

NO MATTER WHAT

A Study in Philippians.
A Challenge in Joy.







HAPPY
New Year

2 0 2 3 A D

2 0 2 3 A D

Anno Domini

“In the year of our Lord”

2 0 2 3 A D

Anno Domini

We look back to when
Jesus came to this earth—
and we look forward to
when He comes again.

2 0 2 3 A D

Anno Domini

Is this the year
Jesus returns?

Let's begin this new year with a
really big question:

What are God's unique plans
for you in this coming year?

*("I know the plans I have for you,
declares the Lord..." Jer. 29:11)*

Let's begin this new year with a
really big question:

In what ways will God
call you to be faithful?

Find Us Faithful

Steve Green / Jon Mohr 1998

We're pilgrims on the journey of the narrow road,
and those who've gone before us line the way.
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary,
their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace.
O may all who come behind us find us faithful,
may the fire of our devotion light their way.
May the footprints that we leave, lead them to believe,
and the lives we live inspire them to obey.
O may all who come behind us find us faithful.

We follow others.

Others follow us.

**NO
MATTER
WHAT:**

**More Important Than
You'll Ever Know**

Philippians 1:1-11



Philippians 1:1-11

¹ Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,
To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi,
together with the overseers and deacons:
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.
I thank my God every time I remember you.
In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy
because of your partnership in the Gospel from the
first day until now—

Philippians 1:1-11

⁶Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

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.

God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:1-11

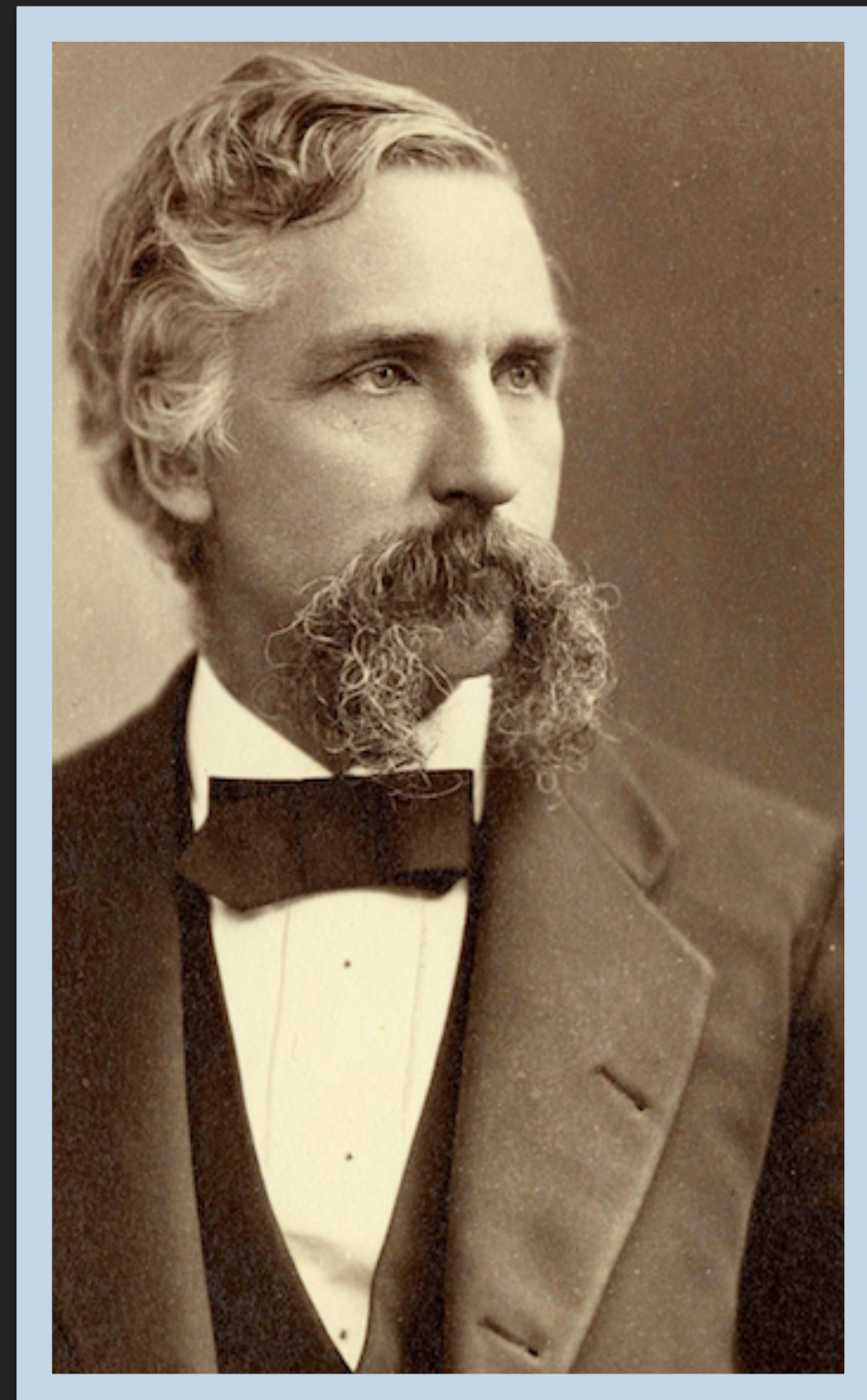
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And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes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

