

The Acts of the Apostles II
The Gospel Taken to Europe
Acts 16:1-40

- I. CONFIRMING THE CHURCHES IN ASIA MINOR (Acts 16:1-5)
 - A. Timothy's Entrance Into the Ministry (Acts 16:1-3)
 - i. From the town of Lystra (Acts 16:1; Acts 14:8, 19-21)
 1. Where the man crippled in his feet was healed by Paul (Acts 14:8-10)
 2. Where Paul visited again before returning to Antioch, Syria on his first missionary journey (Acts 14:19-20)
 - ii. Having a believing mother (Acts 16:1; 2 Timothy 1:5; 2 Timothy 3:15)
 1. That taught Timothy the scripture (2 Timothy 3:15)
 2. That lived a life of faith in front of Timothy (2 Timothy 1:5)
 - iii. Product of a mixed marriage (Acts 16:1; 1 Corinthians 7:13-14)
 1. Mother a Jewess
 - a) Named Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5)
 - i. A believer
 - ii. Noted to have unfeigned faith
 - b) Daughter of a Jewess woman named Lois (2 Timothy 1:5)
 - i. Also a believer
 - ii. Noted to have unfeigned faith
 - c) Faithful to give her son the truth (2 Timothy 3:15)
 2. Father a Greek
 - a) Very possible that he was not a believer (Acts 16:1)
 - b) Never mentioned alongside Timothy's mother and grandmother when Paul commends them for their faith in 2 Timothy.
 3. Believer and non-believer marriage
 - a) The allowance (1 Corinthians 7:12-13, 14)
 - i. Historically: Paul was very likely dealing with those that had believed and were married to those that had not believed as of yet.

- ii. Notice: The instruction is set forth that if the unbelieving spouse is willing to dwell with the believer that they should remain married.
- iii. Notice: As a believer you should always strive to keep your marriage together, no matter if the one you're married to is saved or not. In fact, Peter under the direction of the Holy Spirit would write in regards to the husband and wife relationship mentions how the wife's subjection and attitude to her husband could be a tool in him obeying the word of God (1 Peter 3:1-2; cp. 1 Peter 2:18-25)
 - b) The warning (2 Corinthians 6:11, 14-17)
 - c) The sanctifying (1 Corinthians 7:14-15)
 - i. Of the marriage before God
 - ii. Of the children brought forth from the marriage

Note: It would seem that the congregation at Corinth was looking for loopholes (reasons) to be able to leave a spouse (notice: Paul's wording in verses 12 and 13). Paul told the believing spouse to stay with their unbelieving husband or wife. That the marriage was indeed sanctified. He goes on to tell them that it is possible that the believing spouse could influence the unbeliever in the ways of God.

- iv. Called from faithful service (Acts 16:2; 1 Corinthians 4:17; Philippians 2:19-22)
 - v. Circumcised for Jewish evangelism (Acts 16:3)
 - 1. The prejudice against him (Acts 16:3)
 - 2. The principle involved (1 Corinthians 9:19-23)
 - 3. The principle reversed (Galatians 2:1-5)
- B. Work in the Established Churches (Acts 16:4-5)
- i. The decrees delivered (Acts 16:4; Acts 15:27-29)
 - ii. The churches established (Acts 16:5; Acts 15:41)
 - iii. The number increased (Acts 16:5; Acts 9:31)

The Acts of the Apostles II

To the Greek Also Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey

II. CALLED TO SERVICE IN MACEDONIA (Acts 16:6-12)

A. The Stops of the Spirit (Acts 16:6-8)

- i. Forbidden to preach in Asia (Acts 16:6) – See Map on page 9 of notes (Paul's Second Missionary Journey)
- ii. Suffered not to go to Bythynia (Acts 16:7-8; Exodus 14:13-14; Psalm 46:10)
 1. Illustration: The Israelites were to "stand still" at the Red Sea and let the Lord guide them. He wanted them to cross the Red Sea, but it was going to take Him working on their behalf before they could do so.
 2. Too many times Christians want to cross their "Red Sea" too soon. In turn it causes problems in their lives because they get ahead of God.
 3. Sometimes it's not in God's plans for us to labor in a certain place. Paul was forbidden to preach in Asia. Did God want Asia to have the gospel? Yes, but not by the voice of Paul.

