



GOD'S PEOPLE

*responding to life situations
as God's Work advances*

Group Teaching | Older Men | 04 July 2023

Acts 16:11-40 (ESV)

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BIG PICTURE

In Jerusalem

Witness begins in Jerusalem 1:1 - 6:7
(summary at 2:41,47; 4:4, 6:7)

In Judea and Samaria

Witness expands beyond
Jerusalem 6:8 - 9:31
(summary at 9:31)

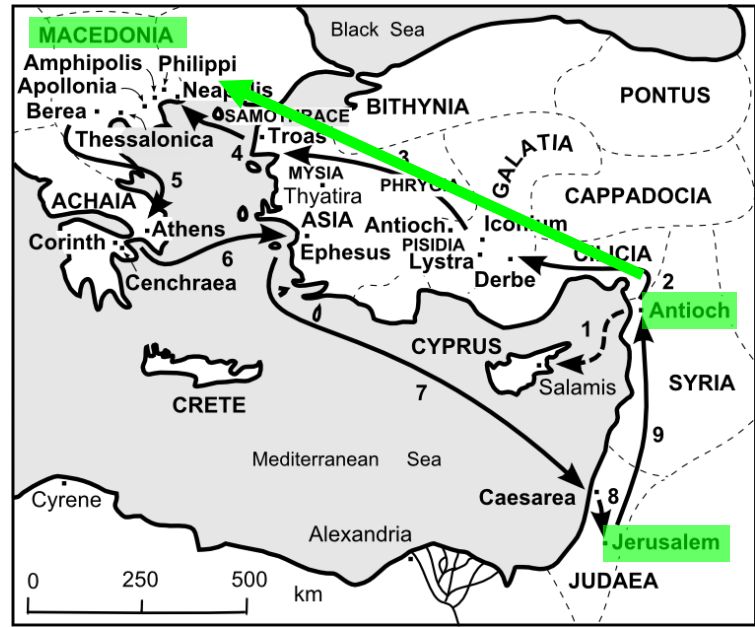
To the end of the earth

Because of the Arrival of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2)

“But you shall **receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you **shall be witnesses to Me** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

BIG
IDEA

Paul's 2nd
Missionary
Journey
(Acts 16)



Acts 15:36-41

Paul Barnabas

disagreement

Silas

+ John aka Mark

Antioch → Syria & Cilicia

Antioch → Cyrus

+ Timothy (at Derbe/Lytra)

→ Phrygia & Galatia

XX → Bithynia (from Mysia)