Dear Church in Philippi—
Who you are,
and what you are doing
means more in the Upper Story
than you will ever know.
I am so thankful for you.
You fill me with incredible joy.

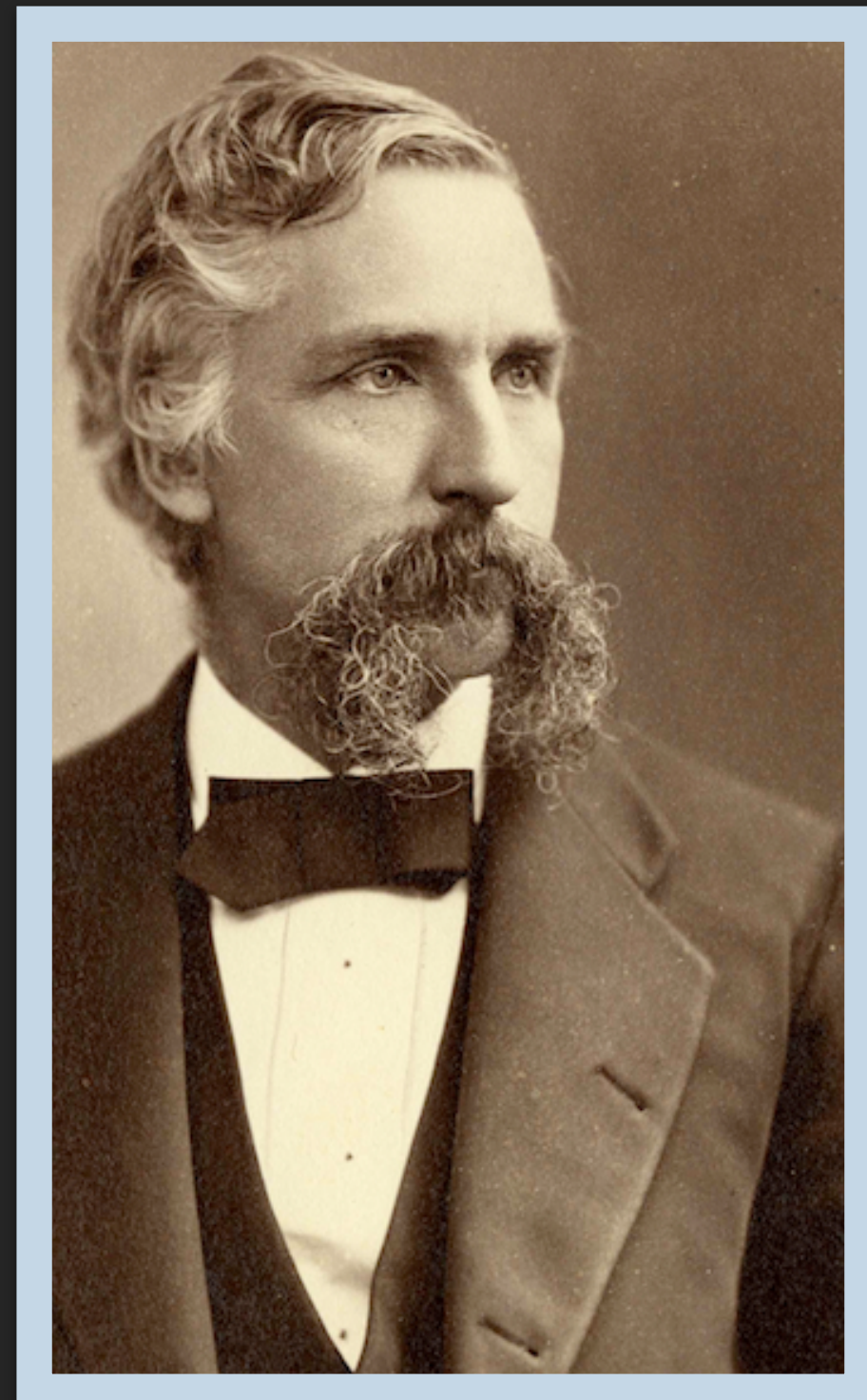
You are
more important than
you'll ever know.

