

Acts 15: 36-41

Acts 16: 1-40

Lenny D'Ambrosia

Content

1. Honest conflict and holding different opinions. (Acts 15: 36-41)
2. Paul adds Timothy to his missionary team. (Acts 16: 1-5)
3. Paul's Macedonian vision. (Acts 16: 6-10)
4. New converts in Philippi. (Acts 16: 11-40)
 - a. Paul shares the Gospel with Lydia (Acts 16: 13-15)
 - b. Paul's encounter with a slave girl (Acts 16: 16-18)
 - c. Paul converts a jailer (Acts 16: 19-34)
 - d. Paul's interaction with the chief magistrates (Acts 16: 35-40)



Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey

Begins in Acts 15: 36 from Antioch of Syria.

Ends in Acts 18: 22 to Antioch of Syria

Approximate Travel Dates = 50-53 A.D.

Estimated Mileage = 2,800 miles

Known Travel Companions = Silas, Luke, Timothy, Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18: 18)

Paul took the gospel to Europe on this journey

1. What were the events at the start of Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey?

Acts 15: 36-41

36 After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord *and* see how they are."

37 Barnabas wanted to take John, called Mark, along with them also.

38 But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work.

39 And there occurred such a **sharp disagreement** that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

40 But Paul chose Silas and left, being committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord.

41 And he was traveling through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

1. Paul and Barnabas wanted to return and visit the brethren in every city where they proclaimed the Gospel.
2. Barnabas wanted to take John Mark.
3. Paul insisted on not taking John Mark because he deserted them in Pamphylia.
4. Barnabas took John Mark and sailed to the island of Cyprus.
5. Paul chose Silas. They traveled through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

Honest conflict between Paul and Barnabas arises due to a difference that focuses upon how best to carry out the mission of the Lord.

Barnabas believed the best way to accomplish the task was to take John Mark.

Paul believed that John Mark, a deserter, was a poor example for young churches who needed strengthening.

2. Who joined Paul's missionary team at Derbe and Lystra and what was his background?

Acts 16: 1-2

1 Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. And a disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek,

2 and he was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium.

Timothy

Timothy

1. A disciple from Lystra.
2. Well spoken of by the brethren in Lystra and Iconium.
3. His mother was a Jewish woman who was a believer.
4. His father was a Greek.

3. Why did Paul want him to be circumcised?

Acts 16: 3

3 Paul wanted this man to go with him; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

Jews who were in those parts, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

Acts 16: 4-5

4 Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees which had been decided upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe.

5 So the churches were being strengthened in the faith and were increasing in number daily.

4. What did the Holy Spirit tell Paul and his companions?

Acts 16: 6-8

- 6 They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia;
- 7 and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;
- 8 and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.

The Holy Spirit forbade them to speak the word in Asia.

The Spirit of Jesus did not permit them to go into Bithynia.

5. Explain Paul's vision.

Acts 16: 9-10

9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Acts 16: 11-13

11 So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis;

12 and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

13 And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

1. When it comes to God's guidance, begin by obeying God's revealed will in the Bible.
2. The Christian's life goal is to be **faithful** wherever the Lord leads and to maintain a humble and open heart along their Christian journey.

