
a ***Grace Notes*** course

The Acts of the Apostles

an expositional study
by Warren Doud

Lesson 220: **Acts 14:19-28**

ACTS, Lesson 220, Acts 14:19-28

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Acts 14:19-28**Acts 14:19**

And there came certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

And there came certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium

Some time may have elapsed here, days or even weeks

The Jews of the region were now dedicated enemies of the apostles, and seem to have followed them from one place to the next, to oppose them, to stir up the people against them, even to put them to death, if possible. In both Antioch and Iconium, the Jews roused the people, including Gentiles, to assault the apostles.

they persuaded the people

Aor. act. part. of **πειπρω**, “having persuaded” the people; as in NAS, “having won over the people”, they stoned Paul ... It’s ironic that the “people” whom the Jews persuaded to assault Paul and Barnabas were the same who, just a short time before, were eager to make sacrifice to them. Perhaps the Jews played on the idea that the apostles had tried to pass themselves off as gods and that the heathen people of Lystra should deal harshly with them.

they stoned Paul, and drew him out of the city

Stoning was a Jewish punishment, as we see in Acts 7 concerning Stephen. One difference here is, that the Jews who stoned Stephen in Jerusalem were careful to take him outside the city before they stoned him, because it would have polluted the holy city for the execution to be within city limits. Here, there was no such concern for polluting a heathen town. Their intention was to kill Paul, and they thought that they had succeeded. When they thought he was dead, they dragged him out of the city.

supposing he had been dead.

“Supposing” is **νομίζω** (pres. act. part.), which means “to support; to think; to presume”. NAS: “supposing him to be dead”. NIV: “thinking he was dead”.

Luke does not say that Paul was dead, or that anything miraculous happened. He says that his would-be murderers *thought* he was dead. Some commentators infer that Paul was dead, then draw further conclusions as to his miraculous resurrection, etc. Leaps to conclusions like this are unwarranted.

Acts 14:20

Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

As the disciples stood around him

The murderous frenzy of the Jews and their allies was directed only at the apostle Paul, not at any of the Jews or Gentiles who had become believers in Christ. The believers probably thought they would have to bury Paul, as we see the devout men carrying Stephen to his burial (Acts 8:2). It’s possible that Timothy, at this time a teenager, was a witness to these things.

he rose up

Again, there is no mention of anything miraculous. All of the speculation among the commentators about Paul’s miraculous resurrection, or healing, are based on. Furneaux’s statement, on the other hand, is right on, in particular because we have no other information: “A splendid illustration of Paul’s fortitude. Roused from apparent death, he struggled back to the city, bruised and shaken; and next morning started on a forty mile journey to face fresh scenes of toil and danger.”

¹

¹ Furneaux, Acts 14:20

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Derbe

Derbe was a city in the same province, Lycaonia. Ruins of Derbe have been discovered about forty miles from the town of Lystra, near the pass that leads to the Cilician gates.

Acts 14:21

And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,

when they had preached the gospel to that city

This is **euaggelisaenoiv** "to preach the gospel".

Paul and Barnabas were successful in their evangelizing in Derbe, as is seen in the Greek here, if not in the KJV translation. The English of the KJV does not reveal to us that anyone actually accepted what Paul and Barnabas taught, which is a major omission. It is very important to know that people came to Christ in Derbe, and the inspired scripture in the Greek makes that clear.

The phrase "and had taught many" is **kai ikanouv maqhteusante** "and had made many disciples", which we see more accurately translated in the NAS and NIV.

From Derbe, the apostles returned to the cities where they had won so many to Christ in the preceding months.

Acts 14:22

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Confirming the souls of the disciples

Rather, as in NAS and NIV, "strengthening the souls of the disciples", although the NIV leaves out the word "souls", which reduces the meaning of the original Greek.

Greek, **episthrizonte~ ta~ yuca~ twn maqtw** The verb **sthrizw** is "strengthen; establish".

1 Thess. 3:1,2

Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone; And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellow labourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish (**sthrizw**) you, and to comfort you concerning your faith:

2 Thess. 2:16, 17

Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and establish (**sthrizw**) you in every good word and work.