Have you ever heard of Joshua Chamberlain?

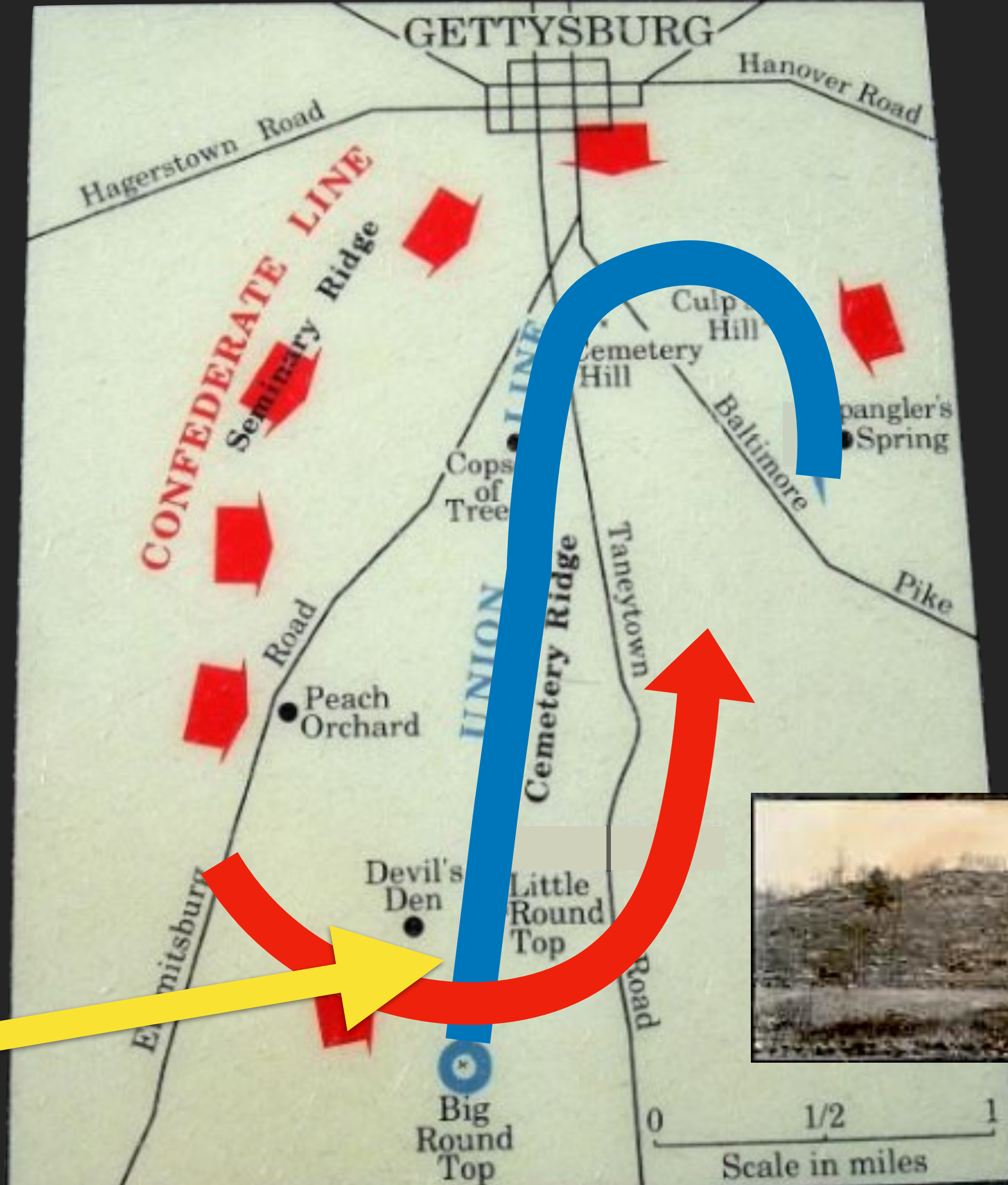
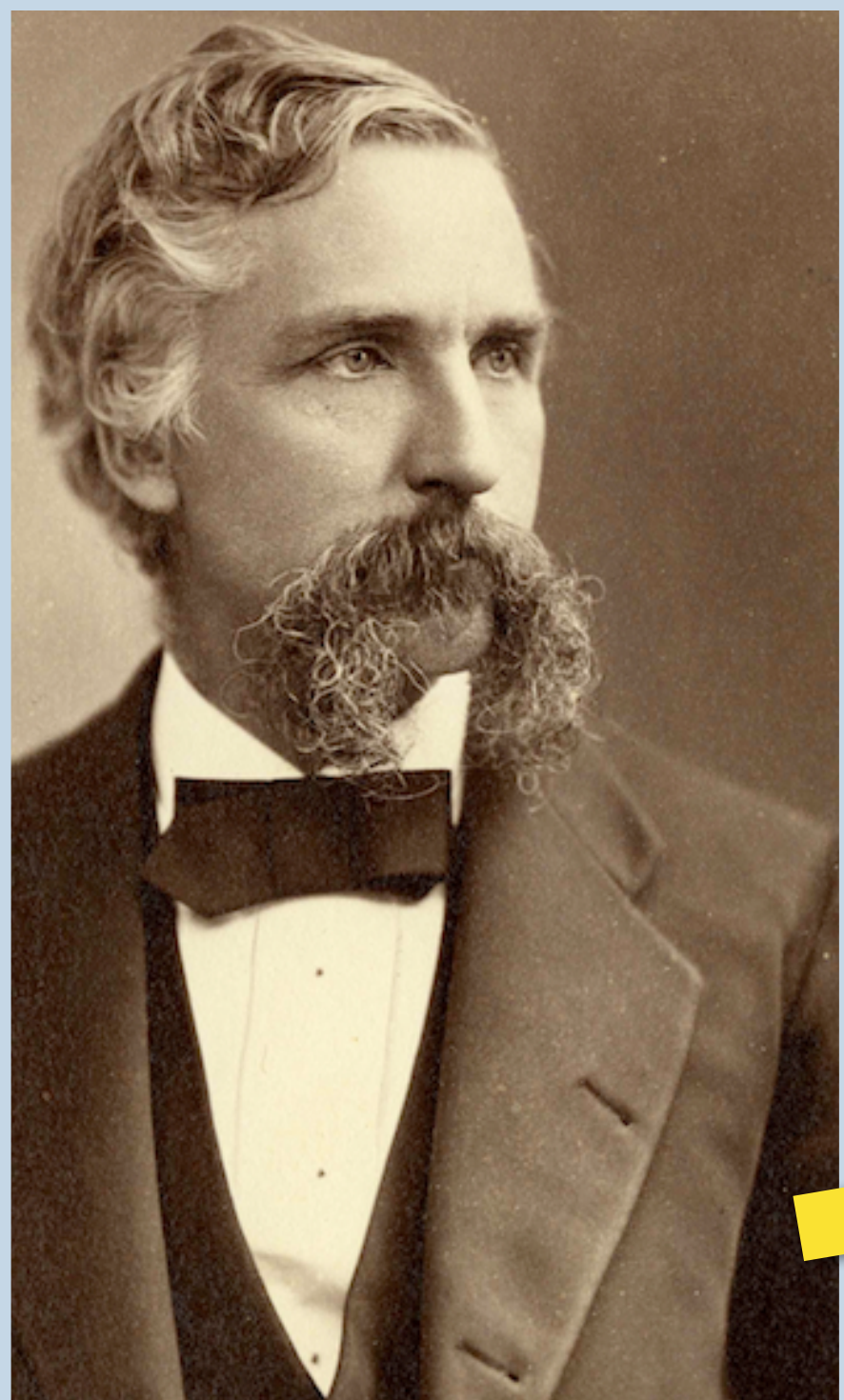


