



## THE TRAVEL BUG

The travel bug has bitten...so many places I want to see and so little time and money to visit them all. Automobiles, planes, cruise ships...it doesn't matter how I get there...just take me away!

Travel wasn't so easy in Biblical times. Your feet did most of the walking and sandals were the fashion statement of necessity, not of choice. (What...no Merrill's or Crocs back then?) Travel by donkeys. Travel by camels. Travel on foot.

A famous traveling believer in the New Testament was the apostle Paul. It's hard to believe that a traveling missionary could endure such pain and suffering during one lifetime. Paul's traveling injuries and disasters are mind-boggling. These near-fatal attempts on his life made his journeys brutally dangerous. We read in 2 Cor. 11, that during his travels expanding the gospel, Paul was beaten with rods, and once he was even stoned. He received 39 lashes at 3 different times by the Jews, his countrymen. He recounts the many times, while on his journeys, he was exposed to danger from rivers and from bandits. He encountered danger in the city, in the wilderness, on the sea. How could one man endure so many trials and tribulations? He spent so much time in pain, trying to recuperate from his injuries, that the Holy Spirit sent the physician, Luke, to Paul's side. Dr. Luke personally attended to the physical healing and restoring of the traveling apostle and he became Paul's traveling companion. What a pair!

Nothing stopped Paul...he was a traveler with a mission. What motivated his intense desire to travel the world?

The Gospel! It was his call to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. Paul understood the great commission. Jesus had burned it into his heart; a love for the salvation of men. The eternal destiny of all men and all women. People of every tongue, tribe, and nation; these souls were the sole motivation for his wanderlust.

Has the spiritual travel bug bitten you yet? Are you on your way to heaven and desiring to take as many souls with you as you can? Remember, we are pilgrims, just passing through.

We are traveling to the other side to be with Jesus face to face. Many of our loved ones have traveled there already. Their heavenly citizenship and ours are the same. On this side of eternity; we are pilgrims, aliens, and immigrants. On the other side of this journey we call life, our final and ultimate travel destination awaits...HEAVEN!

“Father, may Paul’s love for you and his desire to see souls saved be burned into my heart too! May the desire to travel to heaven be ever-present in my mind, as I long to see Jesus and the other travelers who have arrived there already.” In Jesus’ name, I pray.

Let’s travel by train

We’re marching up to heaven on the Happy Day Express. The letters on the engine spell J-E-S-U-S. The guard calls out for ‘HEAVEN’, we gladly answer, YES!

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