

Wednesday, August 30, 2023  
SHAKEN  
PART 16: SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

As we open the book of Acts tonight, we join Paul and Silas on the second missionary journey. You remember that Paul and Barnabas had disagreed over the inclusion of Mark on the trip. They parted company with Paul heading to Syria and Cilicia with Silas as his traveling companion.

[Acts 16:1-5 \(NKJV\)](#)

Paul is right back where he had so much trouble before: Lystra. His first time there, he is stoned. On his second journey there, God gives him a great gift: a young man named Timothy. Because Timothy is of mixed ethnicity – part Jew and part Greek – and because Paul’s heart still beats for his people – the Jews – he circumcises Timothy so as to be able to reach Jew or Gentile.

[1 Corinthians 9:20-22 \(NKJV\)](#)

This act really reveals the impact of the primacy of the gospel. Paul is not compromising – this has nothing to do with salvation – they are sacrificing to be able to gain entry to preach to Jewish people. Timothy becomes a son in the faith to Paul:

[Philippians 2:19-22 \(NKJV\)](#)  
[Acts 16:6-10 \(NKJV\)](#)

Let’s get a picture of where they are. You can see the map. They are in modern day Turkey. They seek to go further north and east but the Spirit of Jesus forbade them. Why? History will reveal that Roman and Greek cultures will have great influence upon the world – especially the west. So, to there the Spirit leads them.

[Acts 16:11-15 \(NKJV\)](#)

The journey to Macedonia and Achaea or Greece begins. The disciples stop in Philippi. They don’t go into a Jewish synagogue – instead they go down to a river where they knew existed a place of prayer. Phillipi was home to a military garrison. Apparently, no synagogue existed there so the

Jews would gather by the river so that they could wash before prayer. After speaking to the women there, a woman named Lydia was saved. She may have been a woman of means since she sold purple clothing or the clams used to create the purple dye. Paul and the brothers stayed at her home.

#### Acts 16:16-24 (NKJV)

A slave girl – owned by men who used her witchcraft to profit them follows the brothers. The spirit in her recognizes the Spirit in the believers. Paul casts the demonic spirit out of her. This causes an uproar that ends in Paul and Silas being beaten with rods and thrown into the dungeon.

**Rabdizo: to hit with long, stiff sticks.**

The Romans were under no restriction as to how much they beat someone. Why didn't Paul exercise his right as a Roman citizen to avoid this punishment as he did in other instances? 2 Corinthians 11:25 tells us that Paul was beaten this way three times during the ministry.

#### Acts 16:25-34 (NKJV)

Would you be singing after such a beating? This set off the first "Jailhouse Rock". The chains fell off and the doors opened. The jailer was afraid of his punishment which would be inflicted if prisoners under his care escaped. Instead of suicide, salvation occurs – not just for the jailor – but his entire household.

#### Acts 16:35-40 (NKJV)

Now, Paul uses his citizenship to expose the wrong done to them. The magistrates who ordered the whipping come to apologize and release Paul and Silas personally. The brothers go back to Lydia's house. After seeing the brothers to encourage them, they depart.

Today's Scriptures:

- Acts 16:1-40 (NKJV)
- 1 Corinthians 9:20-22 (NKJV)
- Philippians 2:19-22 (NKJV)