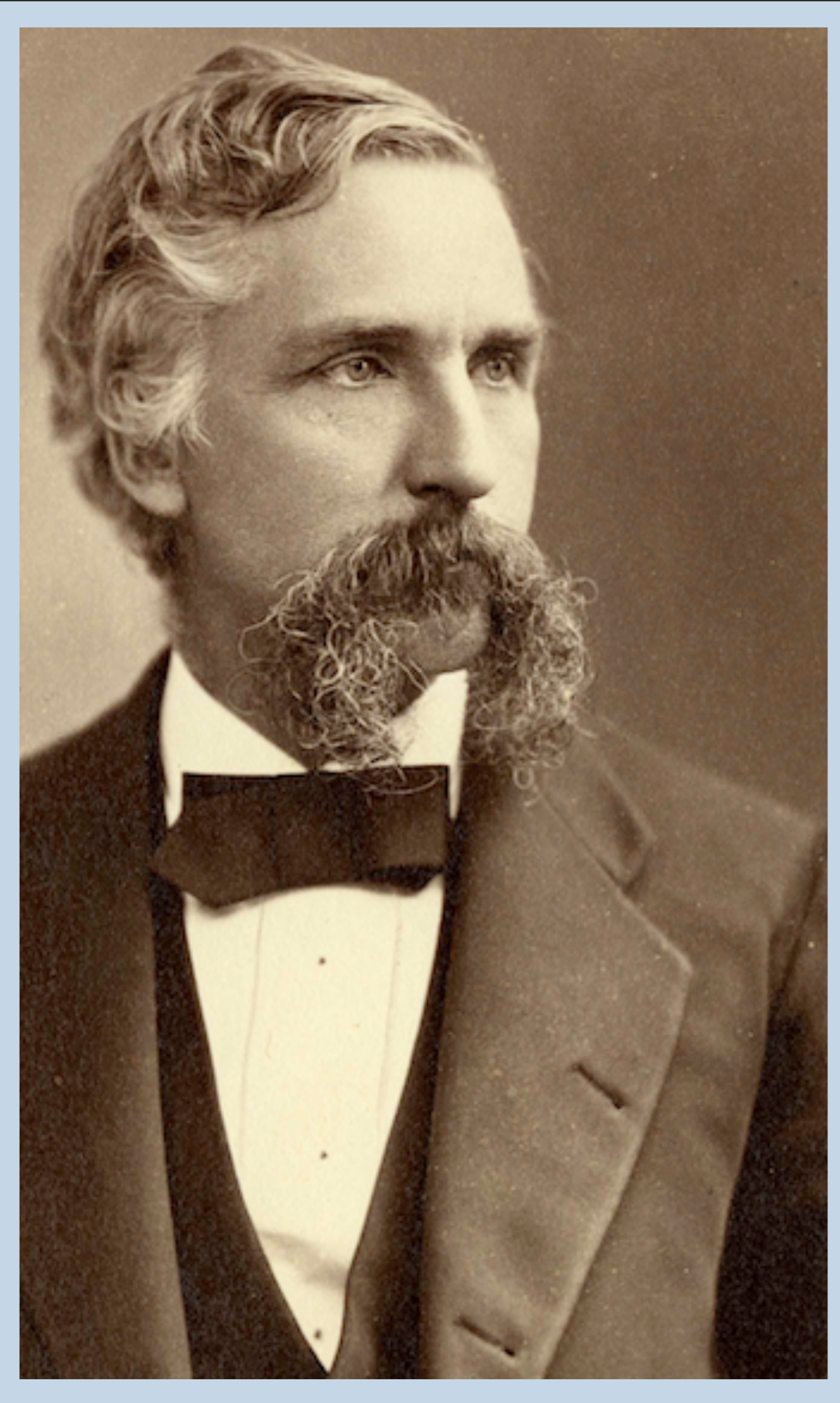
Born in 1828 in Brewer, Maine.
By the age of 34 year, he was a
professor of modern languages
at Bowdoin College in Maine.
Fluent in 9 languages.

