

## CHAPTER 16

**T**HEN came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father *was* a Greek:

2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

6. Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.

8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next *day* to Neapolis;

12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, *and* a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made;

and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted *thither*.

14 ¶ And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.

16 ¶ And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

19 ¶ And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas,

and drew *them* into the marketplace unto the rulers,

20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

21 And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.

22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat *them*.

23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

25 ¶ And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have

killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed *their* stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

35. And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, Let those men go.

36 And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.

37 But Paul said unto them,

They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast *us* into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out.

38 And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans.

39 And they came and besought them, and brought *them* out, and desired *them* to depart out of the city.

40 And they went out of the prison, and entered into *the house* of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

## CHAPTER 17

**N**OW when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews:

2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,

3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

4 And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.

5 ¶ But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.

6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, *one* Jesus.

8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things.

9 And when they had taken security of Jason, and of the other, they let them go.

10 ¶ And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming *thither* went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and stirred up the people.

14 And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still.

15 And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens: and receiving a commandment unto Silas and Timotheus for to come to him with all speed, they departed.

16 ¶ Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

18 Then certain philosophers of

the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.

19 And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, *is*?

20 For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.

21 (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

22 ¶ Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.

23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.



32 ¶ And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this *matter*.

33 So Paul departed from among them.

34 Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which *was* Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Chapter 16:31 records the simplest Gospel message that can ever be preached to mankind. The setting was in a Philippian jail where Paul and Silas were being held prisoners. The time was Midnight, when there was suddenly a great earthquake. The foundation of the prison was shaken, and the doors were opened. The keeper of the prison was awakened from sleep and was about to kill himself, for he was afraid the prisoners had escaped. Paul called to him and told him not to harm himself. Then Paul and Silas presented the simple message of salvation to the jailer.

That simple message still rings down through the ages, and is just as effective and powerful today as it was the night of the great earthquake. That message is, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Why is this message so simple? Why is salvation so simple? Because Christ has paid the penalty for sin. He is the complete and final payment; and, when a person who has never believed in Christ—whether it be a Philippian jailer, a drunkard, a harlot, or a good moral man—takes that step of faith, he becomes a part of God's family, for now and throughout the ages of eternity.

In chapter 17 Paul is on his second missionary journey and visits three different cities. Each of them had a different reaction to the Gospel. In Thessalonica, a busy city on the main road to Rome, some Jews believed; many Greeks believed, many of the chief women believed; but there was opposition to the Word. In Berea, which was 40 miles from Thessalonica, the Word was gladly received. In Athens, which was a very proud and independent city whose god was nature, the Word was mocked. Unfortunately, these same three attitudes toward the Gospel still exist today. Some openly oppose the Word, some mock the Word, and some do believe and receive the Word. We, as Christians, cannot control the results as we give out the Word, but we should follow Paul's example and be faithful servants. In Galatians 6:9 we have this promise: "And let us not be weary in well

doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

## PROVERB FOR TODAY

"A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool" (Proverbs 17:10).

## TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

**ASSIGNMENT 37:** For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

## BIRTHDAYS TODAY

**COREY GARVIN**  
**DAMU MIKE**  
**ROBERT MINOR**

## ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

**1901**  
**LEO GALLOP WAS BORN.**

**1905**  
**BIRTHDAY OF WILLIAM CULBERTSON.**

William Culbertson is the president of the famous Moody Bible Institute. Dr. Culbertson's favorite Scripture is Isaiah 32:17, "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever." Of course, we will want to call in prayer the Moody Institute and the work of William Culbertson on this his birthday.

**1935**  
**SOME EVEN GIVE THIS AS THE DATE OF BILLY SUNDAY'S DEATH.**

His last sermon was taken from Acts 16 and the text was verse 30, "And brought them out, and said, *Sirs, what must I do to be saved*" Forty people were saved in the last sermon that this great evangelist ever preached. History says that it was preached in the Methodist Church of Mishawaka, Indiana. Let us thank God for the ministry of this great evangelist and pray God's blessings upon evangelists today.

Maybe there is some evangelist for whom you ought to pray by name today.

## **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

### **1963**

Ku Klux Klan member convicted in church bombing that killed four young black girls while they were in their Sunday School class in a church in Birmingham, Alabama.

### **1978**

More than nine hundred persons, most of them black Americans, died in mass murder and suicide pact in Jonestown, Guyana.

Spingarn Medal presented to Ambassador Andrew J. Young “in recognition of the deftness with which he has handled relations between this nation and other countries” and “for his major role in raising the consciousness of American citizens to the significance in world affairs of the massive African continent.”

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# The Story of the Psalms

## **PSALMS 118**

**AUTHOR: Unknown**

### **THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:**

This is an antiphonal Psalm, which means it was sung responsively by two groups of singers. It was used by a divided choir. It was sometimes used by a divided congregation, and at other times it was used as responsive singing between the congregation and the choir. It was written for this specific purpose.

### **THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD’S PEOPLE:**

Obviously it was used mainly for public worship, though it could be used by a large family divided into two groups.

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# Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

**MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:**

**EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:**

**Divine inspiration evident in that the scriptures correct those who are trapped in error.**

**D. THE ERROR OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO HEAVEN**

(Assignment 37)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

(        ) Proverbs 12:15

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

(        ) Proverbs 14:12

There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

(        ) Proverbs 30:12

There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.

(        ) Matthew 7:13

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

(        ) Matthew 7:14

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.