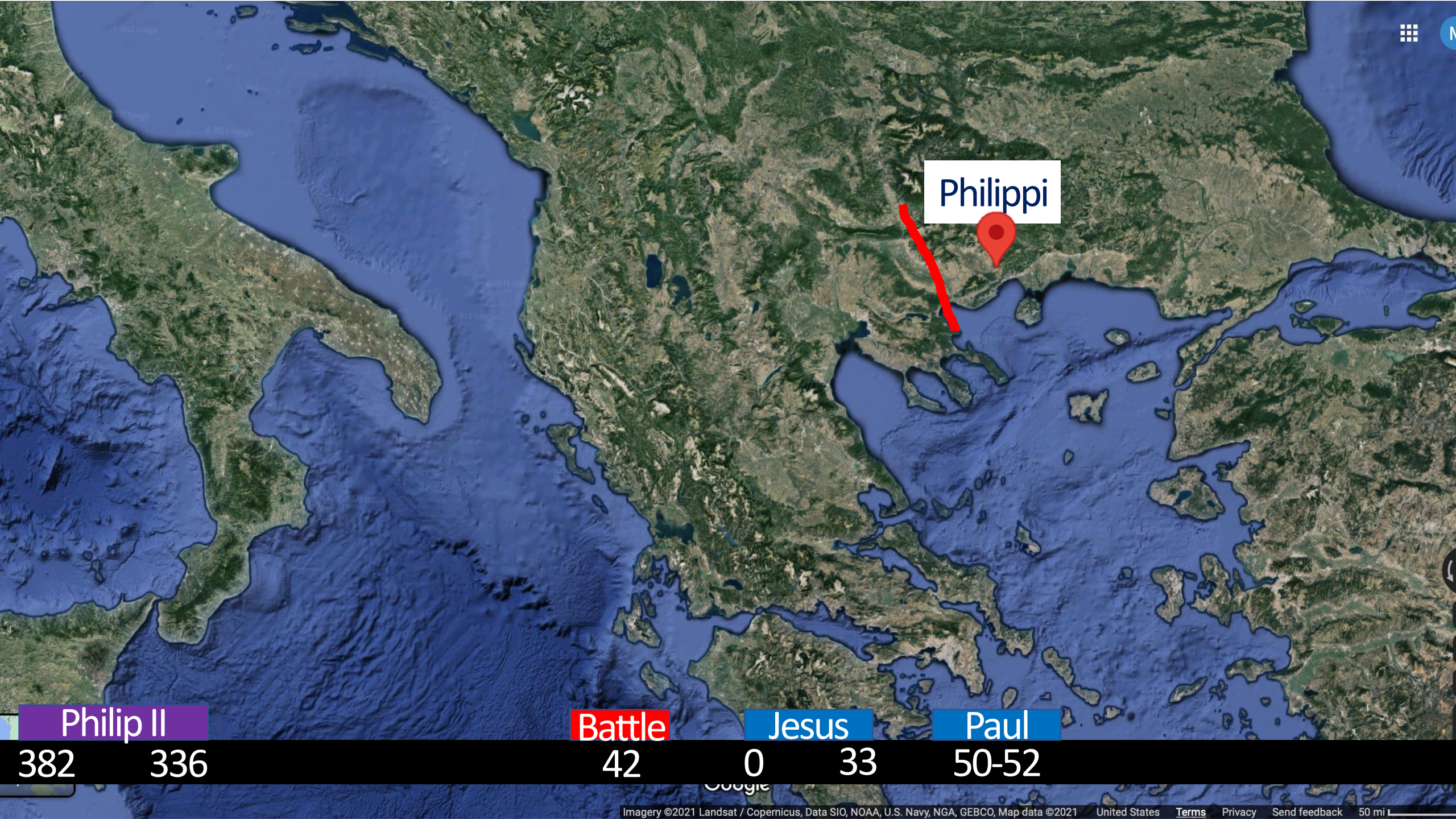
Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42

