

Walking Through the New Testament with Paul the Apostle by His Life and Pen

LESSON NO. 14 - Please read once more Acts 16:1-40. **Theme:** What we do during the Day and the Night will be eternally important.

Continuing in Acts 16, we note that there are many interesting subjects that could be addressed...Timothy's circumcision, the Holy Spirit's providential leading, a vision in the 9th verse (Paul in his life had a total of 6), the conversion & baptism of Lydia and her family as well as the jailor and his family, removing an evil spirit from a slave girl and more.

Since our emphasis is the big picture of evangelism & the extension of Christ's kingdom, how might we each extract some thoughts that would help us live with passion to serve where we have been placed by the Holy Spirit? Lesson 14 attempts to explore this direction.

- John 9:4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

Today's Question: *What might we change in our lives if we truly understood the truth that what we do, day or night, on earth determines how we will spend all eternity?*

Do we understand that only two possible eternal destinies face all human beings?

Eternal day or eternal night? Each person will leave this "day and night" earth and enter into their never-ending, day or night eternity upon their death. - Matthew 8:12; - Matthew 22:13; - Matthew 25:30

What did Paul do when awakened in the middle of the night?

- Acts 16:25 But **at midnight** Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

- Acts 16:29-33 Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And **he took them the same hour of the night** and washed their stripes. And **immediately** he and all his family were baptized...

- Acts 16:9-10 And a vision **appeared to Paul in the night**. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

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Do we make every activity a holy activity and every place a place of worship? Do we work and communicate [converse in prayer] with the Holy Spirit as we walk, talk, work and rest throughout all our waking hours of the day and night?

- Acts 16:13-15 And **on the Sabbath day** we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul... she and her household were baptized...

- Acts 20:31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

- Romans 13:12 **The night is far spent, the day is at hand.** Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:4-6 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. **You are all sons of light and sons of the day.** We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

- 2 Thessalonians 3:7-8 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil **night and day**, that we might not be a burden to any of you.

- Deut 6:5-7 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Do we pray without ceasing?

- Romans 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that **without ceasing** I make mention of you always in my **prayers**.

- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** Rejoice always, **pray without ceasing**, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

- 1 Thessalonians 3:9-11 For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, **night and day** praying exceedingly that we may see your face and perfect what is lacking in your faith?

Where will we spend all eternity? In never-ending day or never-ending night?

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- Revelation 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires, take the water of life without cost

- Revelation 20:10,15 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet *are*. And they will be tormented **day and night** forever and ever.[v 15] And anyone **not found written** in the Book of Life **was cast into the lake of fire**.

What might we change in our lives if we truly understood the truth that what we do, day and night, on earth, determines how we will spend all eternity?

May we be like Paul being fully committed, **day or night**, to declare the love of Jesus Christ to a dying world.

- Acts 16:29-31 "**Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**" So they said, "**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.**" Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

- Hebrews 7:25 **He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him**, , since He always lives to make intercession for them.

We recognize persecution will also come to us as it did to Paul when we proclaim our love for Jesus Christ. who died and took our place in death. Are we so overwhelmed by the love of Jesus Christ that we Tell Somebody about Him today?

One way we can tell others the incredible sure hope we have in Jesus Christ is to write down the day and events of our salvation just as Paul recorded his own "new-birth" in Acts 9. Please send your Story to us so we may rejoice with you and glorify God's great work!

We love to receive your questions. Your questions can be sent to write2stm@gmail.com or WasItForMeRom832@gmail.com. All our love to you in Christ - Jon + Philis