

From: Burak Sansal [mailto:buraksan@superonline.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 3:57 AM
To: Singleton, Steve
Subject: Re: Questions about Balikesir

Dear Steve,

Sorry for my late reply but I was very busy with my tours. Regarding your question, as you said Adramyttium is the ancient name of today's Edremit, which originally meant "Adra valley". Today Edremit covers a large area, therefore you can't find it in today's city center, but it was somewhere in Oren neighborhood of Burhaniye district, on the Aegean Sea.

Today, the whole gulf is called as Edremit Gulf (derived from the Adramyttium city in Oren), and then the town which was founded lately was called as Edremit which has nothing to do with the original location of the ancient city. So, the name of Edremit town derives from Edremit Gulf, not from the ancient city of Adramyttium.

That's why you can't find the ruins in modern Edremit today. It was founded in the 15th century BC (but it was named after Adramys of Lidia in the 6th century BC) in an area called Karatas, in a radius of 8 kilometers from Karatas' center. After the Roman period, the inhabitants left their city and moved to the area of today's Edremit for some reason.

So, on his third journey St. Paul sailed on a ship of Adramyttium town (today's Oren), a port of Mysia region. Unfortunately, today there isn't much excavation in Oren, there are only some occasional findings from the Hellenistic and Roman periods, such as terracotta pieces, parts of the city walls, a couple of Christian churches, etc. You can find some photos at this webpage:
<http://www.denetko.com.tr/index.php?CatId=116>

Best Regards,

Burak Sansal

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