Have you ever heard of Joshua Chamberlain?



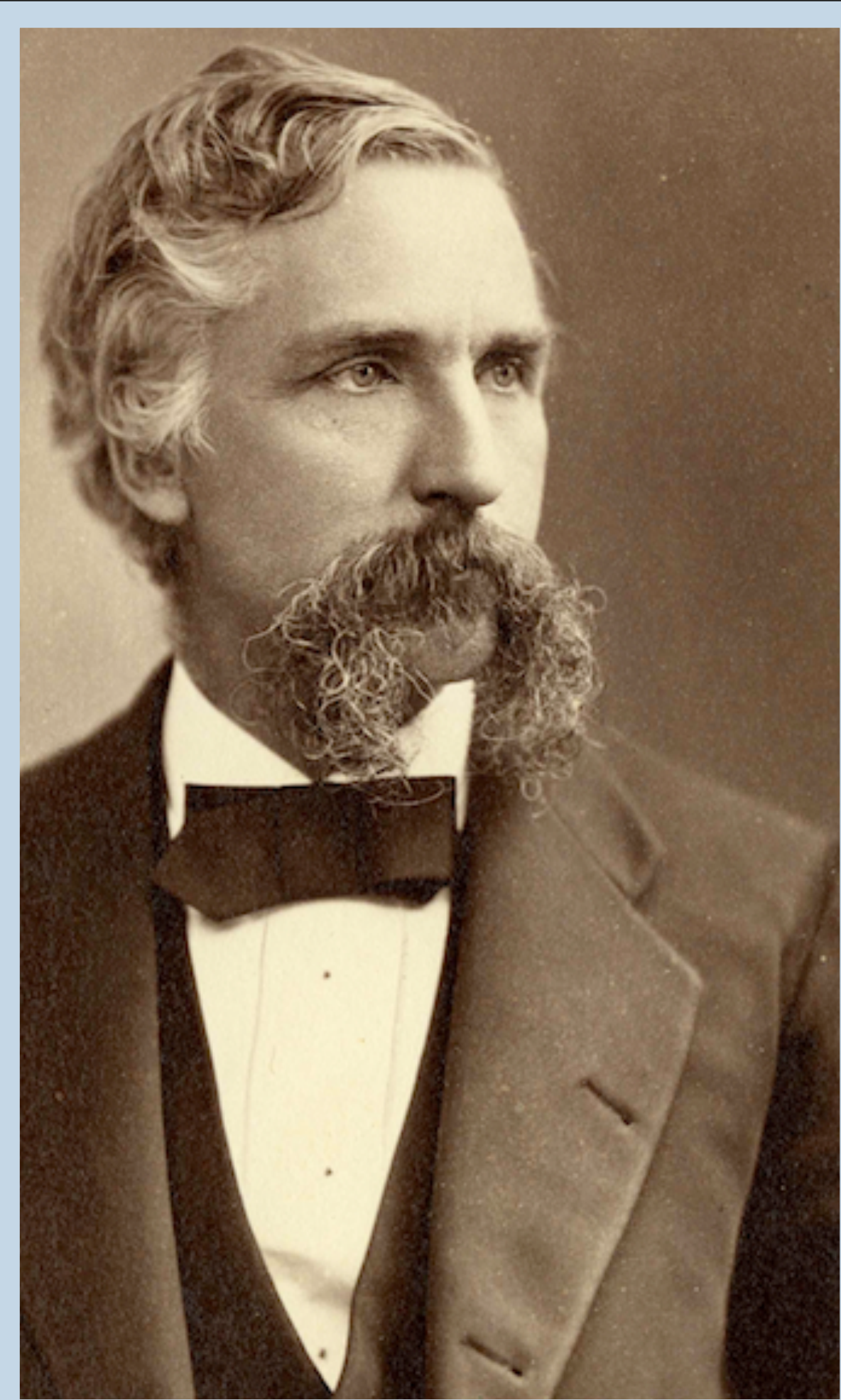
In July of 1862, he was granted a sabbatical in Europe. Instead, he decided to join the army. One year later, he's was Gettysburg commanding 314 men.





At 4:30pm on Thursday, July 2nd, 1863, Joshua Chamberlain was at the top of Little Round Top with 314 men—and completely out of ammunition. What to do? He ordered “bayonete” & “forward” ...and charged down the hill.

It turned the tide of the Civil War.

