

November 23/Day 327

Acts 15

Verses 1-5

- What were these random men teaching?
- Where was it decided Paul and Barnabas should go with this issue?
- By whom were they received? Where?
- This meeting is called the Jerusalem Council.

Verses 6-11

- Who stood to speak?
- What was his message?

Verse 12

- What were Paul and Barnabas saying?

Verses 13-21

- Who is speaking now?
- What did he have to say about the issue at hand?

Verse 22

- Who went to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas?

Verses 23-29

- Describe the contents of the letter.
- Antioch was home base for Paul and Barnabas. Do you think it was wise to send other men from the Council to confirm their words?

Verses 30-35

- How was the letter received?
- What are we told about Judas and Silas? While an Old Testament prophet may foretell the future, a New Testament prophet speaks to enlighten men to truth. Both act mouthpieces for God.

Verses 36-41

- If you are marking your map, you may want to note this passage begins Paul's second missionary journey.
- Who did Barnabas wish to take with them and how did Paul feel about this?
- Paul and Barnabas had done a great work together; a first missionary trip and the Jerusalem Council, but now they part ways over John Mark. How did God use their disagreement to further the gospel? Would Barnabas have been as equipped as Paul?
- Who teamed up with Paul for this second journey?
- Where did they go and why?

Acts 16

Verses 1-5

- Who did Paul meet in Lystra?
- What are we told about him?
- At the Jerusalem Council it was decided one was not required to be circumcised in order to be a believer. Why did Paul circumcise Timothy here?
- What decrees were being delivered and how did this affect the churches?

Verses 6-10

- Who was guiding where they were to go and speak?
- Notice what is said of the Spirit in verse 7.
- How did they know to go to Macedonia?

Verses 11-13

- At what location did they set sail?
- What are we told about Philippi here? Note we will eventually get to the book of Philippians which was written to believers here.
- Whom did they address down by the riverside?

Verses 14-15

- Lydia was from which city?
- What are we told about her?
- Who opens hearts to receive the message?
- What did Lydia invite Paul and Silas to do?

Verses 16-18

- What are we told about the slave-girl?
- What did she keep yelling out?

- What did Paul do?

Verses 19-21

- How did her masters respond to the slave-girl's exorcism?
- What was their complaint?
- What are the last two words of this passage? Paul himself was a Roman citizen.

Verses 22-24

- What happened to Paul and Silas in this passage?

Verses 25-30

- What time reference is given here?
- What were the men doing at this time?
- What act of God happened in verse 26?
- The jailer would be held responsible if the prisoners escaped. We saw this in another passage. He would have been killed.
- What was the jailer's question?
- How would he have even known to ask this particular question? The specific answer is not in the passage. Just think about it.

Verses 31-34

- What was the answer to his question?
- The answer has more to do with just believing with your head. Remember, we saw yesterday that even the demons believe in Him. The key is in the word, Lord. "Lord" means master, owner, authority, boss. The key is believing in Him as Lord. Believing in Him as your personal Lord. Submitting to Him as Lord.
- "You and your household" is part of the answer in verse 31. When we receive salvation, it is our personal salvation. Our family doesn't automatically receive salvation when we're born-again. The likelihood; however, increases due to our witness, but it is a personal decision for each person. In the jailer's case, his whole household came to know the Lord through this event.
- Thinking about our reading from the book of James yesterday, how was this man's salvation played out through works?

Verses 35-40

- What did the chief magistrate do in this passage?
- What was Paul's response? Why?
- Here is where we are told Paul was a Roman citizen. How did this information affect the chief magistrate?
- Where did they go after their release and what did they do there?

- Do you find it interesting that the men who had been thrown into jail were the ones doing the encouraging?

See you tomorrow.