Jesus
0 33

Paul
50-52



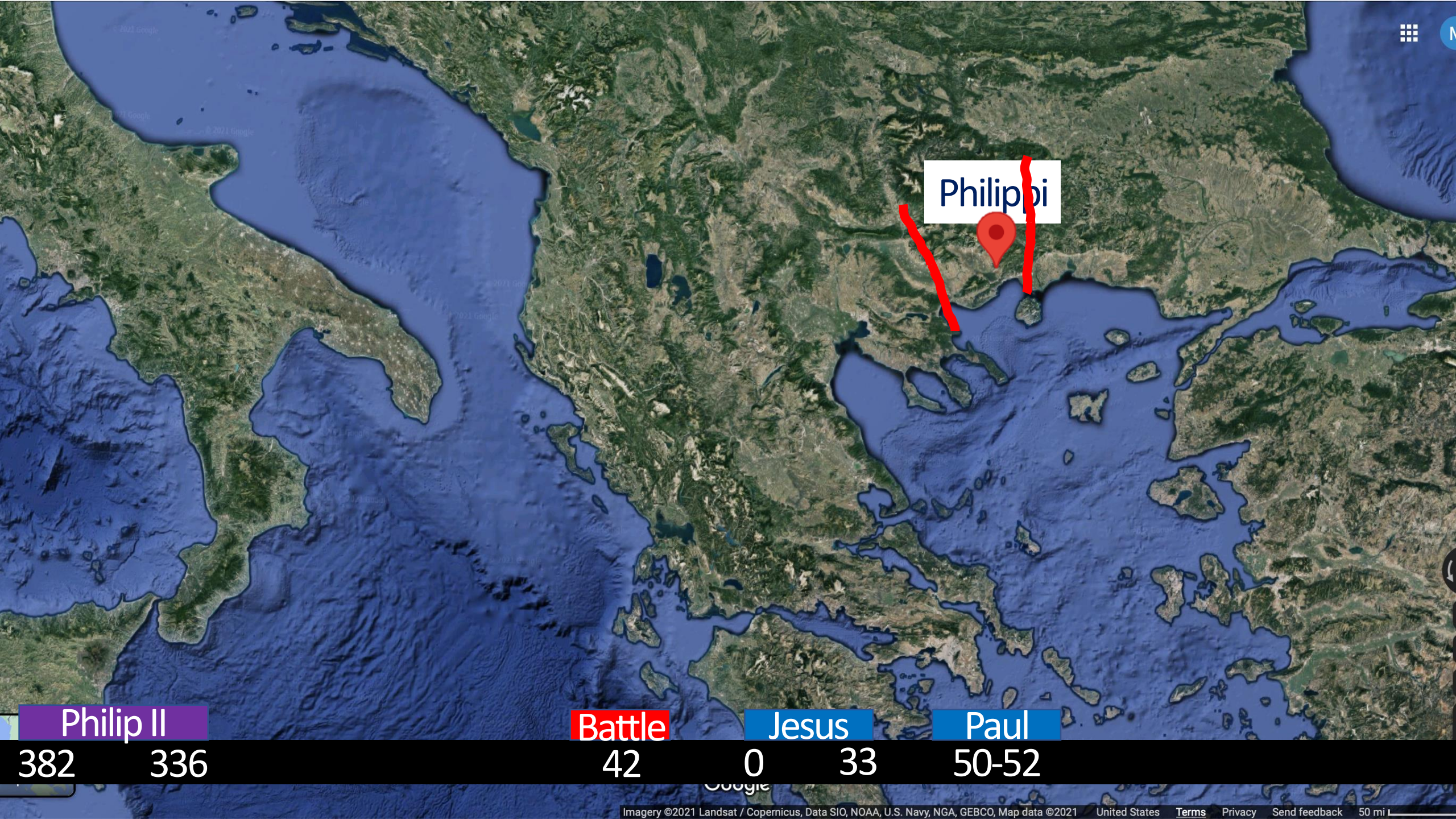
Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42

Jesus
0 33

Paul
50-52



N

Philippi

Philip II
382 336

Battle
42

Jesus
0 33

Paul
50-52

I love the
accuracy of the
biblical accounts



Acts 16:12b-13a We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer...