Samothrace, with Mount Fengari in the background



Port of Neapolis



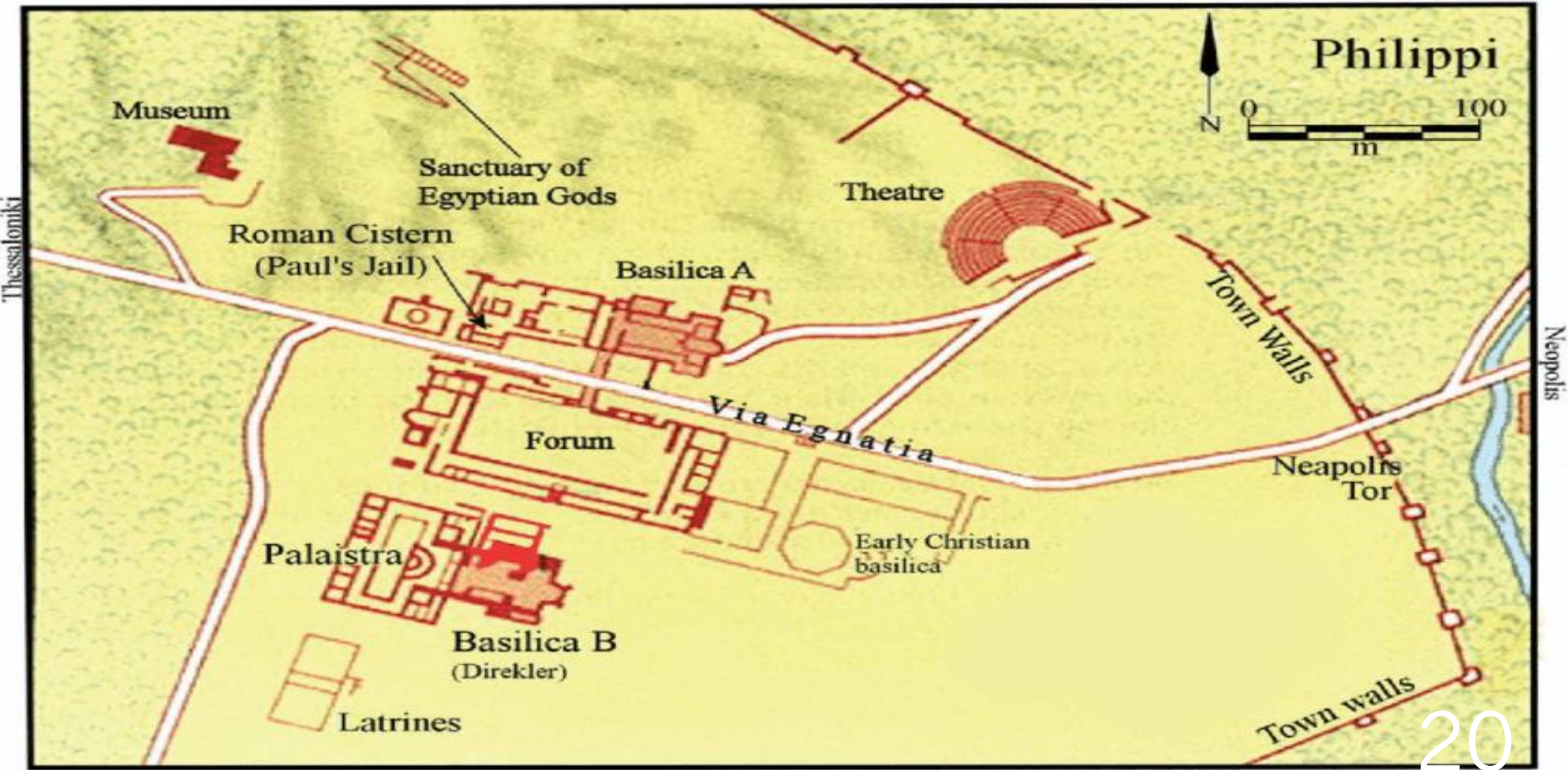
WWW.PADFIELD.COM

Aqueduct in Neapolis



Artist map of Ancient Philippi – Dr. Titus Kennedy – drivethruhistory.com





6. Who was Lydia?

Acts 16: 14-15

- 14** A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.
- 15** And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

Lydia was from the city of Thyatira.

A business-woman who was selling purple fabrics

A worshipper of God

7. Why were Paul and Silas put in jail?

Acts 16: 16-24

- 16** It happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling.
- 17** Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, “These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation.”
- 18** She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!” And it came out at that very moment.
- 19** But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities,
- 20** and when they had brought them to the chief magistrates, they said, “These men are throwing our city into confusion, being Jews,

Acts 16: 16-24 cont.

21 and are proclaiming customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans.”

22 The crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them and proceeded to order *them* to be beaten with rods.

23 When they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely;

24 and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

7. Why were Paul and Silas put in jail?

1. A slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortune-telling.

2. She continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment.

3. Her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, so they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities.

4. They brought them to the chief magistrates and said, “These men are throwing our city into confusion, being Jews.

5. The chief magistrates tore their robes off them and proceeded to order *them* to be beaten with rods.
6. They struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely.
7. The jailer threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

8. What happened when Paul and Silas were praying and singing praises to God?

Acts 16: 25-30

- 25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;
- 26 and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.
- 27 When the jailer awoke and saw the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped.
- 28 But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!"
- 29 And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas,
- 30 and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

9. Describe the conversion of the jailer?

Acts 16: 31-34

31 They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

32 And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house.

33 And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household.

34 And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household.

10. Why were the chief magistrates afraid of Paul?

Acts 16: 36-40

- 36 And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, “The chief magistrates have sent to release you. Therefore, come out now and go in peace.”
- 37 But Paul said to them, “They have beaten us in public without trial, men who are Romans, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they sending us away secretly?” No indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out.”
- 38 The policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. They were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,
- 39 and they came and appealed to them, and when they had brought them out, they kept begging them to leave the city.
- 40 They went out of the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

What can we learn from Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey up to this point?

1. We see that God can bring good results even out of a "sharp disagreement" (Acts 15: 39); Barnabas and Paul split up and went different directions, meaning the gospel was shared in new places.

2. Paul chose to have Timothy circumcised in Lystra even though circumcision is not a requirement for salvation. Through that act, Paul exemplifies the importance of showing consideration to the community with whom we are trying to share the gospel.

What can we learn from Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey up to this point?

3. Paul, Silas, and Timothy listened to the Holy Spirit and only went where He allowed, setting an example for us to be dependent on God's direction in our lives.

4. Lydia played a vital role in growing the church in the cities in which she lived, showing that God values women and desires to have them help in growing His kingdom.

5. The jailer and his household heard the Gospel message and believed.