

# **Studies in Acts of the Apostles**

## **NT Survey Lesson 66—Acts 16**

**Introduction:** Through a remarkable series of revelations and providences, Paul and Silas are led for the first time into the continent of Europe to preach the gospel. Paul's trust in the guidance of God resulted in the conversion of Lydia and her household, and the Philippian jailor among others. Such was the beginning of a wonderful relationship between Paul and this congregation.

**Lesson aim:** To make clear Gal's commands of those who seek salvation from Him.

### **Strengthening disciples in Derbe and Lystra—Ac. 16:1-5**

1. What position did Paul take on the issue of whether circumcision was necessary to salvation? Was Paul inconsistent in having Timothy circumcised? Why or why not?

### **The Holy Spirit leads Paul and Silas to Philippi—Ac.16:6-15**

1. Luke does not share the details of Paul's journeys into Galatia and Phrygia. What evidence do we have that there were converts made there? (1 Cor. 16:1-2, Gal. 4.13ff)
2. What do we learn about the work of the Holy Spirit in v. 6-9? How did the Holy Spirit convey to Paul what His will was? How does the outcome of Paul's work confirm that God's providence must be trusted in preaching His word?
3. How can we account for the use of the word "we" beginning in the narrative of Acts in 16:10? What does this tell us about the book of Acts?
4. How did Paul and Silas go about finding an audience to preach to in Philippi?
5. What does it mean when it says concerning Lydia, "the Lord opened her heart to respond"? What did one who responded to the gospel do? (v. 15)
6. What was Lydia's first act as a disciple of Christ? What did Paul recall about the first days at Philippi? (See Phil. 1:3-5,4:15ff)

## **The conversion of the jailer and his household--Ac. 16:16-40**

1. Describe the condition of the spirit-possessed woman. What use were her masters making of her?
2. What did Paul do that made the masters angry? What did the masters do in revenge?
3. How did Paul and Silas respond to their mistreatment?
4. What events led the jailer to seek to know how to be saved?
5. Did Paul preach salvation by "faith only"?
6. What did the jailer do to be saved? What evidence do we have to support this?
7. On what basis did Paul demand that the city officials personally come and remove him and Silas from prison?
8. What observations did Paul make about his relationship with the Philippians? (See Phil. 1:3-5) Does Acts 16 help explain the reason for Paul's gratitude?