B. The Vision of Macedonia (Acts 16:9-10)

- i. The man of Macedonia (Acts 16:9; Acts 18:9-10)
- ii. The call to Macedonia (Acts 16:10; Galatians 5:18)
 1. The country of Greece
 2. The continent of Europe
 3. A move to the west

C. The Trip to Philippi (Acts 16:11-12)

- i. From Troas (Acts 16:11)
- ii. To Philippi (Acts 16:12)
 1. A chief city
 2. A colony (see verse 21) – a free town having no taxes or military duty

III. CONVERSIONS TO CHRIST AT PHILIPPI (Acts 16:13-34)

A. The Salvation of Lydia (Acts 16:13-15)

- i. The first service in Europe (Acts 16:13)

1. On the Sabbath (Acts 13:14-15)
2. At the river side
- ii. The first convert in Europe (Acts 16:14)
 1. A business lady
 2. A Jewish proselyte (Acts 8:27)
 3. A seeker of truth (2 Corinthians 4:4-6)
- iii. The first meeting in a house in Europe (Acts 16:15)
 1. She brought her household
 2. She offered her house (Acts 16:40)

Note: The Family Emphasis of the Gospel (Acts 11:14; Acts 16:30-34; Acts 18:8; Romans 16:10-11; 1 Corinthians 1:11, 16; 1 Corinthians 16:15)

- B. The Freeing of the Possessed Girl (Acts 16:16-18)
 - i. The possessed girl (Acts 16:16-17)
 1. Having a spirit of divination (Acts 16:16)
 - a. Divination: special knowledge
 - b. Condemned in scripture (Deuteronomy 18:10-12; Deuteronomy 29:29)
 2. Bringing gain by soothsaying (Acts 16:16)
 - a. Soothsaying: predicting the future [truth telling]
 - b. Condemned in scripture (Micah 5:12)
 3. Crying after Paul and the company (Acts 16:17; Mark 1:23-24)
 - ii. The power of the apostle (Acts 16:18)
 1. Being grieved of the girl
 2. Commanded the spirit to depart
- C. The Jailing of the Missionaries (Acts 16:19-24)
 - i. The accusations of the girl's masters (Acts 16:19-21)
 1. They are Jews (Acts 16:19-20)
 2. They teach unlawful customs (Acts 16:21; cp. Acts 19:24-27)
 - ii. The attack of the multitude (Acts 16:22-23a)
 - iii. The imprisonment of the missionaries (Acts 16:23b-24)

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- D. The Salvation of the Jailer (Acts 16:25-34)
 - i. The testimony of Paul and Silas (Acts 16:25)
 - 1. They prayed unto God
 - 2. They sang praises unto God (Psalm 13:6; Psalm 30:4; Psalm 59:16-17)
 - 3. The prisoners heard them (Psalm 126:1-3; Matthew 5:14-16)
 - ii. The shaking of the Lord (Acts 16:26-27)
 - 1. A great earthquake (Acts 16:26; Psalm 104:31-32)
 - 2. A troubled prison keeper (Acts 16:27; Acts 12:18-19)
 - iii. The message of salvation (Acts 16:28-31)
 - 1. The call of deliverance (Acts 16:28; cp. Genesis 32:28; Proverbs 16:7)
 - 2. The request for help (Acts 16:29-30)
 - 3. The word of redemption (Acts 16:31; Romans 10:8-10)
 - iv. The response of the household (Acts 16:32-34)
 - 1. They heard the word (Acts 16:32; Romans 10:17)
 - 2. They followed in baptism (Acts 16:33)
 - 3. They rejoiced in God (Acts 16:34)

IV. CITIZENSHIP USED TO FURTHER THE GOSPEL (Acts 16:35-40)

- A. The Offer of Release (Acts 16:35-36)
- B. The Demand of Paul (Acts 16:37-38; See. verse 21)
- C. Their Careful Treatment (Acts 16:39; Matthew 8:34)
- D. The House of Lydia (Acts 16:40; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 2)