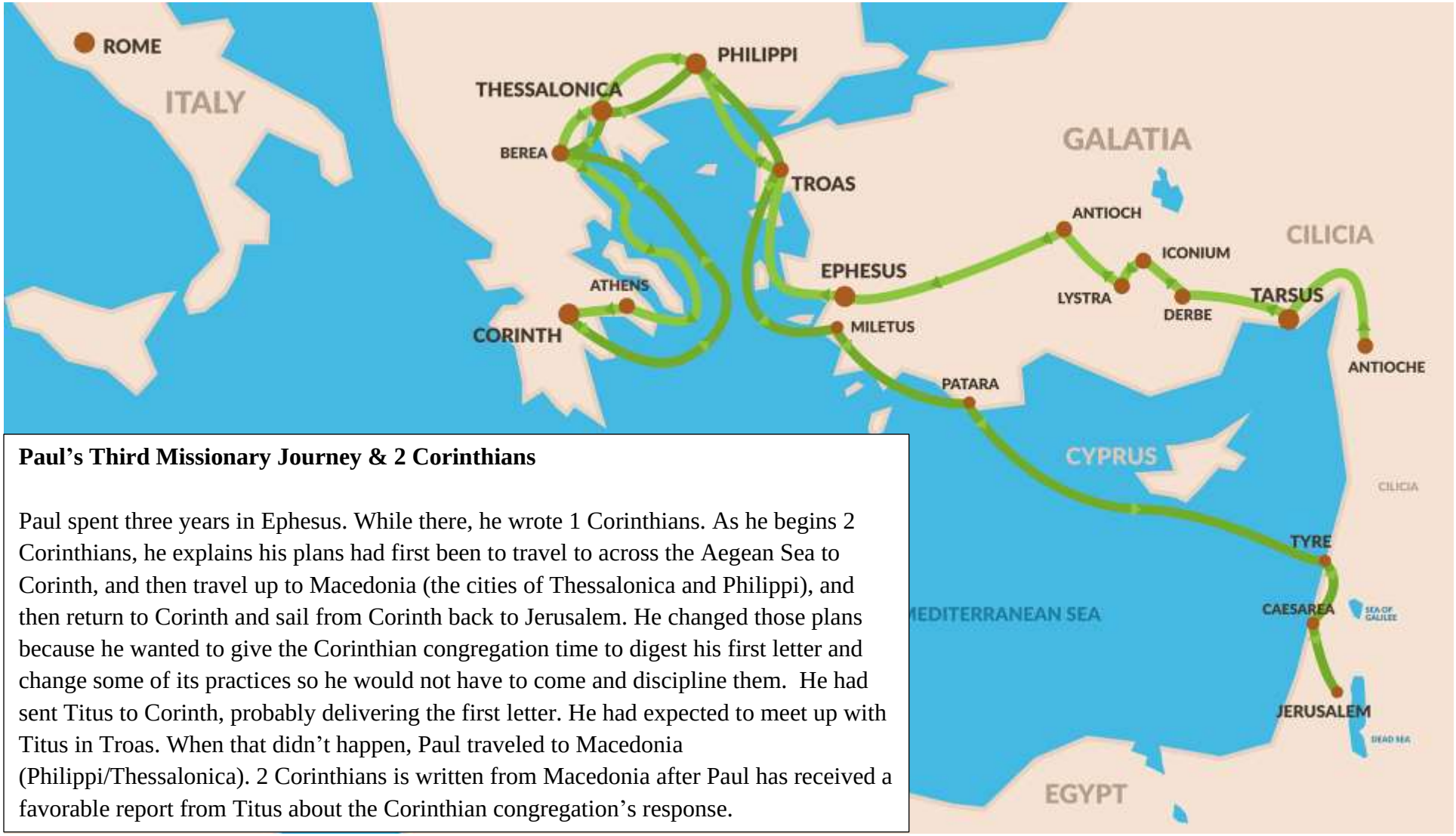

Paul's Third Missionary Journey & 2 Corinthians

Paul spent three years in Ephesus. While there, he wrote 1 Corinthians. As he begins 2 Corinthians, he explains his plans had first been to travel to across the Aegean Sea to Corinth, and then travel up to Macedonia (the cities of Thessalonica and Philippi), and then return to Corinth and sail from Corinth back to Jerusalem. He changed those plans because he wanted to give the Corinthian congregation time to digest his first letter and change some of its practices so he would not have to come and discipline them. He had sent Titus to Corinth, probably delivering the first letter. He had expected to meet up with Titus in Troas. When that didn't happen, Paul traveled to Macedonia (Philippi/Thessalonica). 2 Corinthians is written from Macedonia after Paul has received a favorable report from Titus about the Corinthian congregation's response.