

Acts 16-17 *The Second Missionary Journey. The Macedonian Call... Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, and Athens*

NOTES

Acts 16:1-10 The Macedonian Call – *Come over and help us!*

- 1. Timothy joined Paul's company, and he was circumcised for the sake of the Gospel. (16:1-3)**
 - ✓ Timothy's mother and grandmother were Jews that believed and taught him the Scriptures.
 - ✓ Timothy was led to Christ by Paul himself and had a good testimony among the brethren.
 - ✓ Timothy's father was a Greek which meant that he was not circumcised as a child.
- 2. Copies of the letters were delivered, and the churches were established in the faith. (16:4-5)**
 - ✓ As they went, they gave them authorized copies of the Gentile letters and decrees to keep.
 - ✓ The churches were established in the faith and increased in number daily.
- 3. Paul received the call to preach the Gospel in Macedonia – to go west. (16:6-10)**
 - ✓ The Holy Spirit had forbidden them to go east and suffered them not to go north.
 - ✓ A vision appeared to Paul with a man who prayed him, saying, "Come over... and help us."
 - ✓ They went immediately gathering that the Lord had called them to preach the Gospel.
 - ✓ They went to warn every man that Jesus is coming to judge the world and to repent and believe!

Acts 16:11-40 The Second Missionary Journey: Philippi – *Lydia's house and the jailor!*

- 1. Paul and others preached the gospel to Lydia and others at a prayer meeting. (16:11-15)**
 - ✓ After certain days, they went to where women were known to be praying on the Sabbath.
 - ✓ Lydia, who was most likely a proselyte to the Jewish religion, received God's words and believed.
 - ✓ Lydia was then baptized along with her entire household and invited them into her house.
- 2. Paul commanded an evil spirit to depart from a damsel which resulted in prison. (16:16-25)**
 - ✓ The certain damsel was using "God-talk" which grieved Paul as he was able to rebuke it.
 - ✓ The masters of the damsel who profited from her false divinations provoked legal action and prison.
 - ✓ They prayed and sang praises to God at midnight and the prisoners heard them.
- 3. After a great earthquake and prison miracle, the Philippian jailor got saved. (16:26-40)**
 - ✓ The prison foundation was shaken and immediately all doors were open, and bands loosed.
 - ✓ The jailor awoke afraid and would have killed himself, but Paul cried out for him not to do it.
 - ✓ The jailor called for a light, sprang in and fell down saying, "What must I do to be saved?"
 - ✓ They said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."
 - ✓ The jailor, who had thrust them, now washed their stripes and then they were all baptized.
 - ✓ The jailor brought them into his house for a time of food and fellowship with one another.
 - ✓ The magistrates sent word that they could go home, but Paul delayed to help to protect the church.

Acts 17:1-9 The Second Missionary Journey: Thessalonica – *the King is coming back!*

- 1. Paul's team arrived in Thessalonica and immediately went into the Jewish synagogue. (17:1-4)**
 - ✓ Paul reasoned with them in the synagogue three sabbath days out of the Scriptures.
 - ✓ Paul was preaching that Christ must needs have suffered and risen and that Jesus is the Christ.
 - ✓ Some Jews and a great multitude of devout Greeks and "not a few" chief women believed.
- 2. Unbelieving Jews moved with envy set all the city on an uproar and gathered a company. (17:5-9)**
 - ✓ They took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort and gathered a company to oppose.
 - ✓ They set all the city on an uproar and assaulted the house of Jason.

- ✓ They said, “These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.”
- ✓ They said that Paul was saying that there was another king, one Jesus!

3. More details are learned of this 2–4-week adventure in the first letter to the Thessalonians.

- ✓ Refer to notes and verse by verse study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians.

Acts 17:10-15 The Second Missionary Journey: Berea – *the power of the Scriptures!*

1. Paul and Silas arrived in Berea and immediately went into the Jewish synagogue. (17:10-11)

- ✓ The Berean Jews were more noble and received the word with all readiness of mind.
- ✓ They searched the Scriptures daily to prove what Paul was saying was true.
- ✓ Because of their response to the words of God, many of the Jews believed.
- ✓ The godly response of the Jews and the power of the Gospel led many Gentiles to be saved.

2. Thessalonian unbelieving Jews came to stir up Berea against God’s work. (17:12-15)

- ✓ The Jews of Thessalonica were not content to disrupt God’s work in their city only.
- ✓ It was the preaching of the word of God that was of most concern to these unbelievers.
- ✓ They stirred up the people and evil affected their minds toward God and His truth.
- ✓ Berean believers sent away Paul to Athens who went alone as it were by the sea.
- ✓ Silas and Timothy abode their still to help establish the church in Berea.

Acts 17:16-34 The Second Missionary Journey: Athens – *beware of men’s wisdom!*

1. Paul’s spirit was stirred by the idolatry of people of Athens... so he opened his mouth. (17:16-17)

- ✓ His spirit was stirred in him when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.
- ✓ Therefore, he disputed in the synagogue with the Jews and devout persons.
- ✓ Therefore, he spoke in the market daily with them that met with him.

2. Paul preached Christ crucified and the resurrection to the people of Athens. (17:18-21)

- ✓ Certain philosophers of the Epicureans and the Stoicks encountered Paul preaching.
- ✓ They wanted to know more about this new doctrine; the truth was to them like strange things.
- ✓ They wanted their ears tickled and wanted only to tell, or to hear some new thing.

3. Paul stood and preached of God as Creator and Lord of heaven and earth. (17:22-25)

- ✓ He beheld their superstitions and devotions to idols and “to the unknown God.”
- ✓ God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth.
- ✓ God has determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of man’s habitation.
- ✓ For in Him we live, and move, and have our being.
- ✓ We ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, silver, stone, graven art, man’s devices.

4. Paul preached repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ and Judgment. (17:26-34)

- ✓ The times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.
- ✓ Because He hath appointed a day in the which He will judge the world in righteousness.
- ✓ By that man whom He hath ordained; where of He hath given assurance unto all men.
- ✓ In that He hath raised Him from the dead.
- ✓ When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some (1) mocked, (2) postponed, (3) believed.

Personal Applications

1. What did God speak to you about tonight? What does He want you to do differently beginning now?
2. Have you taken ownership of the Gospel ministry personally? Are you ready to advance the Gospel?