

PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY (1)

Acts 16

Introduction:

- 1. Paul and Barnabas returned to Antioch after their first missionary journey.**
- 2. They confronted false teachers who demanded that Gentile converts be circumcised and keep the Law of Moses.**
- 3. They decided to go on a second missionary journey, but disagreed over taking John Mark with them.**
 - a. Barnabas took John Mark and went to Cyprus.**
 - b. Paul took Silas and went to Syria and Cilicia.**
 - c. Paul and Silas then visited the churches in Phrygia and Galatia.**

Discussion:

- I. TIMOTHY WAS CHOSEN BY PAUL TO BE A MISSIONARY (1-5).**
 - A. Timothy is one of the best known men in the New Testament.**
 - 1. He was Paul's "son in the faith" (1 Tim. 1:2).**
 - 2. He was a close friend and co-worker of Paul.**
 - 3. Two New Testament epistles were written to him.**
 - B. Timothy was blessed in his upbringing.**
 - 1. His father was a Greek and probably an unbeliever.**
 - 2. His mother, Eunice, and grandmother, Lois, were Jews who became Christians (2 Tim. 1:5).**
 - 3. They had taught Timothy the Scriptures since he was a baby (2 Tim. 3:14, 15).**
 - C. Paul saw Timothy's potential and took him as a co-worker.**
 - 1. He had Timothy circumcised to give him access to the synagogue so he could teach the Jews.**
 - 2. He refused to allow Titus to be circumcised (Gal. 2:1-5).**
 - a. Timothy was half Jew so circumcision applied to him.**
 - b. Circumcision did not apply to Titus who was a Greek.**
 - c. To have allowed Titus to be circumcised was to concede that Gentile Christians must be circumcised and keep the Law of to be saved.**
- II. A MAN OF MACEDONIA CALLED FOR HELP (6-10).**
 - A. The missionaries traveled through Phrygia and Galatia.**
 - 1. They were apparently heading due west to Ephesus.**
 - 2. The Holy Spirit refused to let them go in that direction.**

3. They tried to go north to Bithynia, but the Spirit forbade.
4. They then moved in a northwest direction to Troas.
5. Luke joined them here for the pronouns change from “they” to “us.”

B. A vision appeared to Paul in the night.

1. A man from Macedonia pleaded, “Come over and help us.”
2. The missionaries understood it was God’s will that they sail for Europe.

III. A BUSINESS WOMAN OBEYED THE GOSPEL (11-15).

A. The missionaries sailed to Neapolis and went overland to Philippi.

1. Philippi was the chief city of Macedonia, named after Philip, father of Alexander the Great.
2. The final battle for mastery of the Roman Empire had taken place on the plains of Philippi.
3. Octavian (Augustus) made Philippi a Roman city.

B. There was no synagogue of the Jews in Philippi.

1. Paul found a group of Godly women meeting by the river.
2. They were either Jewish wives of Gentile husbands or Gentiles who believed in the God of Israel.

C. Lydia, a seller of purple cloth, was from Thyatira.

1. No mention is made of her husband or children.
2. Her household was composed of employees and servants.
3. Her heart was opened by the preaching of the Gospel.
4. She and her household were baptized (Mark 16:15,16).
5. Lydia insisted that the missionaries stay in her home.

IV. PAUL AND SILAS WERE BEATEN AND IMPRISONED (16-24).

A. A slave girl who had an evil spirit followed the missionaries.

1. Her owners made money by having her tell fortunes.
2. She constantly cried out, “These men are servants of the Most High God who proclaim to us the way of salvation.”
3. Paul did not want the Gospel associated with demons though their testimony was true (cf. Mark 1:23-25).
4. He cast the demon out of the slave girl.

B. When the girl’s owners saw their hope of profit was gone, they dragged Paul and Silas before the magistrates.

1. They brought false charges against the missionaries.
2. Paul and Silas were whipped and thrown into prison without a trial.

V. THE JAILOR WAS CONVERTED TO CHRIST (25-34).

- A. At midnight, Paul and Silas were singing and praying in the prison.**
 - 1. Their backs were bloody and their bodies stiff and sore.**
 - 2. They could sing and pray because their spirits were free.**
 - 3. The other prisoners were listening.**

- B. An earthquake suddenly shook the prison, the doors were opened and everyone's bonds were loosed.**
 - 1. The jailor awakened and supposed the prisoners had escaped.**
 - 2. He was about to commit suicide when Paul stopped him.**

- C. The jailor then asked the most important question of life: "What must I do to be saved?"**
 - 1. He was told to "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ."**
 - 2. Many stop at this point and teach he was saved by faith alone.**
 - 3. "They spoke the Word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house."**
 - 4. This was necessary for "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Rom. 10:17).**

- D. The jailor "took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes."**
 - 1. This showed his repentance.**
 - 2. He and all his household were baptized.**
 - 3. He "rejoiced having believed in God."**
 - 4. "Believed" is a synecdoche to include all he did to obey.**
 - 5. He rejoiced only after he and his family were baptized.**

VI. THE NEXT MORNING THE MAGISTRATES APOLOGIZED (35-40).

- A. They sent word to the jailor to let the prisoners go free.**
 - 1. Paul refused to go for his rights as a Roman citizen had been violated.**
 - 2. He did not want to leave the city with a stigma reflecting upon the church.**
 - 3. He forced the magistrates to come to escort them out.**

- B. Paul and Silas met with the Christians before departing.**

Conclusion:

- 1. We today are saved in the same way Lydia and the jailor were saved.**
- 2. We must have the Gospel preached to us.**
- 3. We must believe, repent of our sins, and be baptized (Mark 16:15,16).**

