

THE BOOK OF

LIBERTI

# ACTS

CHAPTERS

14-17

THE CHURCH MULTIPLIES

# ACTS 15:30-35

<sup>30</sup> So when they were sent off, they went down to Antioch, and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. <sup>31</sup> And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement. <sup>32</sup> And Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with many words. <sup>33</sup> And after they had spent some time, they were sent off in peace by the brothers to those who had sent them. <sup>35</sup> But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.



# CONFLICT AND CHRISTIANITY

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## ACTS 15:36-41

<sup>36</sup> And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are."<sup>37</sup> Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. <sup>38</sup> But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. <sup>39</sup> And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, <sup>40</sup> but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. <sup>41</sup> And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

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“What binds us together is not common education, common race, common income levels, common politics, common nationality, common accents, common jobs, or anything of the sort. Christians come together, not because they form a natural collocation, but because they have been saved by Jesus Christ and owe him a common allegiance.



In the light of this common allegiance, in light of the fact that they have all been loved by Jesus himself, they commit themselves to doing what he says – and he commands them to love one another. **In this light, they are a band of natural enemies who love one another for Jesus' sake."**

**D.A CARSON**

# HOW CONFLICT ARISES



1. Misunderstandings from poor communication
2. Competition over limited resources such as time or money
3. Sinful attitudes and habits that lead to sinful words and actions
4. Differences of values, goals, and opinions

(Ken Sande)

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To follow Jesus faithfully, means to embrace sacrifice.

## A LESSON FROM PAUL

We must learn to see others through the eyes of hope.

## A LESSON FROM BARNABAS



# NO ONE IS BEYOND REDEMPTION

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## 2 TIMOTHY 4:9-11 CSB

<sup>9</sup> Make every effort to come to me soon, <sup>10</sup> because Demas has deserted me, since he loved this present world, and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup> Only Luke is with me. Bring Mark with you, for he is useful to me in the ministry.

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# MISSIONAL FLEXIBILITY

## ACTS 16:1-5

<sup>1</sup> Paul went on to Derbe and Lystra, where there was a disciple named Timothy, the son of a believing Jewish woman, but his father was a Greek. <sup>2</sup> The brothers and sisters at Lystra and Iconium spoke highly of him. <sup>3</sup> Paul wanted Timothy to go with him; so he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, since they all knew that his father was a Greek. <sup>4</sup> As they traveled through the towns, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem for the people to observe. <sup>5</sup> So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.



“The closer we are to Jesus, the further we will be from sin. Likewise, the closer we are to Jesus, the closer we will be to sinners.”

SCOTT SAULS

People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa. . . . Is that a sacrifice which brings its own blest reward in healthful activity, the consciousness of doing good, peace of mind, and a bright hope of a glorious destiny hereafter? Away with the word in such a view, and with such a thought! It is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege.



Anxiety, sickness, suffering, or danger, now and then, with a foregoing of the common conveniences and charities of this life, may make us pause, and cause the spirit to waver, and the soul to sink; but let this only be for a moment. All these are nothing when compared with the glory which shall be revealed in and for us. I never made a sacrifice. We should not speak of it when we remember the great sacrifice He made, who left His Father's throne on high to give Himself for us.

DAVID LIVINGSTONE

# WE ARE A SENT PEOPLE

ISAIAH 52:7

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings good news of happiness, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."



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