

LESSON 13

PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY (PART 2)

IN ICONIUM (14:1-6)

When Paul could not preach in one place, he did not quit; he simply went to another place. He and Barnabas traveled the Roman road ninety miles to the east, crossing a vast plain and then a mountain ridge, until they reached the ancient city of Iconium (13:51).

1. What kind of city was Iconium, and where did it get its name?
2. What lesson does the full meaning of the word translated "disbelieve" in 14:2 teach about accepting or rejecting the gospel?

AT LYSTRA (14:7-20a)

Paul and Barnabas had been run out of Antioch for preaching the gospel, and they had barely escaped with their lives from Iconium. This opposition did not deter them from their God-given task. When they reached Lystra (v. 6), they continued to preach the gospel. Paul's experiences in Lystra were among the most traumatic in his long career as a missionary.

3. What experiences made Paul's stay in Lystra so traumatic for him?
4. How does the healing of the lame man in chapter 14 differ from the similar miracle in chapter 3?
5. What did the Greek text mean when it said that the man had faith "to be *saved*" (14:9)?
6. Who was Hermes, and why did the people of Lystra call Paul by that name?
7. What kind of people lived in Lystra that they would be so quick to think Paul and Barnabas were gods?

8. How did the emphasis of Paul's sermon to the people of Lystra differ from his sermon in the synagogue in Antioch of Pisidia?
9. What parallel can be drawn between the people of Lystra and the mob that called for Jesus' crucifixion?
10. In what way did the Jews who stoned Paul fail to observe the Jewish code?
11. Who might have been among the Christians who gathered around Paul after he was stoned?
12. What two things did Paul do after he revived that were remarkable?

THE RETURN TRIP (14:20b–28)

The next day, strengthened by his brethren and his God, Paul started with Barnabas on a long trip to the southeast, heading for Derbe. Derbe was in the extreme eastern part of Galatia. After preaching the good news in Derbe and making many converts, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch.

13. Why did Paul and Barnabas return to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch?
14. What does the word "strengthening" mean (14:22)?
15. How is the term "kingdom of God" used in verse 22?
16. In what ways is 14:23 significant?
17. How could Paul appoint men in Galatia as elders without violating his own restriction of elders not being new converts (2 Tim. 3:6)?
18. What does the word translated "appointed" in verse 23 mean?
19. Why is it impossible to be exact regarding how long Paul's first missionary journey took?
20. What does the phrase "open door" mean as it is used in the New Testament?