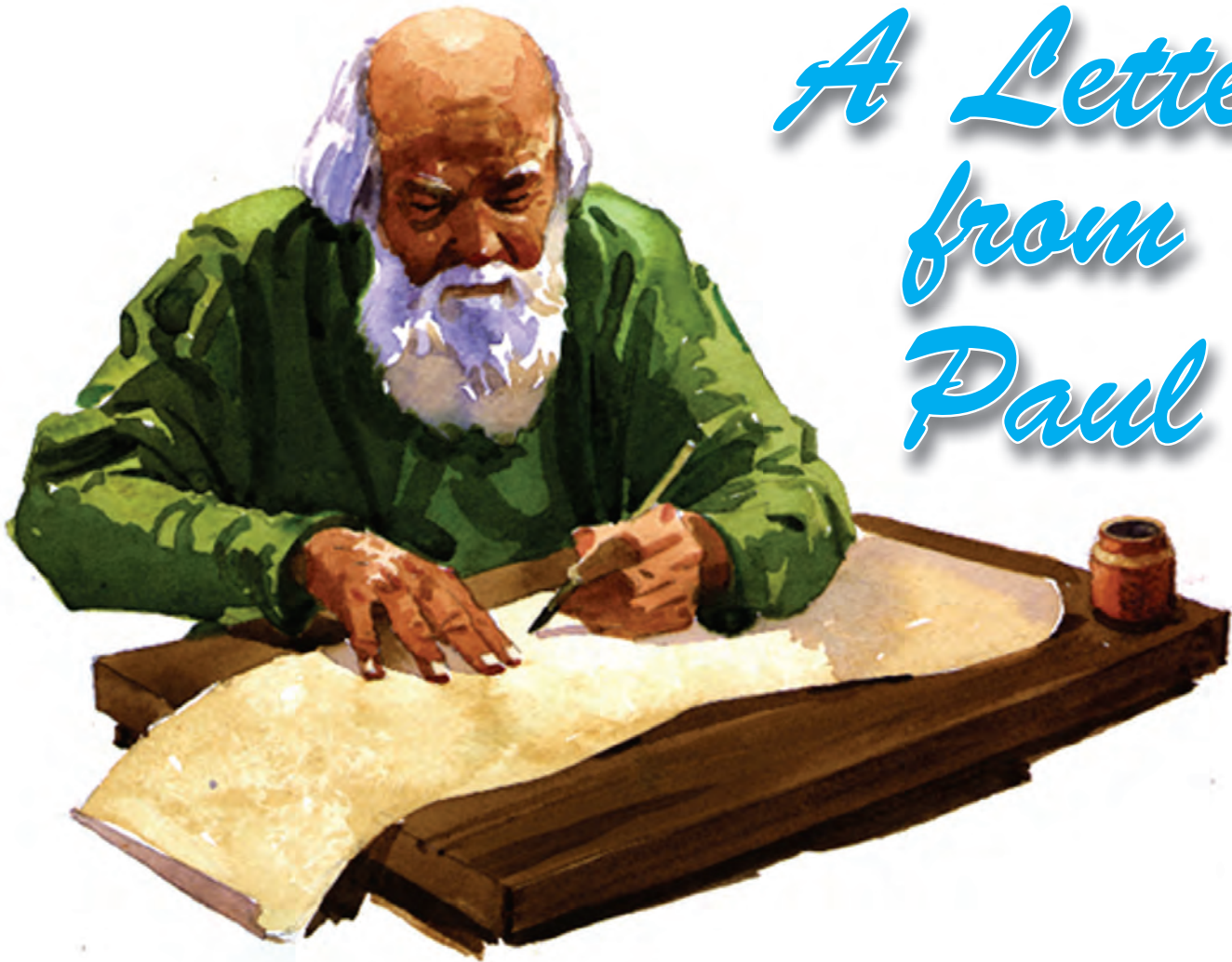


A Letter from Paul



“Finally, a letter from my dear friend and teacher!” Timothy thought when he received Paul’s letter. As he read it, he remembered the first time he heard Paul preach. Paul and Barnabas had come to Lystra, Timothy’s birthplace.

At first, the citizens of Lystra treated Paul and Barnabas very well. But later they were angered by Paul’s message. They stoned him and left him for dead. But it was through his preaching that Timothy and his mother and grandmother became Christians.

Timothy was very happy when Paul returned to Lystra for a second time. He was even happier when Paul chose him to be his assistant for the rest of his trip.

Paul and Timothy were the first Christians to go to Europe. Together they started churches in Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea. Memories flooded the mind of

Timothy as he thought of how they had worked in the church at Ephesus. Now he was doing what Paul had assigned him to do. He was the pastor of the church in Ephesus. Lately, some false teachers had been creating many problems. Maybe Paul had something to tell him that would help, Timothy thought as he started reading.

*To Timothy, my true son in the faith:
Grace, mercy and peace from God our
Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*“As I urged you when I went to Macedonia,
stay there in Ephesus so that you may
command certain people not to teach false
doctrines . . . The goal of this command is
love, which comes from a pure heart and a
good conscience and a sincere faith. Some
have departed from these and have turned
to meaningless talk. I thank Christ Jesus
our Lord, who has given me strength, that*