

# SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

## Acts: The Beginning of a New Kingdom

### The Jerusalem Meeting; Paul's Second Preaching Tour Quarter Four, Lesson Eight

**Focus Text:** Acts 15 & 16

**Other Readings:** Galatians 1. 11 – 2. 21; 5. 1 – 15; 6. 11 – 17; Philippians 1. 1 – 11 & 27 – 30; 2. 19 – 30; 4. 8 – 22

#### CONTENT

1. What question prompted the church in Antioch to send Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem?
2. What testimony from God did Peter cite when he addressed those meeting in Jerusalem?
3. What is the yoke to which he referred in 15. 10?
4. What did Paul and Barnabas contribute to the discussion (according to 15. 12)?
5. To what authority did James appeal in his comments?
6. If those who met in Jerusalem agreed that Gentiles were not to be required to keep the provisions of the Law of Moses, why did they enjoin some specifics from the Law (as mentioned in 15. 19 – 21 and 15. 28 – 29)?
7. What prevented Paul and Barnabas from traveling together when they decided to set out on a second preaching trip?
8. Why, in view of the outcome of the Jerusalem meeting reported in Acts 15, did Paul have Timothy circumcised before taking him on as a coworker?
9. In what city does Paul make his first extended stop to begin his preaching in the region of Macedonia?
10. At what point in chapter 16 does the narration shift into a "we"-perspective? How long does it continue?

*Lesson continues. . . .*

11. What does chapter 16 tell us about the first person in Philippi whose response to the gospel it mentions?
12. Why were Paul and Silas dragged before the authorities in Philippi, and of what were they accused?
13. What was the jailer in Philippi told to do to be saved, and how did he respond?
14. Why did the chief magistrates become afraid after they ordered Paul and Silas released?

### CONNECTIONS

1. Compare the case of Titus (in Galatians 2) with that of Timothy (in Acts 16). Why did Paul insist that one be circumcised and the other not be circumcised?
2. What is meant by the expression “the Israel of God” in Galatians 6. 16?
3. What does Paul say (in Philippians 1. 29 – 30) that the Philippians had been “granted for Christ’s sake,” and how does he indicate that he can identify with their situation?
4. In his epistle to the church in Philippi, how does Paul describe Timothy?

What special relationship does he seem to have with the church in Philippi?

### PLACES

- On the blank map of the entire eastern Mediterranean region, indicate the locations of Thyatira, Troas, Samothrace, and Philippi.
- Then, using the narrative in chapter 16, use a dotted line to trace Paul’s travels from Antioch to Philippi. This will involve at least two challenges: 1) part of the route will coincide with part of his route on the first preaching tour, and 2) you will need to know roughly where the provinces of Asia and Bithynia were, since Paul had to avoid both. You may find helpful the interactive online map at <http://blogs.dalton.org/rome/2008/05/22/map-of-the-roman-empire/>.