

Acts 16:11-40

v11	Troas	(proper noun)	a town; see map
v11	“put out to sea”	(phrase)	sailed a ship from the shore into the sea
v11	Samothrace	(proper noun)	a town; see map
v11	Neapolis	(proper noun)	a town; see map
v12	Phillipi	(proper noun)	a town; see map
v12	colony	(noun)	a country, or part of a country, that is controlled by a different and more powerful nation
v12	district	(noun)	a division of a country or town
v12	Macedonia	(proper noun)	a province of the Roman Empire
v13	Sabbath	(proper noun)	Saturday, the day of rest for Jews
v13	prayer	(noun)	conversation with God
v14	Thyatira	(proper noun)	a town; see map
v14	worshipper	(noun)	someone who respects and serves God
v15	baptized	(verb)	washed with water as a symbol of being forgiven of sins by God because of Jesus’ death and resurrection
v15	“a believer in the Lord”	(phrase)	someone who trusts God’s character and promises; a Christian
v15	persuaded	(verb)	caused someone to do something by giving good reasons for doing it
v16	slave	(noun)	someone owned by another person and who must do whatever their owner commands
v16	spirit	(noun)	a non-physical being
v16	fortune-telling	(verb)	predicting the future
v17	servants	(noun)	people who work for another person in return for payment
v18	command	(verb)	order; instruct
v19	seized	(verb)	took hold of forcefully
v20	magistrates	(noun)	officers of the law; judges
v20	uproar	(noun)	a state of violent and noisy disturbance
v21	advocating	(verb)	recommending publicly
v21	customs	(noun)	ways of behaving; traditions

v22	stripped	(verb)	made naked
v22	beaten	(verb)	hit violently and strongly
v23	flogged	(verb)	hit with a whip or stick
v23	prison	(noun)	a place where people are kept as punishment for a crime, or when they have been accused of a crime and are awaiting trial
v23	jailer	(noun)	a person in charge of a jail or prison
v24	fastened	(verb)	securely attached
v24	stocks	(noun)	a board or frame used to hold prisoners in place (see image 2)
v25	hymns	(noun)	songs that praise or celebrate God
v25	prisoners	(noun)	criminals kept in prison
v26	earthquake	(noun)	shaking of the earth caused movement of its surface
v26	foundations	(noun)	the layer below the ground that the rest of a building is built on
v26	“flew open”	(phrase)	opened rapidly
v29	trembling	(verb)	shaking because of fear or cold
v31	believe	(verb)	trust; depend on
v31	household	(noun)	all the people living in a house
v37	trial	(noun)	examination of whether someone is guilty or not, according to the law
v39	appease	(verb)	satisfy, or bring to a state of peace
v39	requesting	(verb)	asking for something to be done or given, especially as a favour
v40	encouraged	(verb)	filled with confidence

Acts 16:11-40 (New International Reader's Version (NIRV))

¹¹ At Troas we got into a boat. We sailed straight for Samothrace. The next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony. It is an important city in that part of Macedonia. We stayed there several days.

¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the city gate. We walked down to the river. There we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered together. ¹⁴ One of the women listening was from the city of Thyatira. Her name was Lydia, and her business was selling purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to accept Paul's message. ¹⁵ She and her family were baptized. Then she invited us to her home. "Do you consider me a believer in the Lord?" she asked. "If you do, come and stay at my house." She succeeded in getting us to go home with her.

¹⁶ One day we were going to the place of prayer. On the way we were met by a female slave. She had a spirit that helped her tell people what was going to happen. She earned a lot of money for her owners by doing this. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and the rest of us around. She shouted, "These men serve the Most High God. They are telling you how to be saved." ¹⁸ She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became upset. Turning around, he spoke to the spirit that was in her. "In the name of Jesus Christ," he said, "I command you to come out of her!" At that very moment the spirit left the woman.

¹⁹ Her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone. So they grabbed Paul and Silas. They dragged them into the market place to face the authorities. ²⁰ They brought them to the judges. "These men are Jews," her owners said. "They are making trouble in our city. ²¹ They are suggesting practices that are against Roman law. These are practices we can't accept or take part in."

²² The crowd joined the attack against Paul and Silas. The judges ordered that Paul and Silas be stripped and beaten with rods. ²³ They were whipped without mercy. Then they were thrown into prison. The jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. ²⁴ When he received these orders, he put Paul and Silas deep inside the prison. He fastened their feet so they couldn't get away.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying. They were also singing hymns to God. The other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was a powerful earthquake. It shook the prison from top to bottom. All at once the prison doors flew open. Everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ The jailer woke up. He saw that the prison doors were open. He pulled out his sword and was going to kill himself. He thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ "Don't harm yourself!" Paul shouted. "We are all here!" ²⁹ The jailer called out for some lights. He rushed in, shaking with fear. He fell down in front of Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out. He asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus. Then you and everyone living in your house will be saved." ³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him. They also spoke to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night, the jailer took Paul and Silas and washed their wounds. Right away he and everyone who lived with him were baptized. ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house. He set a meal in front of them. He and everyone who lived with him were filled with joy. They had become believers in God.

³⁵ Early in the morning the judges sent their officers to the jailer. They ordered him, "Let those men go." ³⁶ The jailer told Paul, "The judges have ordered me to set you and Silas free. You can leave now. Go in peace."

³⁷ But Paul replied to the officers. "They beat us in public," he said. "We weren't given a trial. And we are Roman citizens! They threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and personally lead us out."

³⁸ The officers reported this to the judges. When the judges heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they became afraid.

³⁹ So they came and said they were sorry. They led them out of the prison. Then they asked them to leave the city. ⁴⁰ After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia's house. There they met with the brothers and sisters. They told them to be brave. Then they left.

Image 1: A map showing where Paul travelled, marked by the red dotted line

PAUL'S SECOND MISSION ACTS 15:39 - 18:22 AD 49-52

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Image 2: A person put in stocks



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