Acts 16:12b-13a Ἦμεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πόλει διατρίβοντες ἡμέρας τινάς. τῇ τε ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων ἐξήλθομεν ἔξω τῆς πύλης παρὰ ποταμὸν οὗ ἐνομίζομεν προσευχὴν εἶναι. . .

Acts 16:12b-13a We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer...

P. Avot 3:6 “R. Halafta of Kefar Hananiah says, “Among ten who sit and work hard on Torah the Presence comes to rest”

Acts 16:12b-13a Ἡμεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πόλει διατρίβοντες ἡμέρας τινάς. τῇ τε ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων ἐξήλθομεν ἔξω τῆς πύλης παρὰ ποταμὸν οὗ ἐνομίζομεν προσευχὴν εἶναι. . .

ר' חֲלָפְתָּה אִישׁ כֹּפֵר חֲנֻנְיָהּ אֹי' עֲשָׂרָה
נְשָׂהּיוּ יוֹשְׁבִים וְעֹסוּקִים בְּדַבְרֵי תוֹרָה
שְׂכִינָה בִּינֵיהֶם

Acts 16:12b-13a We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer...

P. Avot 3:6 “A. R. Halafta of Kefar Hananiah says, “Among ten who sit and work hard on Torah the Presence comes to rest”

Acts 16:12b-13a Ἡμεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πόλει διατρίβοντες ἡμέρας τινάς. τῇ τε ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων ἐξήλθομεν ἔξω τῆς πύλης παρὰ ποταμὸν οὗ ἐνομίζομεν προσευχὴν εἶναι. . .

ר' חֲלָפְתָּה אִישׁ כֹּפֵר חֲנֻנְיָהּ אֹי' עֲשָׂרָה
נְשָׂהּיוּ יוֹשְׁבִים וְעֹסוּקִים בְּדַבְרֵי תוֹרָה
נִשְׁכַּנָּה בִּינֵיהֶם

Acts 16:12b-13a We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was

Acts 16:12b-13a Ἡμεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πόλει διατρίβοντες ἡμέρας τινάς. τῇ τε ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων ἐξήλθομεν ἔξω τῆς πύλης παρὰ ποταμὸν οὗ ἐκεῖ εἶναι...

It takes ten Hebrew men to make a *minyan* or synagogue (see Ps 82:1)

P. Avot 3:6
Kefar Hananiah says, "When ten who sit and work hard on Torah the Presence comes to rest"

ר' חלפתה א
נְשִׁיּוֹ יוֹשְׁבִים וְעֹסִיקִים בְּדַבְּרֵי תוֹרָה
נִשְׁכָּנָה בֵּינֵיהֶם

Acts 16:12b-13a We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer...

