



**S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY**

Acts 13 & 14

City  
One of the "Seven Churches" - Rev. 2-3  
Paul's Route → [ConformingToJesus.com](http://ConformingToJesus.com)

# Chapter 14

- ▶ 14:1–7
  - Iconium
- ▶ 14:6–20
  - Lystra and Derbe and the surrounding region
- ▶ 14:21–23
  - Return trip through the same cities
- ▶ 14:24–28
  - Return to Antioch and reporting to the church




# Iconium

- ▶ 60 miles east of Antioch of Pisidia
- ▶ Capital of the province of Lycaonia
- ▶ Preaching in the synagogue
- ▶ Paul and Barnabas “so spoke”
- ▶ Poisoning minds against the brethren
- ▶ Paul & Barnabas stayed a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord
- ▶ “Apostles”
- ▶ The city divided
- ▶ Attempt to abuse & stone
  - 2 Timothy 3:11
  - Preached elsewhere



# Lystra


- ▶ 20–40 miles southeast of Iconium
  - ▶ Paul heals lame man
    - Similar to Acts 3, only this man had faith
  - ▶ But did success of a miracle depend upon faith in the one being healed?
    - No. No case of this.
  - ▶ Were miracles only performed upon those who had faith?
    - Luke 7:12–15 – no evidence of faith
    - Acts 3:16 – no evidence of faith
  - ▶ Faith prompting Jesus to heal
    - Matthew 9:21–29
  - ▶ Disciples' healing failed in Matthew 17:14–21 due to their own unbelief
  - ▶ Contrast to modern miracle workers: “you didn't have faith, so that's why the miracle failed”
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# Blinded by Idolatry

- ▶ Zeus – father of the gods who came to earth in human form; the father of gods and men (Roman name “Jupiter”)
- ▶ Hermes – the messenger of the gods; “ruler of speech” (Roman name “Mercury”)
- ▶ Tearing clothes in sorrow and shame
  - Genesis 37:29
  - Job 1:20
- ▶ The sermon: God’s witness & man’s responsibility
  - Psalm 19
  - Romans 1:18–21
- ▶ A call to repentance
  - See also Acts 17:30

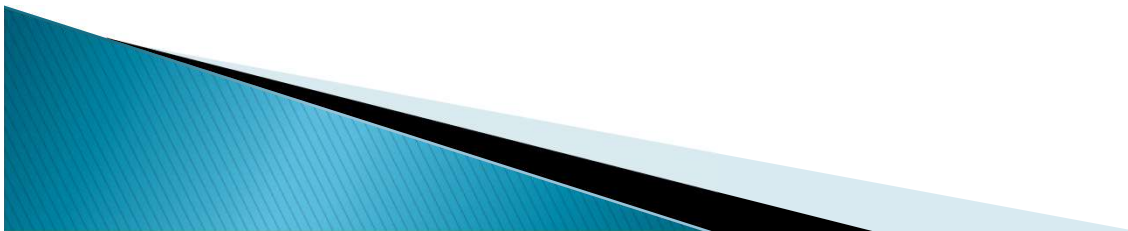


# Embittered Jews

- ▶ Consider the distance they came
  - ▶ Persuaded multitudes to persecute when they were previously ready to sacrifice to them
  - ▶ Paul stoned
    - 2 Corinthians 11:25
  - ▶ Timothy from Lystra – Acts 16:1
    - Paul's son in the faith
      - 2 Timothy 1:2
      - 1 Corinthians 4:17
  - ▶ 2 Timothy 1:4
  - ▶ Again, 2 Timothy 3:11
  - ▶ Note: Disciples here
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# What Will Paul Do?

- ▶ Back into the city
- ▶ On to Derbe to preach
- ▶ Made many disciples
  - Gaius – Acts 20:4
- ▶ Derbe
  - Another city of Lycaonia
  - 20 miles southeast of Lystra
  - Derbe the first city encountered traveling west from Cilicia after passing through the mountain pass known as the “Cilician Gates”



# Roman Road

**Roman Road Near Cilician Gates or Gülek Pass. Turkey. The Cilician Gates is a pass through the Taurus Mountains connecting the low plains of Cilicia to the Anatolian Plateau, by way of the narrow gorge of the Gökölük River. Has been a major commercial and military artery for millennia**





# Cilician Gates



FIG. 2.—CILICIAN GATES : SOUTHERN ENTRANCE.



# The Return Trip

- ▶ The shortest route by far back to Antioch would be through the Cilician Gates.
- ▶ Returned through the cities of persecution
  - Courage
  - Others' spiritual need about their own physical safety
- ▶ Matthew 28:18–20



# Strengthening The Souls of the Disciples

- ▶ Establishing, grounding
  - In the truth
  - Example, teaching, appointing elders
- ▶ Exhorting to continue in the faith
  - Then it is possible to discontinue in the faith!
- ▶ Through many tribulations must enter the kingdom of God
  - Idolaters?
  - Angry Jews?
  - Family ties, social ties?
  - Temptations



# “We Must Through Many Tribulations Enter The Kingdom of God”

- ▶ We
- ▶ Tribulation entering
  - Colossians 1:13
- ▶ To receive everlasting kingdom in heaven
  - 2 Peter 1:11
- ▶ We must
  - Grow in the faith
  - Endure tribulation
    - Revelation 2:10



# “Appointed Elders in Every Church”

- ▶ Acts 11:30
- ▶ Plurality
- ▶ Will learn much more through the New Testament
  - Harmonizing all the facts
  - Acts 20:28
  - 1 Peter 5:1–3
  - Qualifications in Titus and 1 Timothy
- ▶ Commended them (the disciples) to the Lord
  - “Entrusted”
    - Matthew 28:20

