

Acts 16

Chapter 16 of 28 · 40 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Timothy Joins Paul and Silas

¹ Then 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.

The Macedonian Call

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.

Paul and Silas in Prison

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.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Apostle — ἀπόστολος (Apostolos)

Apostle, sent one

The Greek **apostolos** (ἀπόστολος) means apostle or sent one—an authorized messenger. The twelve apostles were chosen by Christ and empowered as His witnesses, laying the foundation of the church (Ephesians 2:20).

Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

Baptize — βαπτίζω (Baptizo)

To baptize, immerse

The Greek **baptizo** (βαπτίζω) means to dip, immerse, or baptize. Christian baptism symbolizes identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:3-4).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Holy — ἅγιος (Hagios)

Holy, sacred, set apart

The Greek **hagios** (ἅγιος) denotes holiness—moral purity and separation unto God. Believers are called 'saints' (hagioi), those set apart for God through Christ's sanctifying work.

Hope — ἐλπίς (Elpis)

Hope, expectation

The Greek **elpis** (ἐλπίς) denotes hope—confident expectation of good. This hope is 'an anchor of the soul' (Hebrews 6:19), grounded in Christ's resurrection and the believer's future inheritance (1 Peter 1:3-4).

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Salvation — σωτηρία (Soteria)

Salvation, deliverance

The Greek **soteria** (σωτηρία) denotes salvation, deliverance, or preservation—rescue from sin's penalty and power. It encompasses justification, sanctification, and glorification.

Save — σώζω (Sozo)

To save, deliver, heal

The Greek **sozo** (σώζω) means to save—deliverance from sin, death, and judgment. 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved' (Acts 16:31). The word also encompasses physical healing and spiritual wholeness.

Spirit — πνεῦμα (Pneuma)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Greek **pneuma** (πνεῦμα) means spirit, wind, or breath—the immaterial aspect of persons. The Holy Spirit (Pneuma Hagion) is the third person of the Trinity, dwelling in believers.

Word — λόγος (Logos)

Word, reason, message

The Greek **Logos** (Λόγος) means word, reason, or message—the rational principle underlying reality. John identifies Christ as the eternal Logos: 'In the beginning was the Word' (John 1:1).

CROSS REFERENCES

Acts 16:1 Faith: 1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Thessalonians 3:2; 1 Timothy 1:2; 2 Timothy 1:5.

Parallel theme: Acts 14:6; 17:14; 18:5; 19:22; Colossians 1:1; 2 Timothy 1:2

Acts 16:3 Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 9:20; Galatians 2:3; 5:6

Acts 16:4 References Jerusalem: Acts 15:2. **Parallel theme:** Acts 11:30; 15:6

Acts 16:5 **Parallel theme:** Acts 2:47; 9:31; 12:24; 15:41; 1 Peter 5:10. **Faith:** Acts 6:7

Acts 16:6 **Parallel theme:** Acts 18:23; Galatians 1:2; 3:1; 2 Timothy 4:10; 1 Peter 1:1. **Spirit:** Acts 11:12. **Holy:** 1 Corinthians 16:1

Acts 16:7

Spirit: Acts 8:29; Romans 8:9; Galatians 4:6; Philippians 1:19; 1 Peter 1:11. **Parallel theme:** 1 Peter 1:1

Acts 16:8 **Parallel theme:** Acts 20:5; 2 Corinthians 2:12; 2 Timothy 4:13. **Sin:** Acts 16:11

Acts 16:9 **References Paul:** Acts 18:5; 19:21; 20:1. **Parallel theme:** Romans 15:26

Acts 16:12 **Parallel theme:** Acts 20:6; Philippians 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 2:2

Acts 16:13 **Parallel theme:** Acts 13:14. **Creation:** Colossians 1:23

Acts 16:14 **Parallel theme:** Luke 24:45; Revelation 3:7; 3:20. **References God:** Isaiah 50:5; Romans 9:16; Philippians 2:13. **References Lord:** Acts 11:21. **Worship:** Acts 18:7

Acts 16:15 **Parallel theme:** Acts 11:14; Genesis 19:3; Luke 24:29; Philemon 1:17; Hebrews 13:2; 3 John 1:8. **Baptism:** Acts 16:33. **Faith:** Ephesians 1:1; 1 Peter 5:12; 3 John 1:5

Acts 16:16

Spirit: Acts 16:18; Leviticus 19:31; 1 Samuel 28:3; 28:7; 1 Chronicles 10:13; Isaiah 8:19. **Prayer:** Acts 16:13. **Parallel theme:** Galatians 5:20; 1 Timothy 6:10; 2 Timothy 3:8

Acts 16:17

Parallel theme: John 14:6. **References God:** Psalms 57:2; Daniel 3:26; 3:28; 6:20; Jonah 1:9; Mark 5:7; Luke 4:34; 4:41; 1 Peter 2:16

Acts 16:18 **Parallel theme:** Mark 1:34; 16:17; Luke 9:1; Colossians 2:15. **References Jesus:** Acts 3:6; 9:34

Acts 16:19 **References Paul:** Acts 21:30. **Parallel theme:** Acts 8:3; 16:16; 17:6; Matthew 24:9; Mark 13:9; 2 Corinthians 6:5

Acts 16:20 **Parallel theme:** Acts 28:22; Romans 12:2; James 4:4

Acts 16:21 **Word:** Esther 3:8

Acts 16:22 **Parallel theme:** 2 Corinthians 6:5; 1 Thessalonians 2:2; Hebrews 11:36; 1 Peter 2:24

Acts 16:23 **Parallel theme:** 2 Timothy 2:9; Revelation 2:10

Acts 16:24 **Parallel theme:** Job 13:27; 33:11; Jeremiah 38:26. **Creation:** Jeremiah 29:26

Acts 16:25 **Resurrection:** Psalms 119:62. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 50:15; 77:6; Romans 5:3; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 1:24; James 1:2. **Prayer:** Romans 12:12; Hebrews 5:7. **References**
God: Job 35:10

Acts 16:26 **Parallel theme:** Acts 4:31; 5:19; 12:7; 12:10; Psalms 102:20; 146:7; Isaiah 42:7; 61:1; Matthew 28:2; Revelation 11:13

Acts 16:27 **Parallel theme:** Acts 12:19

Acts 16:28 **Parallel theme:** Ecclesiastes 7:17; Matthew 5:44; Luke 23:34; 1 Thessalonians 5:15

Acts 16:29 **Parallel theme:** Revelation 3:9

Acts 16:30 **Parallel theme:** Acts 2:37; 14:15; 22:10; Isaiah 58:9; Matthew 3:8; Luke 3:10

Acts 16:31

Faith: Acts 18:8; John 1:12; 3:36; Galatians 3:22; 3:26. **Salvation:** Acts 4:12; 15:11; Isaiah 45:22; Mark 16:16. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 17:7

Acts 16:32 **Parallel theme:** 1 Thessalonians 2:8

Acts 16:33 **Baptism:** Acts 16:15; 1 Corinthians 1:16. **Parallel theme:** Acts 16:25

Acts 16:34 **Faith:** Romans 15:13. **Parallel theme:** Acts 2:46

Acts 16:36 **Peace:** Acts 15:33; John 14:27

Acts 16:37 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 10:16

Acts 16:38 **Parallel theme:** Acts 22:29

Acts 16:39 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 8:34; Mark 5:17

Acts 16:40 **Parallel theme:** Acts 14:22; 16:14

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