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## Paul—Acts 14

### Spreading the Gospel in Asia Minor; 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey Completed

#### I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

01. **14:5... an assault was made**—“Hardly an assault, so much as a movement to make one. The Greek term implies a sudden movement. The attempt was avoided by the preachers receiving information and escaping from the city. In this effort there was concert of action between the Gentiles and Jews, the rulers of the synagogue joining, and the purpose was murderous. Paul ([2Co 11:25](#)) says, "Once was I stoned." That stoning was at Lystra. There was an attempt to stone at Iconium, but not a stone was thrown” [B.W. Johnson, *The People’s New Testament*].
02. **14:9... perceiving that he had faith to be healed**—“While this man’s faith is mentioned, it must be remembered that belief was not necessarily a requisite for the reception of a miracle... It is a necessity for the healing of the souls!” [Wayne Jackson, *The Book of Acts: from Jerusalem to Rome*, p. 173].
03. **14:14... Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul**—“The term ‘apostles’ is used in [Act 14:4](#). It is applied in the New Testament a number of times to persons not of the twelve, but apostolic men (see [2Co 8:23](#)). Paul was an apostle, chosen by the Lord, and Barnabas was an apostolic missionary sent out apostle means "one sent") by the Holy Spirit” [Johnson].
04. **14:15... unto the living God**—“The appeal to God as revealed in nature was appropriate for a pagan audience with little or no knowledge of the word of God; and there are a number of very important points in this speech. The fact that God is one, a unity, and that he created everything, also the fact of being, not a dead or inanimate god such as Zeus, but a living God; and likewise the goodness of God as revealed in his providential care of mortals -- all these concepts appear in Paul’s address here” [Coffman].
05. **14:20... Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city**—“...it is quite possible, and in the opinion of this writer quite certain, that this was the setting of Paul being taken to the third heaven - Paradise (2 Cor 12:1-7). Paradise is the name given Hades - the better part of that unseen place - by Jesus, as he told one of the men crucified with him, 'Today you shall be with me in paradise' (Luke 23:43). It seems that Paul was really dead from the stoning; and that his spirit was taken to Paradise, where he saw things of which he was not allowed to speak. After being stoned, no doubt, he needed the extra strength and encouragement afforded by the experience” [Harold Littrell, *A Commentary on the Book of Acts*, p. 209]. Cf., Gal 4:14-15—brother Littrell believes also that this text relates to this particular stoning.
06. **14:27... gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them**—“They very properly made a report to the church that had sent them forth. It was a very cheering report. The gospel had been planted in the great island of Cyprus, received by the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, and extended through Pamphylia, Pisidia and Lycaonia, strong churches having been planted in their principal cities” [Johnson].

**II. Chronology.****BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Church.**

“The length of time Paul and company had spent in Antioch of Pisidia included at least the whole winter of A.D. 46-47, due to the severe winters which made traveling nearly impossible for the ancients. Between Antioch and Iconium, a distance of 90 miles, lay rough mountainous terrain, Antioch having an altitude of 3,500 feet and Iconium having an altitude of 3,300 feet. Scholars are uncertain as to the exact duration of Paul's labors at any given place on this first tour, and also as to the time of the whole tour, their educated guesses ranging from one to three years. All that is certainly known is that it took place in the period A.D. 45-50. Certainly Paul stayed long enough in Pisidian Antioch to teach and firmly establish the church there” [Coffman].

**III. Summary.**

The first missionary journey continues on into Iconium. Persecution is endured here by Paul and Barnabas. In Lystra another miracle is performed which causes the people to over-react by bowing down to Paul and Barnabas as if they were gods. This mistaken notion was quickly corrected by Paul. Paul comes near to death from stoning at Lystra and yet he gets up and continues his preaching just as vigorously as ever before. After teaching in Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Perga, they return to Antioch and report on how God had used them to spread the saving message.

**IV. Outline.**

1. Paul & Barnabas preach to Jews and Gentiles in Iconium (Acts 14:1-4).
2. Paul & Barnabas persecuted and driven from Iconium (5-7).
3. Paul heals an impotent man at Lystra (8-10).
4. Paul & Barnabas seem as gods to the people (11-13).
5. Paul seeks to correct their mistaken ideas and to turn them to the Living God (14-18).
6. Paul is stoned and left for dead at Lystra (19-20).
7. Paul's teaching continues at Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch (20b-23).
8. They pass through Pisidia, Pamphylia, preach in Perga, down to Attalia and return home to Antioch (24-25).

**V. Questions.****True or False**

01.  There was a “rehearsing” talked about in this chapter.
02.  At Iconium Jews and Gentiles together planned to stone Paul and Barnabas.
03.  Paul was stoned and left for dead at Lystra.
04.  The man Paul healed at Lystra had never walked.
05.  Barnabas was called JUPITER because he was the chief speaker.

**Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)**

06.  At Iconium, what kind of Jews stirred up the Gentiles: (a) vagabond; (b) zealots; (c) unbelieving.
07.  What means of transport brought Paul and Barnabas to Antioch of Syria: (a) ox cart; (b) sailboat; (c) camel caravan.
08.  How did Paul and Barnabas speak IN THE LORD: (a) without apology; (b) with great plainness of speech; (c) boldly.
09.  How many phrases does the physician Luke use to describe the condition of the man Paul healed at Lystra: (a) one; (b) two; (c) three.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ People at Lystra were persuaded to turn from the point of worshipping Paul and Barnabas to the point of stoning them by: (a) Jews from Antioch and Iconium; (b) the governor of the region; (c) a miraculous deed.