P. Avot 3:6 “A. R. Halafta of Kefar Hananiah says, “Among ten who sit and work hard on Torah the Presence comes to rest”

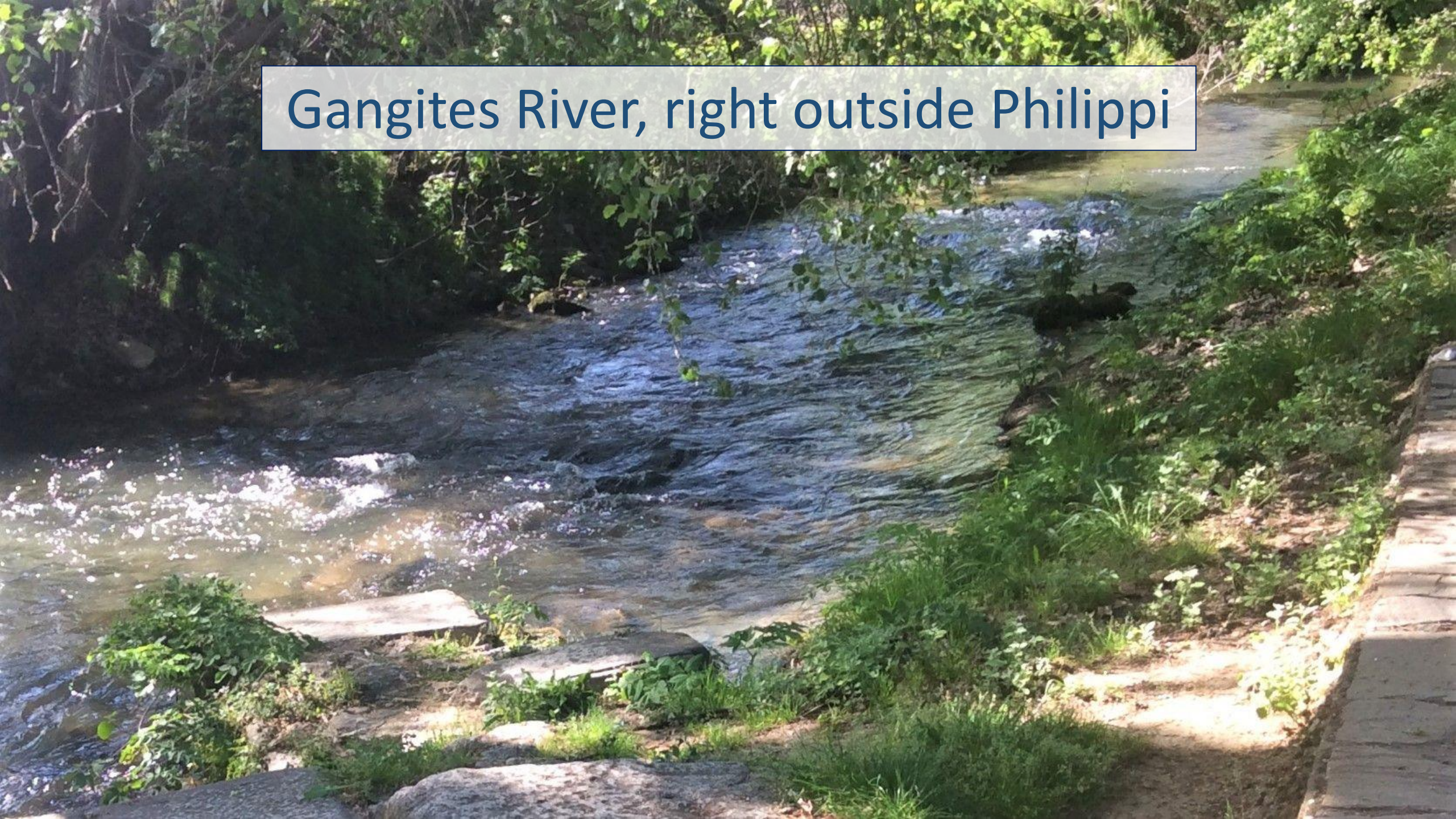
Acts 16:12b-13a Ἡμεν δὲ ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ πόλει διατρίβοντες ἡμέρας τινάς. τῇ τε ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων ἐξήλθομεν ἔξω τῆς πύλης παρὰ ποταμὸν οὗ ἐνομίζομεν προσευχὴν εἶναι. . .

ר' חֲלָפְתָּה אִישׁ כֹּפֵר חֲנֻנְיָהּ אֹי' עֲשָׂרָה
נְשָׂהּיוּ יוֹשְׁבִים וְעֹסוּקִים בְּדַבְרֵי תוֹרָה
נִשְׁכַּיְנָה בֵּינֵיהֶם

Great things happen when
women gather to pray!



Gangites River, right outside Philippi



Acts 16:13b-14a and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God.

