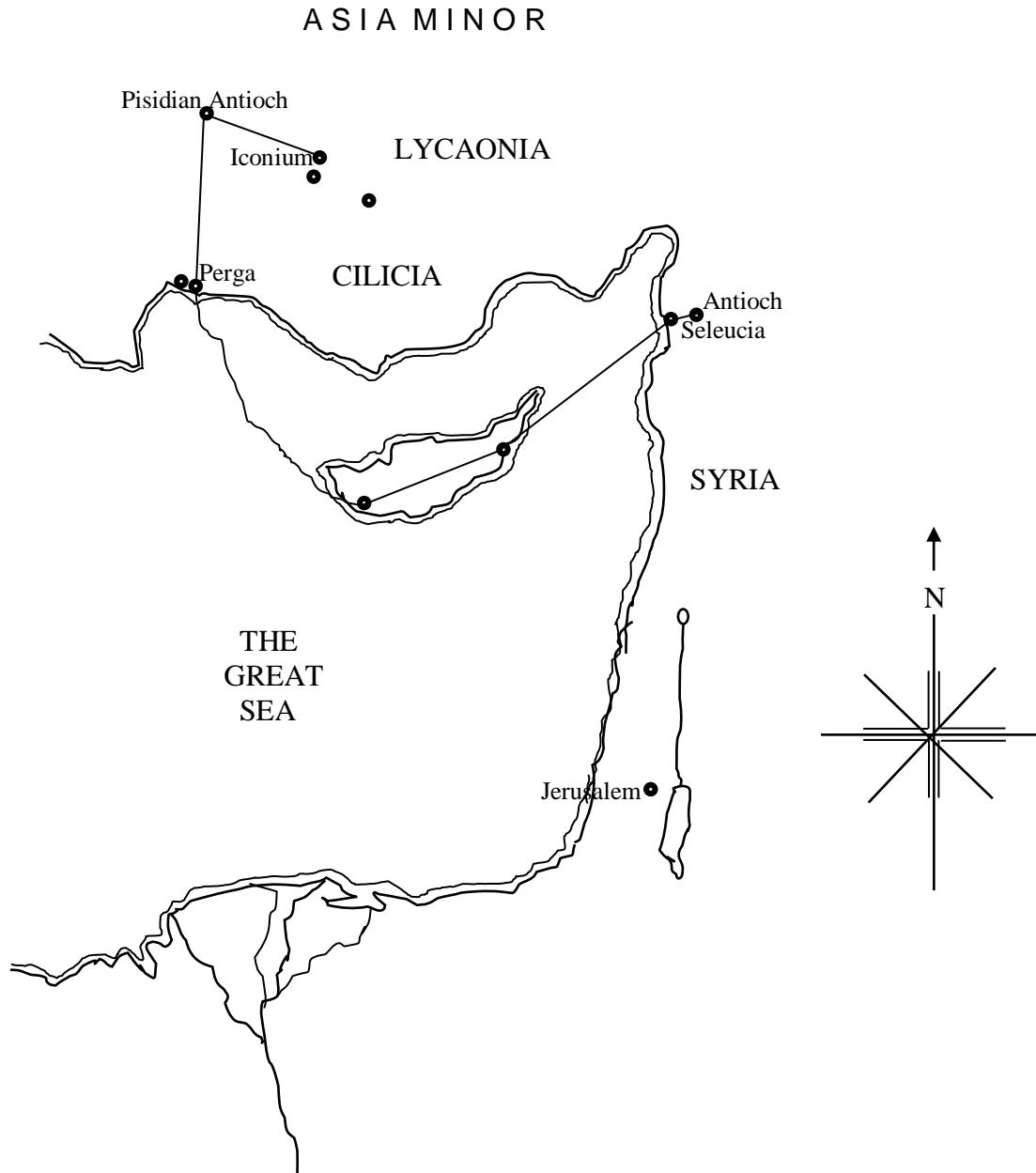


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#16, the regions of Syria and Cilicia, part 2 – Acts 14: 1-29

Paul and Barnabas never could have imagined, ahead of time, all that would have happened to them. Though they had opportunities for speaking of the salvation that is in Christ, they were met with the inevitable persecutions that follow.

Having ministered in Cyprus, they set sail for Asia Minor, making landfall at Perga, and then north to Antioch. From there they went east to Iconium, where we find them now.



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1 In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks.

2 But the Jews who disbelieved stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brethren.

3 Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands. 4 But the people of the city were divided; and some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles.

5 And when an attempt was made by both the Gentiles and the Jews with their rulers, to mistreat and to stone them, 6 they became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region; 7 and there they continued to preach the gospel.

[1.] v:1, both of Jews and of Greeks. After considering the verse, pick the best reason that there were Greeks in the synagogue.

a) The Jews and Greeks went to the synagogue as one big family.

b) The good news regarding Gentiles traveled ahead of Paul and Barnabas.

c) It was a special festival.

[2.] v:2, minds of the Gentiles and embittered them, What could the disbelieving Jews have possibly said that would embitter the believing Gentiles against Paul and Barnabas?

[3.] v:2 again, How do Christ's words regarding stumbling blocks (Luke 17:1-2) apply here?

[4.] v:3-4, From I Kings 18:21, Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people did not answer him a word. How was it similar to this situation?

[5.] v:5, to mistreat and to stone them, You might be thinking, so what's new, but have you ever noticed that in our time, Christianity seems to have become allies with the same belief that stoned the apostles. What changed?

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8 At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. 9 This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well, 10 said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk.

