



Acts 14:19-28
Tribulations and the Kingdom

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Paul Stoned and Healed

Acts 14:19-20 (NASB)

But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe.

- Those Jews who had rejected the gospel were so antagonistic that they traveled to Lystra to stir up hostility against Paul
- Luke implies that a miracle happened

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Attacks Do Not Stop the Gospel

Acts 14:21-22 (NASB)

After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

- Despite persecution, there are many who come to Christ in Derbe
- "Must" is *dei* which typically denotes God's purpose in Luke/Acts

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Appointing Elders, Trusting God

Acts 14:23 (NASB)

When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

- Apostles appointed elders for Lystra, Iconium, and Pisidian Antioch
- There is no "world headquarters" that will exercise authority over these churches
- What unites the churches is the teachings of the apostles who speak for Christ

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The Gospel Spreads

Acts 14:24-26 (NASB)

They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia. When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished.

- “Having spoken the word” says it all!
- They preached the gospel everywhere
- “Commended” shows that they believed God would keep those he saved safe in His grace

Back to Antioch

Acts 14:27-28 (NASB)

When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. And they spent a long time with the disciples.

- This is Luke’s summary; many details would have been included in this report
- This is about what God had graciously done through the apostles
- Gentiles are being added to the church