

## ACTS 14:19 – 15:11

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<sup>21</sup>And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, **they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch,** <sup>22</sup>strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting *them* to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>23</sup>So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. <sup>24</sup>And after they had passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. <sup>25</sup>Now when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. <sup>26</sup>From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed.

<sup>27</sup>Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. <sup>28</sup>So they stayed there a long time with the disciples.

**15** And certain *men* came down from Judea and taught the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” <sup>2</sup>Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.

<sup>3</sup>So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren. <sup>4</sup>And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup>But **some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, “It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.”**

<sup>6</sup>Now the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup>And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up *and* said to them: “Men *and* brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. <sup>8</sup>So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as *He did* to us, <sup>9</sup>and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. <sup>10</sup>Now therefore, **why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?** <sup>11</sup>But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they.”

## THE XYZ's OF WORLD MISSIONS

*Assuming we are mature, prepared and sent by God*

- Never think you won't ever have pain. \*

<sup>19</sup> Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul *and* dragged *him* out of the city, supposing him to be dead.

- Optimize your ministry by bouncing back.

<sup>20</sup> However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

- Preach and make more disciples.

<sup>21</sup> And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples,....

- Quicken believers needing encouragement.

<sup>21</sup> ....they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, <sup>22</sup>strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting *them* to continue in the faith,...

- Remind them of the whole truth. \*\*

<sup>22</sup> ...., “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”

- Select needed leaders who are ready. \*\*\*

<sup>23</sup> So when they had appointed elders in every church,...

- Trust God to use appointed leaders.

<sup>23</sup> ..., and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

- Understand the importance of home.

<sup>25</sup> Now when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. <sup>26</sup> From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed.

- Value the significance of accountability.

<sup>27</sup> Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

- unWind and find much needed rest.

<sup>28</sup> So they stayed there a long time with the disciples.

- eXercise authority when necessary.

**15** <sup>1</sup> And certain *men* came down from Judea and taught the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” <sup>2</sup> Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them,...

- Yield to authority when necessary.

**15** <sup>2</sup> ..., they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.

- Zealously tell of all God is doing. \*\*\*\*

**15** <sup>3</sup> So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren.

<sup>4</sup> And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them....

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**MATTHEW 11:12** "...And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force...."

**MARK 16:15-18** ....., "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. <sup>16</sup> He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup> And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; <sup>18</sup> they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

**JOHN 15:19-21** "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. <sup>21</sup> But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me."

**JOHN 16:33** "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

## \*\* Remind them of the whole truth.

<sup>22</sup> ....., "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

**2 TIMOTHY 3:10-14** But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, <sup>11</sup> persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra — what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me. <sup>12</sup> Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. <sup>13</sup> But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,....

**1 THESSALONIANS 3:1-4** Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, <sup>2</sup> and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, <sup>3</sup> that no one should be shaken by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we are appointed to this. <sup>4</sup> For, in fact, we told you before when we were with you that we would suffer tribulation, just as it happened, and you know.

## \*\*\* Select needed leaders who are ready.

<sup>23</sup> So when they had appointed elders in every church,...

**1 TIMOTHY 3:1-13** This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. <sup>2</sup> A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; <sup>3</sup> not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; <sup>4</sup> one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence <sup>5</sup> (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); <sup>6</sup> not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the *same* condemnation as the devil. <sup>7</sup> Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

**TITUS 1:5-9** For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you — <sup>6</sup> if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. <sup>7</sup> For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, <sup>8</sup> but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, <sup>9</sup> holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

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**ROMANS 1:16-17** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

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