



Dr. Jack Scott

**Study of Acts:
Chapters 16-17**

We're glad you're here!

Traveling through Derbe and Lystra (16:1-5)

- **At Lystra Paul chooses Timothy as a companion for the missionary journey. (16:1-3)**
- **Paul has Timothy circumcised because his mother was Jewish but his father was Greek. (16:3)**
- **The letter from the Jerusalem council was delivered to the Gentile Christians, and the churches were strengthened that had previously been established. (16:4,5)**



Paul receives the call to Europe (16:6-9)

- **The Holy Spirit did not permit Paul and his companions to preach in Asia and Bithynia as they had intended. (16:6,7)**
- **At Troas Paul receives a vision of a man saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." (16:8,9)**

Activities at Philippi (16:12-15)

- **Philippi was an important seaport city; a Roman colony was located there. (16:12)**
- **On a sabbath Paul and his companions go to the riverside where prayers were regularly held. (16:13)**
- **Here he meets Lydia, a seller of purple from Thyatira. She heeds Paul's teaching, and she and her household are baptized (16:14)**
- **Paul and his companions accept Lydia's invitation to stay in her home. (16:15)**

Paul and Silas are imprisoned (16:16-24)

- **A slave girl with a spirit of divination follows Paul crying out, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." (16:16,17)**
- **Paul casts out the evil spirit. This infuriates the masters of the slave girl, who profited from the divinations of the girl." (16:18,19)**

A scenic landscape featuring rolling hills and a dirt path. The foreground shows a dirt path leading through grassy terrain. In the background, there are several hills under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The overall scene is bright and open.

Paul and Silas are imprisoned (16:16-24)

- **These masters bring Paul and Silas before the magistrates and accused them "of teaching customs which are not lawful for us, as Romans, to receive and observe." (16:20,21)**
- **Paul and Silas are beaten with rods and are placed in an inner prison cell and their feet are fastened in stocks. (16:22-24)**

A scenic landscape with rolling hills, a dirt path, and a clear blue sky. The foreground shows a dirt path leading through grassy fields. In the background, there are several hills under a bright sky with some light clouds.

Paul and Silas activities in the prison (16:25-34)

- **At midnight Paul and Silas are praying and singing hymns (16:25)**
- **Suddenly an earthquake occurs, causing the prison doors to open and the chains to fall off the prisoners. In turn, this led the jailer to decide to kill himself, believing that the prisoners had escaped. (16:26,27)**

Paul and Silas activities in the prison (16:25-34)

- **Paul calms the jailer by stating that the prisoners were still there. (16:28)**
- **The jailer then says to Paul and Silas, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They reply, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved." (16:30,31)**
- **After further instructions to the jailer, he and his household are baptized. The jailer brings them to his house; rejoicing, he presents food to Paul and Silas. (16:32-34)**

The magistrates release Paul and Silas (16:35-40)

- **Early the next day, the magistrates inform the jailer to release Paul and Silas. (16:35,36)**
- **Paul objects to this secret release. Since Paul and Silas were uncondemned Romans, Paul insists that the magistrates come and personally release them. (16:37)**
- **The magistrates are afraid, so they come and plead with Paul and Silas to depart. (16:38,39)**
- **Paul and Silas go to Lydia's house; there they encourage the brethren, and then depart. (16:40)**

Paul and Silas at Thessalonica (17:1-9)

- **Paul reasons in the synagogue for three sabbaths. A large number of devout Greeks , and some leading women, become disciples. (17:1-4)**
- **Again, opposing Jews gather a mob. Unable to find Paul and Silas, they bring Jason and other Christians before the rulers of the city. They accuse the Christians of turning "the world upside down" and of proclaiming Jesus as king rather than Caesar. (17:5-9)**

Paul and his companions at Berea (17:10-14)

- **They flee to Berea from Thessalonica. They once again preach in the Jewish synagogue. The Bereans prove more open than those at Thessalonica, "for they searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so." (17:10-12)**
- **But the Jews came from Thessalonica to stir up crowds against Paul and Silas. So Paul departs yet leaves Silas and Timothy in Berea to strengthen the church. (17:13,14)**

Paul in Athens (17:15-21)

- **Athens was renowned as a center of Grecian culture and philosophy. Paul was grieved by the rampant idolatry. He continued his practice of preaching in the synagogue, but he also preached daily in the marketplace. (17:15-17)**
- **Some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were puzzled by Paul's teaching and brought him to the Areopagus to further expound on his message. (17:18-21)**

Paul's sermon at the Areopagus (17:22-34)

- **First, Paul compliments the Athenians for being "very religious." He then cites the fact that he noticed an altar dedicated "To the Unknown God." (17:22,23)**
- **Then he proclaims that that God does not dwell in temples or can be worshipped by images of gold and silver. (17:24,25)**
- **God made of "one blood all nations" and "in Him we live and move and have our being." (17:26-28)**

Paul's sermon at the Areopagus (17:22-34)

- Paul then declares that God commands "all men everywhere to repent" since He has appointed a day of judgment for the entire world. (17:30,31)**
- Paul concludes by declaring that Jesus was raised from the dead. At this point some mocked him, but others declared, "We will hear you again on this matter." (17:31,32)**
- A small number believe; Acts mentions Dionysius, the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris. Paul soon departs from Athens and travels to Corinth. (17:33,34)**