1 Peter 5:10

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen (**sthrizw**), settle you.

The issue with new believers is, what principles of doctrine should be taught. We know that the apostles wanted very urgently to see the novice Christians established in the faith.

How should a local church's teaching curriculum be organized in order, as quickly as possible, to bring the new believers to a place of stability in their Christians live, to show them how to grow in grace, and to give them some idea of how to be spiritual productive?

For stability: Salvation Doctrines and Positional Truth

For growth: Spirituality; Maturity; Edification

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TOPIC: SALVATION DOCTRINES

exhorting them to continue in the faith that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 14:23-28

And when they had ordained elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia.

And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia:

And from there sailed to Antioch, where they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

And there they abode long time with the disciples.

Salvation Doctrines

"The Christian who does not understand what God has done in the past, and does not have faith in what God will do in the future, will be overwhelmed by today's crisis."

Chester McCalley

Your Christian life began the moment you believed the Gospel, putting your complete confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. At that moment, God provided you with a great number of unique and permanent blessings. "...and hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ." (Eph. 1:3) These blessings are a part of your inheritance as a Christian; they are the doctrines and promises upon which you may draw during the remainder of your lifetime.

The following is a listing of salvation doctrines, a catalogue of the things God did for you when you accepted Christ. These basic teachings are the underlying principles for the mechanics of Christian living, the techniques such as faith rest and occupation with Christ, and are foundation principles for all other Bible doctrine.

This listing can provide you with hours of quality study and meditation. You may well find other topics that could be added to the list. It is valuable and important that you understand thoroughly your relationship with the Lord; a good knowledge of these doctrines can be of great help to you in solving problems and making decisions according to God's viewpoint.

1. You are in the eternal plan of God, sharing the destiny of the Lord Jesus Christ. As such You are:

Foreknown: Acts 2:23; Rom. 8:29; 1 Pet. 1:2

Elect: Rom. 8:33; Col. 3:12; 1 Thess. 1:4; Titus 1:1; 1 Peter 1:2

Predestined: Rom. 8:29, 30; Eph. 1:5, 11

Chosen in Christ: Matt. 22:14; 1 Pet. 2:4

Called: 1 Thess. 5:24

2. You have been **reconciled:**

By God: 2 Cor. 5:18; Col. 1:20

To God: Rom. 5:10; 2 Cor. 5:20; Eph. 2:14f.

3. You have been **redeemed** (purchased from the slave market of sin): Rom. 3:24; Col. 1:14; 1 Pet. 1:18; Eph. 1:7.

4. You have been **removed from condemnation:** John 3:18; 5:24; Rom. 8:1.

5. You are **under grace** and not under judgment (doctrine of propitiation): Rom. 3:24-28; 1 John 2:2.

6. Your sins have been judged by the spiritual death of Christ on the cross: Rom. 4:25; Eph. 1:7; 1 Pet. 2:24.

7. You have been made dead to the old life and alive unto God. You are:

Crucified with Christ: Rom. 6:6; Gal. 2:20

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Dead with Christ: Rom. 6:8; Col. 3:3; 1 Pet. 2:24

Buried with Christ: Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12

Risen with Christ: Rom. 6:4; Col. 3:1

8. You are **free from the law:** Rom. 6:14; 7:4,6; 2 Cor. 3:11; Gal. 3:25.

9. You have been **adopted** (placed as an adult heir in the family of God): Rom. 8:15; 8:23; Eph. 1:5.

10. You have been **justified** (declared righteous): Rom. 3:24; 5:1,9; 8:30; 1 Cor. 6:11; Titus 3:7.

11. You have been **regenerated** (born spiritually into the family of God): John 13:10; 1 Cor. 6:11; Titus 3:5. In regeneration the believers are:

Born Again: John 3:7; 1 Pet. 1:23

Children of God: Gal. 3:26

Sons of God: John 1:12; 2 Cor. 6:18; 1 John 3:2

New Creations: 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:15; Eph. 2:10

12. You have been made acceptable to God: Eph. 1:6; 1 Pet. 2:5. To make a believer acceptable to Himself, God sees to it that You have been:

Made righteous: Rom. 3:22; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:9

Sanctified positionally: 1 Cor. 1:30; 6:11

Perfected forever: Heb. 10:14

Made qualified: Col. 1:12

13. You have been **forgiven all trespasses** or sins: Eph. 1:7; 4:32; Col. 1:14; 2:13; 3:13

14. You have been made a **heavenly citizen** based on reconciliation: Luke 10:20; Eph. 2:13,19; Phil. 3:20

15. You have been **delivered from the kingdom of Satan:** Col. 1:13; 2:15

16. You have been **transferred into God's kingdom:** Col. 1:13

17. You have been placed on a **secure foundation:** 1 Cor. 3:11; 10:4; Eph. 2:20

18. You are a **gift from God the Father** to the Lord Jesus Christ: John 17:2, 6, 9, 11, 12, 24

19. You have been **delivered from the power of the sin nature:** Rom. 2:29; Phil. 3:3; Col. 2:11

20. You have been **appointed as a priest** unto God: 1 Pet. 2:5, 9; Rev. 1:6

21. You are **under the care of God** as a chosen generation and a protected people: Tit. 2:14; 1 Pet. 2:9

22. You have been given **access to God:** Rom. 5:2; Eph. 2:18; Heb. 4:14, 16; 10:19, 20

23. You are within the much more care of God; given who we are as sinners:

Objects of His love: Eph. 2:4; 5:2

Objects of His grace: for salvation, Eph. 2:8,9; for keeping, Rom. 5:2; 1 Pet. 1:5; for service, John 17:18; Eph. 4:7; for instruction, Titus 2:12

Objects of His power: Eph. 1:19; Phil. 2:13

Objects of His faithfulness: Phil. 1:6; Heb. 13:5

Objects of His peace: John 14:27

Objects of His consolation: 2 Thess. 2:16

Objects of His intercession: Rom. 8:34; 7:25; 9:24

24. You are part of Christ's inheritance: Eph. 1:18

25. You are a beneficiary of the inheritance from God (**an heir of God and a joint-heir with the Lord Jesus Christ**): Rom. 8:17; Eph. 1:14; Col. 3:24; Heb. 9:15; 1 Pet. 1:4

26. The believer has a **new position in Christ:** Eph. 2:6; Col. 3:4; 1 Cor. 1:9; 3:9; 2 Cor. 3:3, 6; 5:20; 6:1, 4

27. You are the **recipient of eternal life:** John 3:15; 10:28; 20:31; 1 John 5:11, 12

28. You are a **member of the family of God:** Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:19

29. You are **Light in the Lord:** Eph. 5:8; 1 Thess. 5:4

30. You are **united with the Father:** 1 Thess. 1:1, cf. Eph. 4:6. In addition to this, you are:

United with Christ: John 14:20, cf. Col. 1:27

A member of His body: 1 Cor. 12:13

A branch in the vine: John 15:5

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A stone in the building: Eph. 2:21, 22

A sheep in the flock: (These two verses have no mention of sheep and flock)

A part of His bride: Eph. 5:25-27

A priest in His kingdom: 1 Pet. 2:9

A saint of the new species: 2 Cor. 5:17

United with the Holy Spirit: Rom. 8:9-11

31. You are the recipient of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Born of the spirit: John 3:6

Baptized by the spirit: 1 Cor. 12:13

Indwelt by the spirit: John 7:39; Rom. 5:5; 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19; Gal. 4:6; 1 John 3:24

Sealed by the spirit: 2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 4:30

Recipient of spiritual gifts: 1 Cor. 12:11; 12:27-31; 13:1, 2

32. You have been **glorified in Christ:**
Rom. 3:20

33. You have been made **complete in Christ:**
Col. 2:10

34. You are the **possessor of every spiritual blessing:** Eph. 1:3

35. You are the **recipient of a human spirit:**
Rom. 8:16; 1 Cor. 2:12; 2 Cor. 7:13; 1 Thess. 5:23; Eph. 2:5

36. You have **access to all Bible truth** through the grace system for Bible understanding and Christian growth: Col. 2 and Eph. 4