Acts 16:13b-14a καὶ καθίσαντες ἐλαλοῦμεν ταῖς συνελθούσαις γυναῖξιν. καὶ τις γυνὴ ὀνόματι Λυδία, πορφυρόπωλις πόλεως Θυατείρων σεβομένη τὸν θεόν



Philippi





Philippi

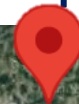


Thyatira





Philippi



Thyatira



The Madder Plant



Acts 16:14b-15 The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16:14b-15 ἤκουεν, ἥς ὁ κύριος διήνοιξεν τὴν καρδίαν προσέχειν τοῖς λαλουμένοις ὑπὸ τοῦ Παύλου. ὥς δὲ ἐβαπτίσθη καὶ ὁ οἶκος αὐτῆς, παρεκάλεσεν λέγουσα· εἰ κεκρίκατέ με πιστὴν τῷ κυρίῳ εἶναι, εἰσελθόντες εἰς τὸν οἶκόν μου μένετε· καὶ παρεβιάσατο ἡμᾶς.

Acts 16:14b-15 The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16:14b-15 ἤκουεν, ἥς ὁ κύριος διήνοιξεν τὴν καρδίαν προσέχειν τοῖς λαλουμένοις ὑπὸ τοῦ Παύλου. ὥς δὲ ἐβαπτίσθη καὶ ὁ οἶκος αὐτῆς, παρεκάλεσεν λέγουσα· εἰ κεκρίκατέ με πιστὴν τῷ κυρίῳ εἶναι, εἰσελθόντες εἰς τὸν οἶκόν μου μένετε· καὶ παρεβιάσατο ἡμᾶς.

Acts 16:14b-15 The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

Acts 16:14b-15 ἤκουεν, ἥς ὁ κύριος διήνοιξεν τὴν καρδίαν προσέχειν τοῖς λαλουμένοις ὑπὸ τοῦ Παύλου. ὥς δὲ ἐβαπτίσθη καὶ ὁ οἶκος αὐτῆς, παρεκάλεσεν λέγουσα· εἰ κεκρίκατέ με πιστὴν τῷ κυρίῳ εἶναι, εἰσελθόντες εἰς τὸν οἶκόν μου μένετε· καὶ παρεβιάσατο ἡμᾶς.



Acts 16:23-24 And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them **safely**. Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

Acts 16:23-24 πολλές τε ἐπιθέντες αὐτοῖς πληγὰς ἔβαλον εἰς φυλακὴν παραγγείλαντες τῷ δεσμοφύλακι **ἀσφαλῶς** τηρεῖν αὐτούς. ὃς παραγγελίαν τοιαύτην λαβὼν ἔβαλεν αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν ἐσωτέραν φυλακὴν καὶ τοὺς πόδας ἡσφαλίσατο αὐτῶν εἰς τὸ ξύλον.

Acts 16:25-26 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened

Acts 16:25-26 Κατὰ δὲ τὸ μεσονύκτιον Παῦλος καὶ Σιλᾶς προσευχόμενοι ὕμνουν τὸν θεόν, ἐπηκροῶντο δὲ αὐτῶν οἱ δέσμιοι. ἄφνω δὲ σεισμὸς ἐγένετο μέγας ὥστε σαλευθῆναι τὰ θεμέλια τοῦ δεσμοτηρίου· ἠνεώχθησαν δὲ παραχρῆμα αἱ θύραι πᾶσαι καὶ πάντων τὰ δεσμὰ ἀνέθη.

Acts 16:25-26 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all

the doors opened
every door
unfastened

Acts 16:25-26 Κατὰ δὲ τὸ μεσονύκτιον Παῦλος καὶ Σιλᾶς προσευχόμενοι ὕμνουν τὸν θεόν, ἐπηκροῶντο δὲ αὐτῶν οἱ δέσμιοι. ἄφνω δὲ σεισμὸς ἐγένετο μέγας ὥστε σαλευθῆναι τὰ θεμέλια τοῦ δεσμοτηρίου· ἠνεώθησαν δὲ

καὶ

The Greek “*humneo*” (ὕμνέω) references
singing a song of praise

Acts 16:25-26 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened

Acts 16:25-26 Κατὰ δὲ τὸ μεσονύκτιον Παῦλος καὶ Σιλᾶς προσευχόμενοι ὕμνουν τὸν θεόν, ἐπηκροῶντο δὲ αὐτῶν οἱ δέσμιοι. ἄφνω δὲ σεισμὸς ἐγένετο μέγας ὥστε σαλευθῆναι τὰ θεμέλια τοῦ δεσμοτηρίου· ἠνεώχθησαν δὲ παραχρῆμα αἱ θύραι πᾶσαι καὶ πάντων τὰ δεσμὰ ἀνέθη.

