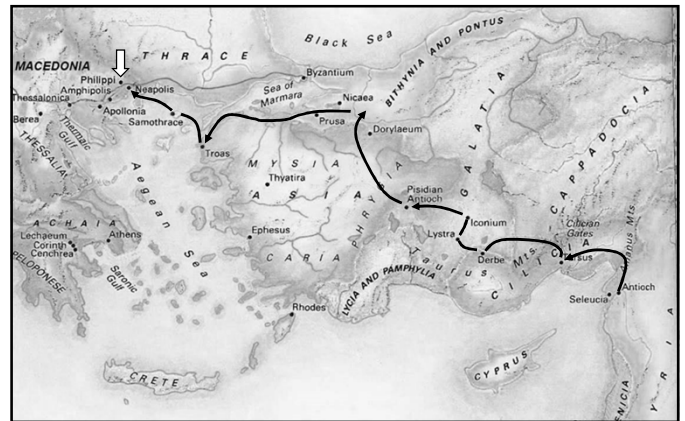


* ACTS

The Continuing Work of Jesus



* Acts 16:16-40

The Gospel Encounters Rome

Encountering Rome

1. Encounter with the fortuneteller
 - Paul rejects convenient alliances with religious systems that are, at the heart, lies
 - the supremacy of the gospel is displayed in the immediate exorcism of this spirit

Encountering Rome

2. Encounter with cultural hostility
 - the personal and cultural implications and impact of the gospel will lead to hostility
 - rehearsing the greatness and goodness of God in the midst of suffering is a source of our comfort and confidence

Encountering Rome

3. Encounter with the Roman jailer
 - *the earthquake and subsequent conversion of the jailer displays the progress of the gospel in the face of cultural opposition*

Encountering Rome

3. Encounter with the Roman jailer

- the essence of the gospel message is exhibited in the conversion of the jailer
- the reality of his conversion is seen in his joy-filled, risk-taking care of the brethren

Encountering Rome

4. Encounter with the Roman magistrates

- Paul's concern was with the public standing of the Christian mission and the protection of this young church
- Paul's controlling principle of life: *"I do all things for the sake of the gospel"* (1 Cor. 9:23)