→ Troas

→ Macedonia

Acts 16:1-7

Paul's 2nd
missionary
Journey

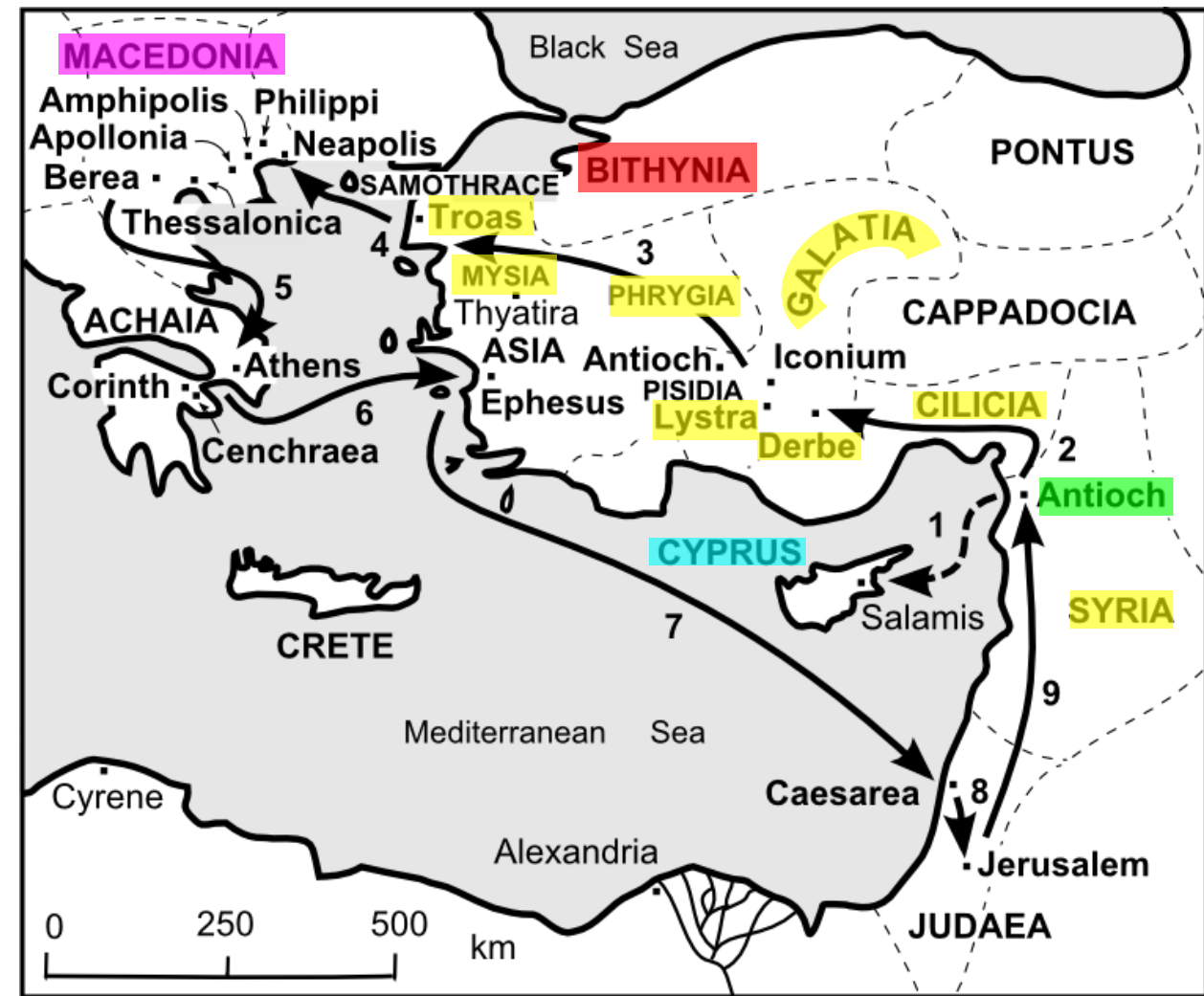
Acts 16:8-10

⁸ So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.

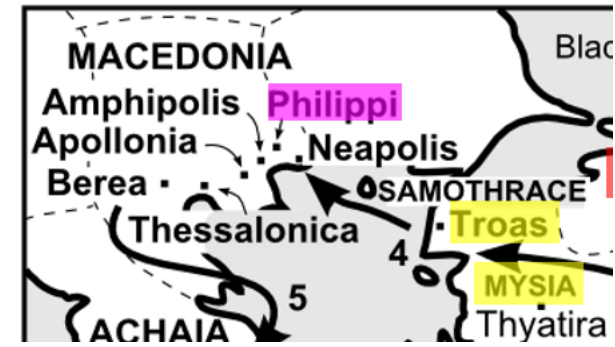
⁹ And a vision appeared to Paul in the night.

A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

¹⁰ Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.



Acts 16:11-40 *Today's Passage*



STORY FLOW

Verse 11-15

Salvation of

Lydia

+ household

a seller of purple
from city of Thyatira
(south of Mysia)
who worshiped God

Verse 16-24

Deliverance of

Spirit

from a slave girl
resulting them in
imprisonment

Verse 25-34

Salvation of

Jailer

+ household

i/c of inner prison
from city of Philippi
who also cared for P&S

Verse 35-40

Release of

Paul & Silas

from unjustified charge
as roman citizens
returned to Lydia's home

Acts 16:11-40

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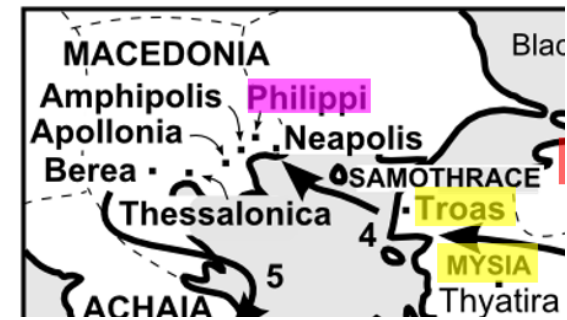
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Learning Focus

- ① How God's Work Advances (in various settings)
- ② How God's People Responds (Lydia, Jailer, Paul & Silas)



¹¹ Therefore, sailing from **Troas**,
we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next *day* came to Neapolis,
¹² and from there to **Philippi**, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony.
And we were staying in that city for some days.