Acts 16:27-28 When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."

Acts 16:27-28 ἔξυπνος δὲ γενόμενος ὁ δεσμοφύλαξ καὶ ἰδὼν ἀνεωγμένας τὰς θύρας τῆς φυλακῆς, σπασάμενος [τὴν] μάχαιραν ἤμελλεν ἑαυτὸν ἀναιρεῖν νομίζων ἐκπεφυγέναι τοὺς δεσμίους. ἐφώνησεν δὲ μεγάλη φωνῇ [ὁ] Παῦλος λέγων· μηδὲν πράξης σεαυτῷ κακόν, ἅπαντες γάρ ἐσμεν ἐνθάδε.

A stage with two spotlights at the top corners, casting a bright light on a wooden floor. In the center of the floor is a modern-style chair with a dark seat and white legs. A semi-transparent white box with a dark border is positioned at the top center, containing text.

The stage is set for God to go to
work! (Acts 16:29-40)

Background



Background

koinonia



Phil. 1:1-2 Paul and Timothy,
servants of Christ Jesus, To all
the saints in Christ Jesus who
are at Philippi, with the
overseers and deacons:
Grace to you and peace from
God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

Phil. 1:1-2 Παῦλος καὶ
Τιμόθεος δοῦλοι Χριστοῦ
Ἰησοῦ πᾶσιν τοῖς ἁγίοις ἐν
Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τοῖς οὖσιν ἐν
Φιλίπποις σὺν ἐπισκόποις καὶ
διακόνοις, χάρις ὑμῖν καὶ
εἰρήνη ἀπὸ θεοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν
καὶ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Phil. 1:1-2 Paul and Timothy,
servants of Christ Jesus, To all
the saints in Christ Jesus who
are at Philippi, with the
overseers and deacons:
Grace to you and peace from
God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

Phil. 1:1-2 Παῦλος καὶ
Τιμόθεος δοῦλοι Χριστοῦ
Ἰησοῦ πᾶσιν τοῖς ἁγίοις ἐν
Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τοῖς οὖσιν ἐν
Φιλίπποις σὺν ἐπισκόποις καὶ
διακόνοις, χάρις ὑμῖν καὶ
εἰρήνη ἀπὸ θεοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν
καὶ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.



When one wizard saves another wizard's life, it creates a certain bond between them...



Phil. 1:3-5 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now

Phil. 1:3-5 Εὐχαριστῶ τῷ θεῷ μου ἐπὶ πάσῃ τῇ μνείᾳ ὑμῶν πάντοτε ἐν πάσῃ δεήσει μου ὑπὲρ πάντων ὑμῶν, μετὰ χαρᾶς τὴν δέησιν ποιούμενος ἐπὶ τῇ κοινωνίᾳ ὑμῶν εἰς τὸ εὐαγγέλιον ἀπὸ τῆς πρώτης ἡμέρας ἄχρι τοῦ νῦν

Phil. 1:3-5 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your **partnership** in the gospel from the first day until now

Phil. 1:3-5 Εὐχαριστῶ τῷ θεῷ μου ἐπὶ πάσῃ τῇ μνησίᾳ ὑμῶν πάντοτε ἐν πάσῃ δεήσει μου ὑπὲρ πάντων ὑμῶν, μετὰ χαρᾶς τὴν δέησιν ποιούμενος ἐπὶ τῇ **κοινωνίᾳ** ὑμῶν εἰς τὸ εὐαγγέλιον ἀπὸ τῆς πρώτης ἡμέρας ἄχρι τοῦ νῦν

Fellowship,
koinonia,
and aspens!



