

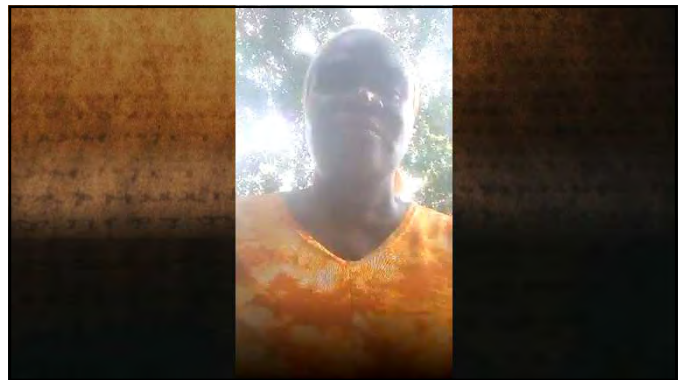


G Abraham Powell
March 8 at 8:20 PM · 🌐

Mother Olive Powell on the MOVE.. Reaching out with the Gospel Jesus Christ. Riding on motor bike and walking distances in Gbee District Nimba County and Rivercess County just for the sake of winning the lost to Christ and teaching the women in the E. C. Church thank C me full the field prayer




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INTRODUCTION

Acts 16 – Part 2


PHILIPPIANS



Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church ✦

Paul's Letter to the Philippians

- Philippi was about 10 miles inland from its harbor city, Neapolis, in the region of Macedonia.



Paul's Missionary Journeys

1st of 4 – Acts 13

1 Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. 2 While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off...

Acts 13:4 – "So Barnabas and Saul were sent out by the Holy Spirit!"

A map showing Paul's first missionary journey. A large blue arrow points from Antioch in Syria towards the east, indicating the direction of travel. The map includes regions like Macedonia, Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Cilicia, Lycaonia, Caria, and Lycia. A legend in the bottom left corner identifies the journey's path with colored lines: red for the first journey, blue for the second, and purple for the third.

Acts 13:4 – "So Barnabas and Saul were sent out by the Holy Spirit!"

A map showing Paul's first missionary journey, identical to the previous one. A red rectangular box highlights the legend in the bottom left corner, which details the different missionary journeys.

2nd of 4 – Acts 15+

15:36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."

A map showing Paul's second missionary journey. The path is highlighted in blue, starting from Antioch and traveling through Cilicia, Lycaonia, Phrygia, and Galatia. The legend in the bottom left corner is visible.

2nd of 4 – Acts 15+

A map showing Paul's second missionary journey. A yellow arrow points to a sign that reads "RESTRICTED AREA DO NOT ENTER Asia Mysia & Bithynia". The sign is placed over the western part of the map. To the right of the map, a list of regions is provided: Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, Phrygia, Galatia, Mysia, Bithynia, Troas, and Macedonia.

Acts 16

13 On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

14 One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth.

She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.

An illustration showing Paul, a man in a white robe, standing by a riverbank. Lydia, a woman in a purple robe, is standing next to him, looking towards him. Other people are visible in the background.

She was a worshiper of God.
The Lord opened her heart to respond
to Paul's message.

Word: *dianoigw*
 Pronunciation: *dee-an-oy'-go*
 Strong's Number: **G1222**
 Strong's Concordance
 Origin: from 1223 and 455; to open thoroughly, literally (as a first-born) or figuratively (to expound)--open. G1222
 Use: Verb
 Heb Strong: **H8118 H8528 H8527 H8562 H8575 H8581 H8586 H8605**
 1) to open by dividing or drawing asunder, to open thoroughly (what had been closed)
 1a) a male opening the womb (the closed anatos), i.e. the first-born
 1b) of the eyes and the ears
 1c) to open the mind of one, i.e. to cause to understand a thing
 1c1) to open one's soul, i.e. to rouse in one the faculty of understanding or the desire of learning

Acts 16

15 When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home.

"If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house."

And she persuaded us.

Acts 16

16 Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling.

17 She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting,

"These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved."

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16

18 She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

19 When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities.

20 They brought them before the magistrates and said, "These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice."

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16

22 The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods.

23 After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully.

24 When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16

26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.

27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.

28 But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

29 The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.

30 He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16

31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.

33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.

34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16

35 When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: "Release those men."

36 The jailer told Paul, "The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace."

37 But Paul said to the officers: "They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out."

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16

38 The officers reported this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were alarmed.

39 They came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city.

40 After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia's house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. Then they left.