¹³ And on the **Sabbath day** we went out of the city to the riverside,
where prayer was customarily made;
and **we sat down and spoke to the women who met *there*.**

¹⁴ Now a certain woman named **Lydia heard *us*.**
She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, **who worshiped God.**
The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.

¹⁵ And when **she and her household were baptized**, she **begged *us*, saying,**
*"If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, **come to my house and stay.**"*
So she **persuaded us.**

Acts 16:11-15

When: Sabbath Day

Where: Philippi (Macedonia Region)

Who: Women praying at the riverbank

Encounter between Paul and Lydia

- Lydia from Thyatira
 - Seller of expensive purple clothing
 - Worshipped God
 - Her heart was opened to Paul's sharing
 - Accepted & baptised in Christ + household
 - Persuaded P&S to stay at her home

Acts 13:13-51

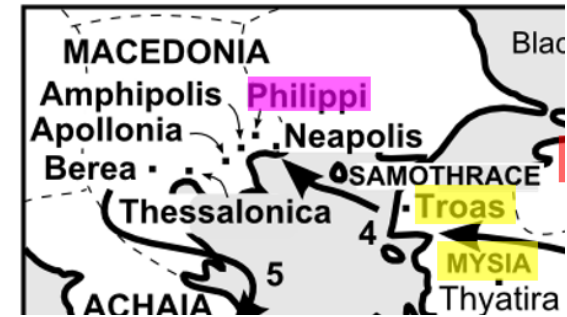
When: Sabbath Day (2X)

Where: Antioch (Pisidia Region)

Who: People at synagogue

Encounter between Paul and Crowd (Jews & Gentiles)

- Paul's speech
 - on God's plan for salvation has always been through Jesus & for all who will believe
- Jewish leaders filled with envy
 - seeing multitude responding to Paul's teaching
- Jewish leaders stirred up persecution
 - against P&B and expelled them from this region



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<div>Verse 11-15</div> <div>Salvation of Lydia <small>+ household</small> a seller of purple from city of Thyatira who worshiped God</div>	<div>Regardless the circumstances and those who are His; their hearts will turn back to Him.</div>	<div>(Lydia) responds with hospitality when a need is observed. c.f. 16:40</div>
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- ¹⁶ Now it happened, as we went to prayer,
that **a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit** of divination met us,
who **brought her masters much profit** by fortune-telling.
- ¹⁷ This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying,
"These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation."
- ¹⁸ And this **she did for many days**. But Paul, **greatly annoyed**, turned and said to the spirit,
"I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And **he came out** that very hour.
- ¹⁹ But when **her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone**,
they **seized Paul and Silas** and dragged *them* into the marketplace to the authorities.
- ²⁰ And they brought them to the magistrates, and said,
"These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city;
- ²¹ *and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe."*
- ²² Then the **multitude** rose up together against them;
and the **magistrates** tore off their clothes and commanded *them* to be beaten with rods.
- ²³ And when they had laid many stripes on them,
they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely.
- ²⁴ Having received such a charge, **he put them into the inner prison & fastened their feet in the stocks.**

Acts 16:16-24

Where: Philippi (Macedonia Region)

What: Paul cast out the spirit from a slave girl

Encounter between Paul and Slave Girl

- Slave girl possessed with spirit of divination
- Profit making to her masters
- Girl's persistent cry towards Paul
- Paul was annoyed and casted the spirit away
- Paul: *"I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her."*

Crowd Response: -ve

- Masters were angry that their hope was gone
- They dragged P&S to the authorities
- Accused them on unlawful teaching to RC
- Multitude arose together against P&S
- Magistrates imprisoned P&S with chains

Acts 3:1-10

Where: Jerusalem (Judea Region)

What: Peter healed a lame

Encounter between Peter and Lame

- a man was lame since birth
- daily routine at temple gate to ask for alms
- Peter: *"Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."*
- lame man walked; praising God

Crowd Response: +ve

- People around filled with wonder and amazement

Acts 9:32-35

Where: Lydda (Judea Region)

What: Peter healed a paralyzed
(8yrs bedridden)

Encounter between Peter and Paralyzed

- a man named Aeneas was paralyzed
- Peter: *"Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed."*
- Aeneas arose immediately

Crowd Response: +ve

- All who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him healed & turned to the Lord.