Background

koinonia



A photograph of ancient ruins, likely a temple or public building, featuring several tall, weathered stone columns. The ruins are set against a backdrop of a steep, rocky mountain under a clear blue sky. The foreground shows a dirt path and low stone walls. The text "Background" is overlaid in a white box in the top left corner.

Background

koinonia

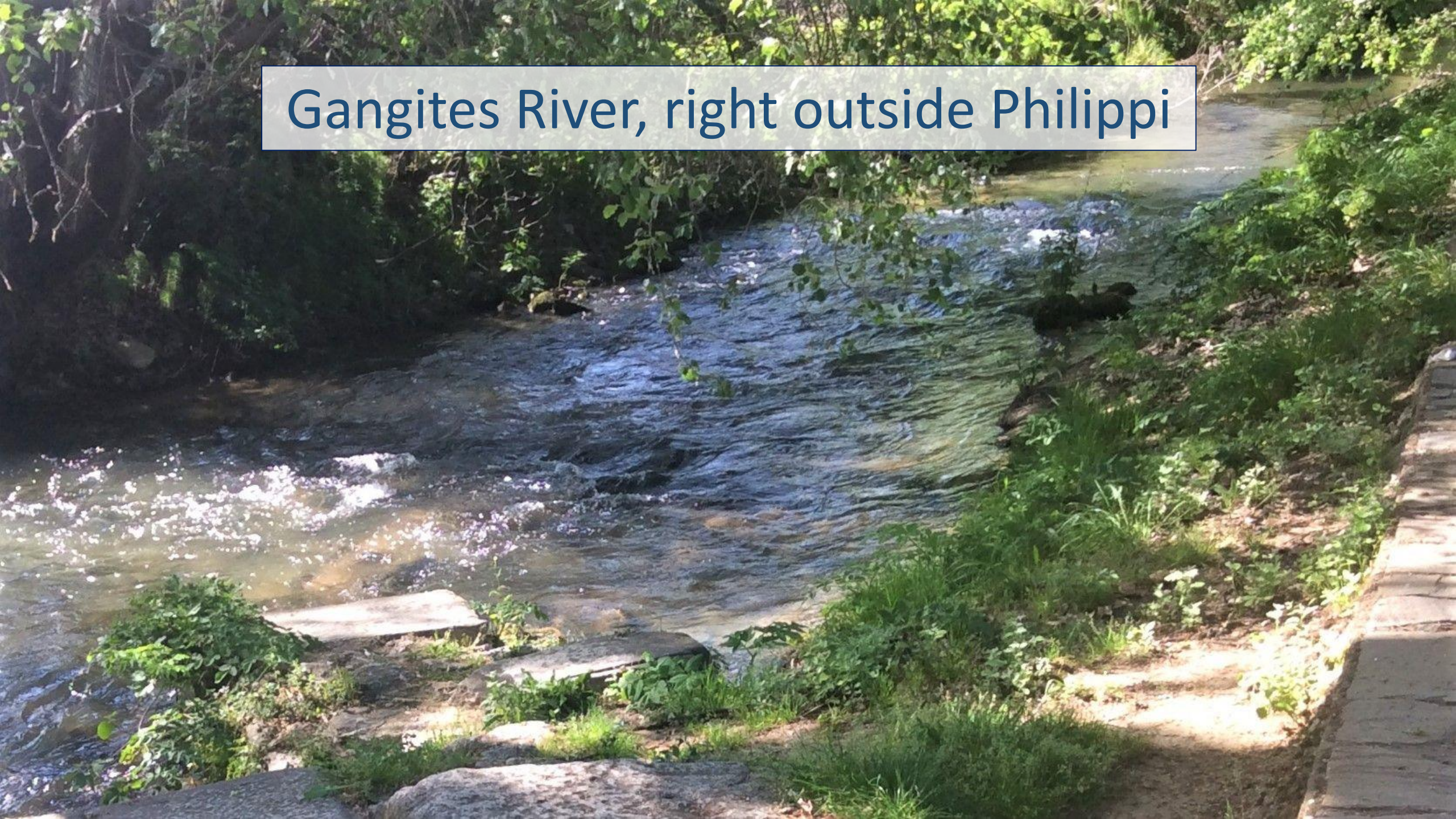
God at work

Phil. 1:3-6 And I am sure of this,
that he who began a good
work in you will bring it to
completion at the day of Jesus
Christ.