Read by: Trent Stehr

Acts 16:16 –

"... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**"

"... **a slave girl** who had a **spirit of divination** and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling."

- ✓ Imprisoned in her own body
- ✓ "Owned"
- ✓ Demon-inspired utterances
- ✓ Valued only for her ability to make money
- ✓ Being destroyed in the process

Acts 16:16 –

"... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**"

"... **a slave girl** who had a **spirit of divination** and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling."

The literal Greek reads,

"She had a spirit, a python."

That's the same term as a python snake. This referred to the legendary snake in Greek mythology that guarded the Delphic Oracle in Central Greece.

https://www.bereanbiblechurch.org/transcripts/acts/16_16-21.htm



Acts 16:16 –

"... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**"

"... **a slave girl** who had a **spirit of divination** and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling."

Luke 10:19 –

"I give you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy..."



Acts 16:16 –

“... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**”

“... **a slave girl** who had a **spirit of divination** and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.”

The demon may have been seeking to demonstrate its own power or authority over Paul by declaring publicly,
“I know who you really are!”

We see this in a number of encounters with Jesus!
 Matthew 8:28–34, Mark 1:23–24, Luke 4:31–41

Acts 16:16 –

“... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**”

“... **a slave girl** who had a **spirit of divination** and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.”

Luke 4:31–35 ; 40–41

Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

³¹ Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbaths he taught the people. ³² They were amazed at his teaching, because his words had authority.

³³ In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice. ³⁴ “Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

³⁵ “Be quiet!” Jesus said sternly. “Come out of him!” Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

⁴⁰ At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. ⁴¹ Moreover, demons came out of many people shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

Acts 16:16 –

“... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**”

“... **a slave girl** who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.”

Jesus did not allow demons to “help” with ministry. He says, in effect, “Keep my name out of your mouth.”

Why?

The testimony of evil spirits was unwanted by our Lord. To accept their testimony would have been to certify them as sources of information.

By Roderick Barnes - "CALLED TO CONFLICT – PART 1 OF 3 (ACTS 16:16-18)

Acts 16:16 –

“... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**”

“... **a slave girl** who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.”

Just as with Jesus, Paul was not interested in having an evil spirit as a witness!

Acts 16:16 –

“... Once when we were going to the **place of prayer...**”

“... **a slave girl** who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.”

(v18) **“She kept this up for many days!”**

Philippians 1:1

“Bond-servant” of Christ!

Paul’s dedication to the message and person of Jesus Christ was all encompassing!

... he traveled nearly 10,000 miles for the Gospel!

Philippians 1:1
“Bond-servant” of Christ!



Philippians 1:1
“Bond-servant” of Christ!

He sets free the “enslaved” girl yet...
 takes her “imprisonment” upon himself!

Philippians 1:1
“Bond-servant” of Christ!


John 8:36 –
 “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!”



Acts 16:30 -
 “The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’”



Genesis 50:20–22 -
 “... what was meant evil against me, God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive...”



**Paul & Silas...
 In prison, yet free!**

The guard...
FREE, yet in prison!



Paul...

Bondservant of Christ!

Brought freedom to the slave girl as well as the prison guard & his family!

God is the doorkeeper!

Revelation 3:8 –

“I have set before you an open door which no one is able to shut!”

God is the doorkeeper!

Lydia's heart...

The slave girl...

The prison guard...



God is the doorkeeper!

Lydia's heart...

The slave girl...

The prison guard...



God is the doorkeeper!



Asia
Mysia
&
Bithynia

But What about Asia and Bithynia?

Geography offers us some insight into why God shut the doors to Asia and Bithynia. It all proved a matter of timing, for the doors would blow open in a few years. In fact, the very team the Lord had shut the door on—Paul, Silas, Timothy—would play a major role in God's plan for Asia and Bithynia.

How?

- Timothy would serve as pastor to Ephesus, a major city in Asia.
- Paul would travel to Asia on his 3rd Missionary Journey; he would even live in Ephesus for several years.
- From his house arrest in Rome, Paul would write to the churches of Asia in his epistles to the Ephesians and Colossians and in his letter to Laodicea.
- Silas would serve as Peter's secretary in writing 1 Peter "to those chosen of God in ... Asia and Bithynia" (1:1).

The reasons for the closed doors of the past became clear: God wanted the gospel in Asia and Bithynia, yes. But He wanted it in Europe first.

<https://waynestiles.com/blog/how-geography-opens-our-eyes-about-gods-closed-doors>