

Women's Liberation



6/7/15

The Liberators

The team leader

Acts 15:30 So, when they were sent away, they went down to Antioch; and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter.

³¹ And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement.

³² And Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, encouraged and strengthened the brethren with a lengthy message.

³³ And after they had spent time *there*, they were sent away from the brethren in peace to those who had sent them out.

³⁴ *But it seemed good to Silas to remain there.*

³⁵ But Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and preaching, with many others also, the word of the Lord.

The team mate

³⁶ And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, *and* see how they are."

³⁷ And Barnabas was desirous of taking John, called Mark, along with them also.

³⁸ But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work.

³⁹ And there arose such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

⁴⁰ But Paul chose Silas and departed, being committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord.

⁴¹ And he was traveling through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

The team apprentice

Acts 16:1 And he came also to Derbe and to Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek,

² and he was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium.

³ Paul wanted this man to go with him; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

⁴ Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees, which had been decided upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe.

⁵ So the churches were being strengthened in the faith, and were increasing in number daily.

⁶ And they passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia;

⁷ and when they had come to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;

⁸ and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.

⁹ And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a certain man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

The team doctor

¹⁰ And when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹ Therefore putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis;

¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

The Liberation of a Business Woman

¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

¹⁴ And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

¹⁵ And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

The Liberation of a Slave Girl

¹⁶ And it happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a certain slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortunetelling.

¹⁷ Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, "These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation."

¹⁸ And she continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment.

The Big Question

¹⁹ But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities,

²⁰ and when they had brought them to the chief magistrates, they said, "These men are throwing our city into confusion, being Jews,

²¹ and are proclaiming customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans."

²² And the crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them, and proceeded to order *them* to be beaten with rods.

²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely;

²⁴ and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison, and fastened their feet in the stocks.