

Acts 14:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Analysis

The missionaries' report upon returning emphasized 'how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles,' attributing success to God's action. The metaphor of God 'opening the door' shows divine initiative in creating gospel opportunities. Their rehearsal of 'all that God had done with them' demonstrates accountability and partnership with the sending church.

Historical Context

Returning to Antioch (AD 49) after the first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas reported to the sending church, establishing pattern for missionary accountability. Their emphasis on the 'door of faith' for Gentiles prepared the church for upcoming debates resolved at the Jerusalem Council.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing God as the one who 'opens doors' shape missionary attitude and practice?
2. Why is reporting and accountability to sending churches important for missionary work?

Interlinear Text

παραγενόμενοι δὲ καὶ συναγαγόντες τὴν ἐκκλησίαν

when they were come And and had gathered the church

G3854

G1161

G2532

G4863

G3588

the church

G1577

ἀνήγγειλάν ὅσα ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς μετ' αὐτῶν καὶ

they rehearsed all had done that God with them and

G312

G3745

G4160

G3588

that God

G2316

G3326

G846

G2532

ὅτι ἦνοιξεν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν θύραν πίστεως

how he had opened unto the Gentiles the door of faith

G3754

G455

G3588

unto the Gentiles

G1484

the door

G2374

of faith

G4102

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 16:9 (Parallel theme): For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.

Acts 15:12 (References God): Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

Colossians 4:3 (References God): Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

2 Corinthians 2:12 (Parallel theme): Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord,

1 Corinthians 5:4 (Parallel theme): In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Acts 11:18 (References God): When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

Romans 15:18 (Parallel theme): For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,

1 Corinthians 11:18 (Faith): For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

John 9:10 (Parallel theme): Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

1 Corinthians 15:10 (References God): But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.