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<div> <div>Verse 16-24</div> <div> <div>Deliverance of</div> <div>Spirit</div> <div> <div>from a slave girl</div> <div>resulting them in imprisonment</div> </div> </div> </div>	<p>Not expecting that miracle(s) performed will definitely bring people to Jesus.</p>	<p>(P&S) responds with prayer/songs even when “all” is against them. c.f. 16:25</p>
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- ²⁵ But at midnight Paul and Silas were **praying and singing hymns** to God, and the **prisoners were listening** to them.
- ²⁶ Suddenly there was a **great earthquake**, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately **all the doors were opened** and everyone's **chains were loosed**.
- ²⁷ And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, **supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself**.
- ²⁸ But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, ***"Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."***
- ²⁹ Then he called for a light, ran in, and **fell down trembling before Paul and Silas**.
- ³⁰ And he brought them out and said, *"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"*
- ³¹ So they said,
"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."
- ³² Then they **spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all** who were in his house.
- ³³ And **he took them** the same hour of the night and **washed *their* stripes**.
And immediately **he and all his *family* were baptized**.
- ³⁴ Now when he had **brought them into his house**, he **set food** before them; and **he rejoiced**, having believed in God with all his household.

³⁵ And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, "**Let those men go.**"

³⁶ So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying,
"The magistrates have sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace."

³⁷ But Paul said to them,
**"They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, *and* have thrown *us* into prison.
And now do they put us out secretly?
No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out."**

³⁸ And the officers told these words to the magistrates,
and **they were afraid** when they heard that **they were Romans**.

³⁹ Then they **came and pleaded with them** and brought *them* out,
and **asked *them* to depart** from the city.

⁴⁰ So they went out of the prison and **entered *the house of Lydia***;
and when they had seen the brethren, **they encouraged them** and departed.

Acts 16:25-40

Where: Philippi (Macedonia Region)

What: Prison & Earthquake

Encounter between Paul and Jailer

- P&S prayed & sang hymns; prisoners listened
- Sudden earthquake came; shook its foundation
- All doors opened; all chains loosened
- Jailer woke up; assumed all prisoners escaped
- Wanted to commit suicide for his failed duty
- Paul: *“do yourself no harm for we are here!”*
- Jailer fell down before P&S
 - Accepted & baptised in Christ + household
 - Attended to their wounds and provided food
 - Rejoiced over their own salvation in Christ

Authority's Response:

- Next day, magistrates instructed to release P&S
- P&S did not agree to this “secret” release
- Authority was afraid; pleaded; invited P&S to leave
- Lydia hosted P&S; they encouraged Ct; they left

Acts 5:17-42

Where: Jerusalem (Judea Region)

What: Prison & Angel

Encounter between Peter and Authorities

- High priest and Sadducees filled with indignation arrested the apostles and put them in common prison
- Angel opened the prison doors and brought them out; instructing them to speak about the good news at the temple
- Council brought the apostles in again from the temple for interrogation

Authority's Response:

- Gamaliel (Pharisee) to convince the council to let the apostles go with stern warning; not to speak in Jesus' Name

Acts 12:1-24

Where: Judea → Caesarea

What: Prison & Angel

Encounter between Peter and King Herod

- As this pleases the Jews, King Herod persecuted many Christians including arresting Peter with heavy guarding
- Angel appeared and guided Peter out of the prison and appeared in front of fellow Christians that God sent Angel to save him

Authority's Response:

- King Herod killed all guards on duty and could not find Peter's whereabouts
- King Herod died due to flesh eating worms sent by the Angel

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<div> <div>Verse 16-24</div> <div> <div>Deliverance of</div> <div>Spirit</div> <div> <div>from a slave girl</div> <div>resulting them in</div> <div>imprisonment</div> </div> </div> </div>	<div>How can we guard ourselves from thinking that “<i>certain past practices</i>” will always/sure work for evangelism?</div>	<div>(P&S) responds with prayer/songs even when “all” is against them.</div> <div>c.f. 16:25</div>
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