



Acts 16:4-10

The Holy Spirit Guides Gospel Advance

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Churches Solidified and Growing

Acts 16:4-5 (NASB)

Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees which had been decided upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe. So the churches were being strengthened in the faith, and were increasing in number daily.

- The Greek says they were “watching over” the “dogma” of the apostles and elders
- This had a beneficial effect on the churches spiritually and numerically

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The Holy Spirit Guides Preachers

Acts 16:6-8 (NASB)

They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.

- Jesus’ commission mentioned the power of the Holy Spirit and world mission (Acts 1:8)
- The “Holy Spirit” and the “Spirit of Jesus” are synonymously parallel and remind us that Jesus promised to send the Spirit: Luke 24:49, Acts 2:33

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The Macedonian Vision

Acts 16:9-10 (NASB)

A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

- “Help” is in the imperative and means literally, “to run to a cry” (*boe_theo_*) {see Heb. 2:18}
- Luke was with the group and they discussed Paul’s vision as a group

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Humans Are to Fill the Earth

Genesis 9:1-4 (LEB)

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.** And fear of you and dread of you shall be upon every animal of the earth, and on every bird of heaven, and on everything that moves upon the ground, and on all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they shall be given. Every moving thing that lives shall be for you as food. As I gave the green plants to you, I now give you everything. Only you shall not eat raw flesh with blood in it.

Establishment of Nations

Genesis 10:32 (LEB)

These are the families of the sons of Noah, according to their generations and in their nations. And **from these the nations spread abroad on the earth** after the flood.

Genesis 11:7-8 (LEB)

Come, let us go down and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand each other’s language.” **So Yahweh scattered them from there over the face of the whole earth,** and they stopped building the city.

Hope Through Abram’s Seed

Genesis 12:1-3 (LEB)

And Yahweh said to Abram, “Go out from your land and from your relatives, and from the house of your father, to the land that I will show you. And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and I will make your name great. And you will be a blessing. And I will bless those who bless you, and those who curse you I will curse. **And all families of the earth will be blessed in you.**”

God Promises Descendants and Abraham Believes

Genesis 15:4-6 (LEB)

And behold, the word of Yahweh came to him saying, “This person will not be your heir, but your own son will be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward the heavens and count the stars if you are able to count them.” And he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And **he believed in Yahweh, and he reckoned it to him as righteousness.**