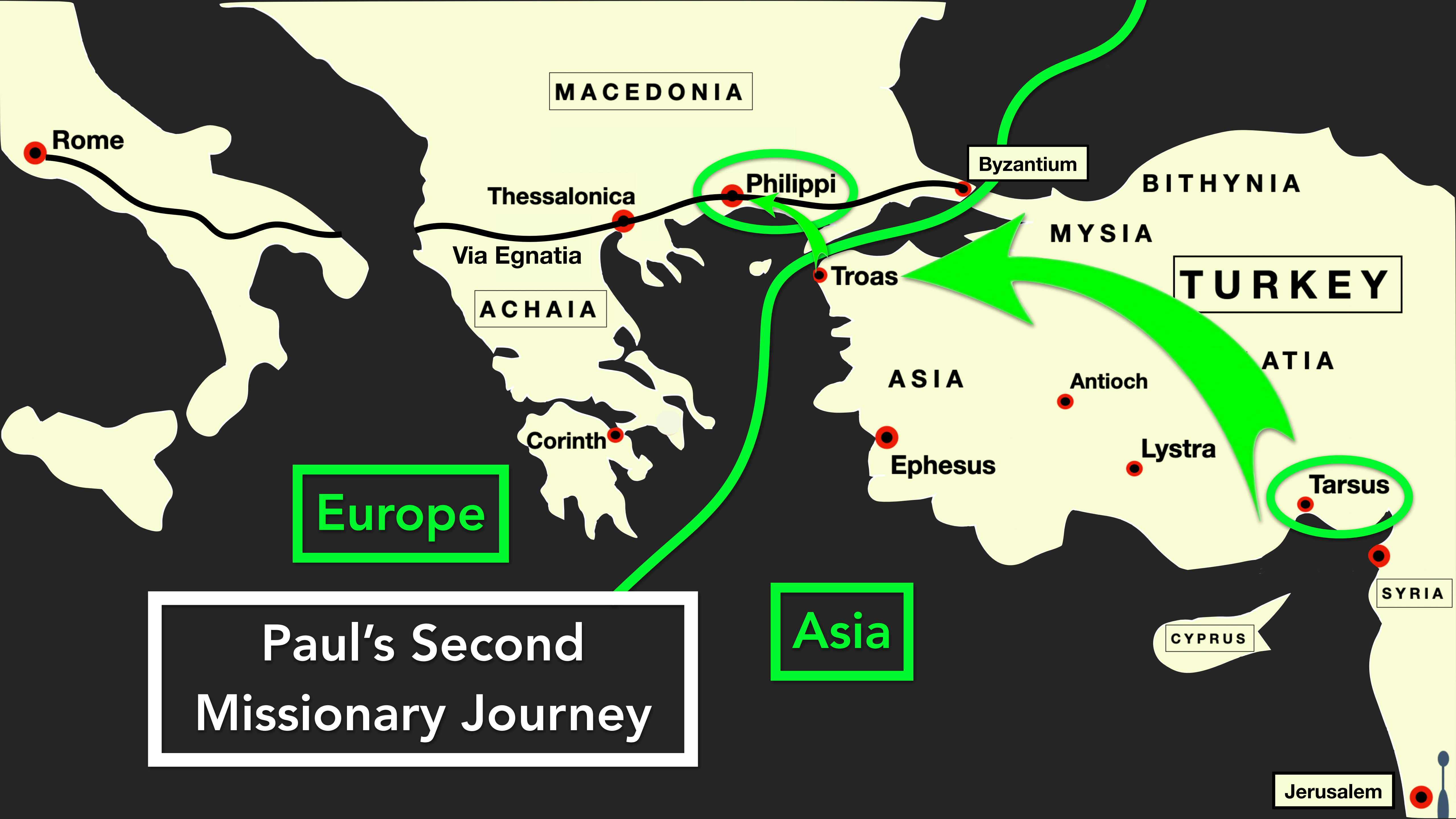


His courage in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds was more important than he could have ever known.

What does all of this
have to do with
Philippians?

And us?

The church in Philippi
was more important than
they ever could have
known.



MACEDONIA

Rome

Thessalonica

Philippi

Byzantium

BITHYNIA

Via Egnatia

MYSIA

TURKEY

ACHAIA

Troas

ATIA

ASIA

Antioch

Corinth

Ephesus

Lystra

Tarsus

Europe

SYRIA

Paul's Second
Missionary Journey

Asia

CYPRUS

Jerusalem

Philippi was critical in
Paul's vision to take the
Gospel to the
"ends of the earth."

Which is why Paul prays
what he prays in
verses 3-6.

*"I thank my God every
time I remember you!"*

Paul is sitting in prison—

But the people in the church in

Philippi are shining like stars!

Paul is sitting in prison—

“I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel” v. 7

**But the people in the church in
Philippi are shining like stars!**

“You will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.” Phil. 2:15-16

**Joy is the overarching
theme of this entire letter!**

**Because the faithfulness of
the church in Philippi was
more important than they
ever could have known.**

What does all of this
have to do with
me and you?

You might feel like Joshua
Chamberlain at the top of
Little Round Top...
exhausted, wounded,
and out of ammunition.

**God is at work in your
life in ways that are
far bigger than you'll
ever know.**

**The Lord has a plan
for you this year!**

v. 9-11

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