**Fill in the Blanks**

11. **And when they had \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_ in every church, and had prayed with \_\_\_\_\_, they \_\_\_\_\_ them to the Lord, on whom they \_\_\_\_\_.**
12. \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ is the place Paul and Barnabas returned and ABODE LONG TIME; another place where they abode a long time was \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Paul and Barnabas were barely able to keep the people at \_\_\_\_\_ from doing \_\_\_\_\_ to them.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ is what Paul perceived that the crippled man had.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were brought by the priest of \_\_\_\_\_, who intended to make sacrifice with the people.

*Each Question is worth 7 Points*

**My Score is:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers will be found on next week's handout*

**ANSWERS to Acts 13 Questions...** [(1) False, Acts 13:6-7; (2) True, Acts 13:45; (3) False, Acts 13:13-14; (4) False, Acts 13:38; (5) True, Acts 13:27; (6) b, Acts 13:6; (7) c, Acts 13:46; (8) c, Acts 13:39; (9) b, Acts 13:32; (10) c, Acts 13:27; (11) almost, whole, city, Acts 13:44; (12) Separate, Me, work, called, Acts 13:2; (13) Habakkuk, Acts 13:40-41; Habakkuk 1:5; (14) beckoning, hand, give, audience, Acts 13:16; (15) John, Acts 13:24.]

## VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...SO SPAKE, THAT A GREAT MULTITUDE BOTH OF THE JEWS AND ALSO OF THE GREEKS BELIEVED** (Acts 14:1). Is there any greater way to use our God-given ability to speak than to speak in such a way that others are led to believe? They spoke **BOASTFULLY IN THE LORD** (v. 3). How desperately we need to be encouraging our young people and others to follow the example of Paul and Barnabas.
2. **BUT THE MULTITUDE OF THE CITY WAS DIVIDED** (Acts 14:4). How sad it is that ALL will not respond properly to the gospel message and thus be united together! "The gospel is God's uniting power: it unites all good people in one grand body (Eph 4:1-6). The gospel is also God's dividing power: it divides the believer from the unbeliever, the sinner from the saint, the sincere from the hypocritical, the good from the evil within us. Jesus came to separate (cf., Jn 7:43; 9:16; 10:19)" [Frank L. Cox, *Treatises of Luke*, p. 194]. Cf., Matthew 10:34-39.
3. **...WE ALSO ARE MEN OF LIKE PASSIONS WITH YOU...** (Acts 14:15). Mumble words which could have saved a King, had he been so inclined to use them (cf., 12:20-23).
4. **...HAVING STONED PAUL, DREW HIM OUT OF THE CITY, SUPPOSING HE HAD BEEN DEAD** (Acts 14:19; cf., 2 Cor 11:25). Paul remained faithful UNTO DEATH (i.e., even to the point of death, Rev 2:10), continuing on to preach the gospel (vv., 20-21). Scenes such as this should help us understand his confidence that he had a crown awaiting him (2 Tim 4:7-8).
5. **CONFIRMING THE SOULS OF THE DISCIPLES AND EXHORTING THEM TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH** (Acts 14:22). Paul's love and care for lost souls did not stop beside the waters of baptism (cf., 2 Cor 11:28).

6. ...GATHERED THE CHURCH TOGETHER, THEY REHEARSED ALL THAT GOD HAD DONE WITH THEM (Acts 14:27). Apostolic example of evangelists reporting to their supporting church.

**VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.**

A A T L U A S S A E L D E R S W F H R I  
 E J I L C M B L V J U P I T E R B H X J  
 U I M D E L F I S V S H E I M G V H M D  
 W H P C U Z M K M E R C U R I U S D X V  
 A D O O T D N E A P A D U Q U S O I F R  
 P Y T N H Q Z P G R H E C U M W N V O Y  
 R I E F G L A A S Z U T T F D X U I P W  
 R H N I I U D S C Q H C W E H O Y D E E  
 G E T R R A E S O M H E E P T T C E B B  
 C U U M P P S I J P L F T M I V V D D C  
 B B F I U D R O R F O F G J V I I R R X  
 I M H N D E A N T T O A S S K O P W R C  
 M K C G N N E S B O R L E C X V R Y H S  
 T M M R A O H E F Y T I H D Z H B C W O  
 S C U R T T E A I X N V T I L X J J M B  
 W T I E S S R X M D X E O K F U P C Q Y  
 O I N L F E R Z Q R O C L T D G W S L Z  
 E B O E A A N T I O C H C R E N T J K J  
 C L C N L B O L D L Y R G O S P E L V O  
 G J I P W F G S O W J J Q U L F S D R L

[The words (or word locators) listed below are to be found in the text of our lesson. They also are found in the puzzle above. This is just one more way to reinforce what you have studied from the text. Why not read the whole verse where the words are found one more time as you do the puzzle? Thank you for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. Let's desire the sincere milk of the word that we may grow (1 Pet 2:2). DRL]

**Acts 14**

Iconium, 1  
 evil affected, 2  
 boldly, 3  
 divided, 4  
 assault, 5  
 fled, 6  
 gospel, 7  
 impotent, 8  
 Stand upright, 10  
 Jupiter, 12

Mercurius, 12  
 rent, 14  
 clothes, 14  
 like passions, 15  
 stoned Paul, 19  
 Confirming, 22  
 elders, 23  
 Antioch, 26  
 rehearsed, 27