

Acts 16:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.

Analysis

And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas (παρελθόντες δὲ τὴν Μυσίαν κατέβησαν εἰς Τρωάδα)—The verb παρελθόντες (parelthontes, 'passing by') suggests they traveled through Mysia but did not evangelize there, obeying the Spirit's prohibition (v.7). This geographical progression—from Phrygia through Mysia to Troas—traces divine sovereignty overriding human plans.

Troas was a Roman colony on the Aegean coast, the seaport from which Paul would cross into Macedonia after receiving the Macedonian vision (v.9). This seemingly mundane travel note marks a watershed moment: the gospel's transition from Asia to Europe. God's 'no' to Bithynia and Asia was preparation for His 'yes' to Macedonia—illustrating how divine guidance often redirects rather than merely restricts.

Historical Context

Troas (Alexandria Troas) was founded by Antigonos I in 310 BC, later becoming a Roman colony under Augustus. It served as a major port connecting Asia Minor to Macedonia. This was Paul's second missionary journey (c. AD 49-52), and Luke may have joined the team here (note the 'we' passages beginning in v.10).

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. When has God's closed door in your life actually been redirection toward a better purpose?
2. How does Paul's willingness to change plans demonstrate the difference between flexibility and faithlessness?

Interlinear Text

παρελθόντες	δὲ	τὴν	Μυσίαν	κατέβησαν	εἰς	Τρωάδα
they passing by	And	^{G3588}	Mysia	came down	to	Troas
G3928	G1161		G3465	G2597	G1519	G5174

Additional Cross-References

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,

2 Timothy 4:13 (Parallel theme): The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments.

Acts 16:11 (Sin): Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis;

Acts 20:5 (Parallel theme): These going before tarried for us at Troas.