Savage’s study is an extensively revised and updated version of his 1987 Cambridge University dissertation that unfolds in two equal parts: 1) an investigation of the broad cultural values current in first-century Graeco-Roman society as they had been intensified in Corinth, followed by a reconstruction of the criticisms being leveled against Paul on the basis of 1-2 Corinthians themselves (pp. 19-99); and 2) an investigation of the motif of “power through weakness” in 2 Corinthians 3-4, first thematically and then exegetically. An extensive bibliography and indexes round out the book. Savage’s central purpose is to make sense of the “paradox” found most poignantly in the "cryptic words" of 2 Cor. 12:10: “when I...
Corinth and Christians in the surrounding province of Achaea, in modern-day Greece. \[2\text{Cor.1:1}\] Paul wrote this book to call Christians back to what fellowship with Jesus Christ can mean, declaring the great spiritual values which make Christian faith a living vital thing. 2 Corinthians: authentic Christianity. Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness", made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:1,6). Reading through Paul's second letter to the church at Corinth makes you aware that this is the most personal and emotional of all his letters. It throbs with a sense of the glories of God's grace. Visiting Corinth on my recent trip was a moving experience for me.