11 When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us." 12 And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out 15 and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, WHO MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM.

16 " In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways; 17 and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness."

[6.] v:6-7, Lystra and Derbe, The dots are on your map (pg1). Put the right name with its dot and draw a line showing the journey.

[7.] v:8-10, who had never walked. Choose the statement that best describes how the man was healed.

- a) Paul's gaze.
- b) Paul's loud voice.
- c) Just lucky I guess.
- d) He had faith to be made well.

[8.] v:11-12, The gods (Zeus, Hermes) have become like men Where did these names come from that were ascribed to the apostles?

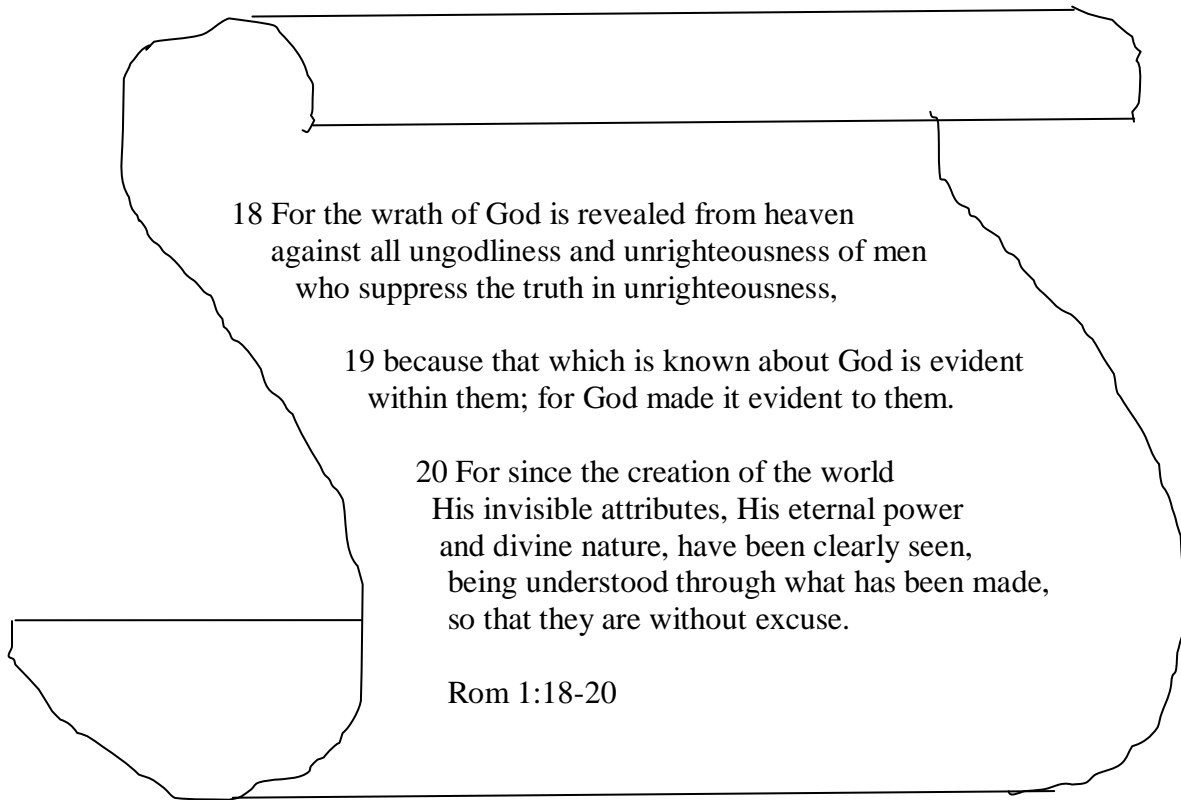
[9.] v:13, The priest of Zeus, Prior to Paul and Barnabas bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ, what was a religion practiced in Lycaonia?

[10.] v:14-15, We are also men of the same nature What would you answer if a Lycaonian "man on the street" asked, if we are the same, how come I can't make a man walk??

[11.] v:16-17, the generations gone by, List the things mentioned that God left as a witness of Himself.

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[12.] Jot down how Acts 14:15-17 is similar to Romans 1:18-20.

[13.] Romans 1:20 says “they (men) are without excuse”. Why is that true?

18 Even saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. 19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

20 But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe.

[14.] v:18-19, At Lystra, OK, same drill different day! Who did the persecutors have to ally themselves with in order to attempt Paul’s murder?

[15.] v:20, he got up, Paul was actually dead and God performed a miracle. True or false. Give the reasons for your answer.

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21 After they had preached the gospel to that city (Derbe) and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, " Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

23 When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

24 They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia. 25 When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.

26 From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished. 27 When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they spent a long time with the disciples.

[16.] v:21-22, they returned, Study Matt 13:4-9 & 18-23. Why was it of sovereign importance for Paul and Barnabas to returned right back into the teeth of the persecutors.?

[17.] v:23, appointed elders, In order to choose whom the Lord wanted, what had Paul and Barnabas seen in the lives of these elders?

[18.] v:21-24, they went down to Attalia. Identify Attalia and mark your maps showing the journey back from Derbe to Attalia.

[19.] On the entire journey, what was the sole purpose of the missionaries?

[20.] v:26-28, gathered the church together, Why would it have been important to report back to the saints at Antioch (Acts 13:2-3)?

[21.] v:27, opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. Why or why isn't Zachariah 9:10 being fulfilled in Acts 13 & 14?

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NOTES