

## Acts 16:6-40 - Part 2

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 5-31-17

### IV. The Apostle to the Gentiles (12:25-21:17)

- A. The first missionary journey (12:25-14:28)
- B. The Council of Jerusalem (15:1-16:5)
- C. Mission in Macedonia (16:6-17:15)**
- D. Paul in Athens (17:16-34)
- E. Corinth and Ephesus (18:1-19:41)
- F. More about Ephesus (20:1-21:17)

### The Anonymous Slave Girl (vv. 16-18)

V. 16 - followed by a slave girl with the spirit of divination

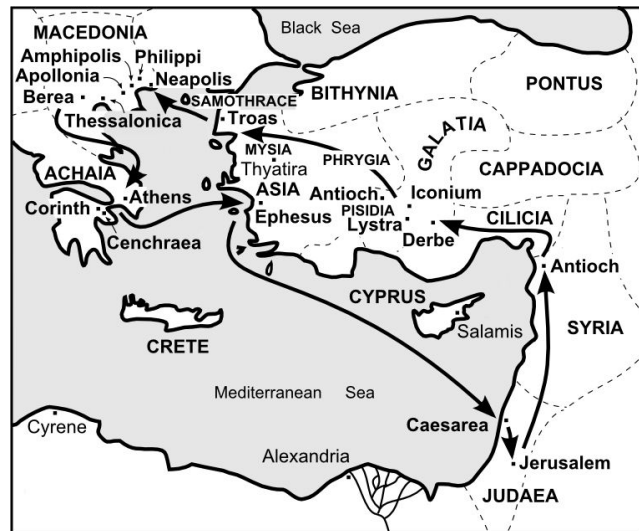
- Lit. "a spirit of python" - the snake that guarded the temple of Apollo in classical mythology

Vv. 17-18a - "These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation."

- Same behavior in the gospels around Jesus (Lk. 4:33-34, 41; 8:27-28)

V. 18b - Paul became "greatly annoyed" (NASB)

- KJV - "became grieved" = deep trouble in his spirit over her \_\_\_\_\_ and its \_\_\_\_\_
- Deliverance implies conversion?



Results of this encounter (vv. 19-24)

- V. 19 - Evil spirit went out, so did their \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 19)
- V. 19 - dragged before the authorities
  - Ἀγορὰ ("agora") - marketplace, center of public life
  - Στρατηγός ("stratēgos") - the magistrates of the Roman colony
- Vv. 20-21 - the charge: "throwing our city into confusion" and "proclaiming customs" against Roman culture and law
  - Causing a \_\_\_\_\_ and introducing an alien \_\_\_\_\_ was a serious offense.
  - A. N. Sherwin-White: "Officially the Roman citizen may not practice any alien cult that has not received the public sanction of the state, but customarily he might do so as long as his cult did not otherwise offend against the laws and usages of Roman life, i.e. so long as it did not involve political or social crimes."

- The cleverness of the slave owners
  - Concealed the real \_\_\_\_\_ for their anger
  - Appealed to latent \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (“being Jews”)
  - Appealed to their racial \_\_\_\_\_ (“being Romans”)
  - Ignited the powerful, all-consuming flames of \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 22a)
- Judgment (vv. 22b-24)
  - Strip and beat them - was a severe beating (“struck them with many blows”, cf. II Cor. 11:23, 25)
  - Thrown into jail