

A Call for Help

Acts 16:9-10

Introduction:

1. A call from Macedonia.
 - a. Three principle cities: Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea.
 - b. First record of gospel preaching in Europe.
2. A call for help.
 - a. Not financial, social, physical or material help.
 - b. Best possible help - gospel. (cf. v. 10; Acts 18:27; 20:20,21 NKJ).
3. A call worthy of our study - shall study two aspects the Macedonian call:

Discussion:

I. A Miraculous Call.

- A. Came to one directly guided by Holy Spirit - Paul (v.6,7)
 1. Similar to Phillip's call to go from Samaria to Gaza. (Acts 8).
 2. Similar to Peter's call to go to Caesarea. (Acts 10).
- B. Came during the gospel's introduction to the world.
 1. Period of direct revelation and confirmations. (Mk. 16:20; Heb. 2:3,4).
 2. Period that left us the gospel in written form to guide us.
 - a. Emphasis begins to shift to written word. (John 20:30,31; 1 Cor. 14:37; Eph. 3:1-5; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet. 3:14-16)
 - b. Emphasis begins to focus on word already revealed and preached. (Gal. 1:6-12; Rom. 10:5-8, 17-18; 1 Pet. 1:22-25; Jude 3).
 3. Period that ended with a complete revelation. (1 Cor. 13:8-13).

II. An Effective Call.

- A. It helped some in Philippi.
 1. Those helped the most.
 - a. Lydia's household. (vs. 13-15).
 - b. Jailer's household. (vs. 25-34).
 - c. The slave girl (vv. 16-18)
 - d. The brethren. (v. 40).
 2. Those that would not be helped.
 - a. The masters. (v. 16, 19-21).
 - b. The multitude. (v. 22).
- B. It helped some in Thessalonica (ch. 17:1-9)
 1. Those that were helped. (v. 4).
 - a. Persuaded by reasoning from the scriptures. (v. 2).
 - b. Persuaded by explanation rather than emotional hype.
 2. Those that would not be helped.
 - a. The envious Jews. (v. 5).
 - b. The unreasonable mob. (v. 5-9).
- C. It helped some in Berea (ch. 17:10-13)
 1. Those that were helped. (v. 10-12).
 2. Those that would not be helped. (v. 13).
 - a. Jews from Thessalonica.
 - b. Crowd that was stirred up.

Conclusion:

- A. We need to carry or send the gospel to wherever it is needed.
- B. We need not wait for a direct miraculous call.
 1. Have general call written in word. (Mark 16:16; 2 Tim. 2:2)
 2. Need to look for specific opportunities. (cf. Gal. 6:10; Phil. 4:10).
- C. We need to understand that it will help some but not all.