Phil. 1:6 πεποιθῶς αὐτὸ τοῦτο,
ὅτι ὁ ἐναρξάμενος ἐν ὑμῖν
ἔργον ἀγαθὸν ἐπιτελέσει ἄχρι
ἡμέρας Χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ.



Gangites River, right outside Philippi



Points to Ponder:



Points to Ponder:

The craziness of history



Points to Ponder:



The craziness of history

“Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.” (Ps. 139:16)

Points to Ponder:

The Presence of God!



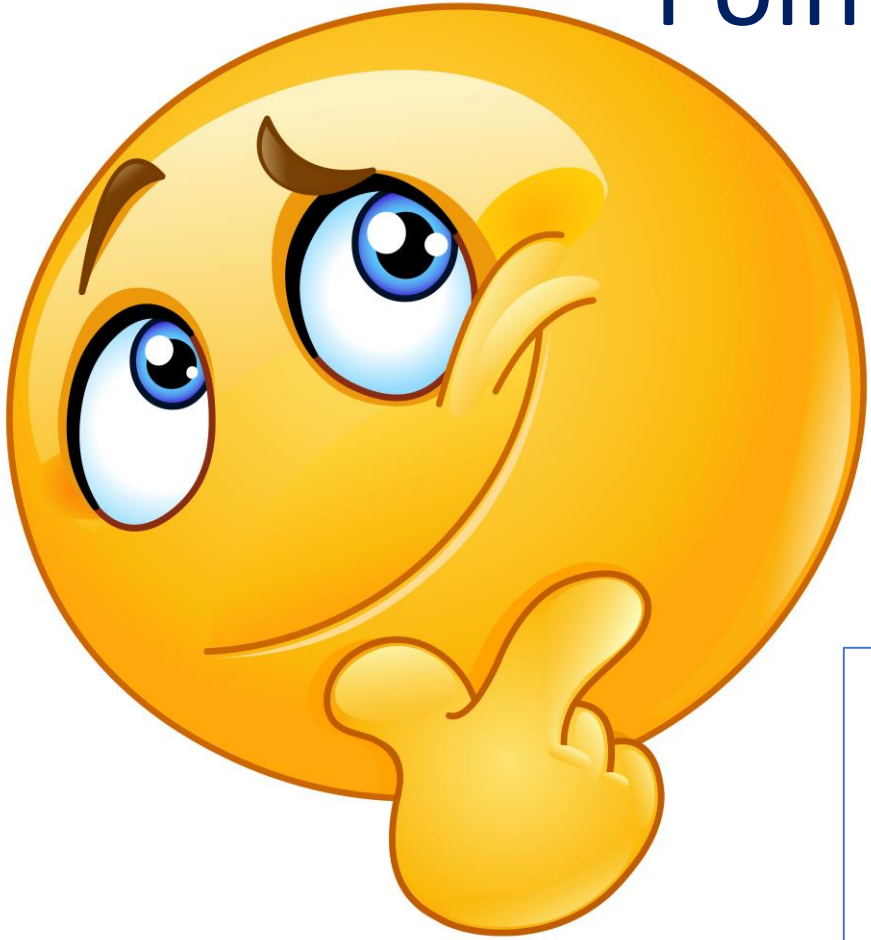


Points to Ponder:

The Presence of God!

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” (Mt. 19:20)

Points to Ponder:



Let's trust God for
the journey

“we walk by faith, not by sight”
2 Cor. 5:7

Time for church!

