

Paul's Second Journey: Jesus the Messiah and the Resurrection of the Dead

On his second missionary journey, Paul carried the message of salvation and resurrection of the dead through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit led him to more than a dozen cities over the course of the four-year journey. Everywhere he went, Paul convinced Jews and Gentiles alike of the gospel message. But his work also stirred up opposition. Paul suffered ridicule, imprisonment, and physical harm as he shared the good news of Jesus. Paul's preaching and encouragement recorded in Acts 15-18, provide us with theological clarity for our own efforts to share the gospel and remain faithful to Jesus Christ in all circumstances.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- How do you tend to react when a person or circumstance challenges your faith or beliefs?
- In what ways have you seen God encourage believers today?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [Paul's Second Journey: Jesus the Messiah and the Resurrection of the Dead](#)

READ [Acts 15:39-18:22](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- What disputes in churches have you seen that would be part of a “warts and all” picture of the church today? How does the Bible’s inclusion of Paul and Barnabas’ parting ways in disagreement give you hope for these situations?
- Locked up in jail, Paul and Silas had the chance to escape when an earthquake broke open the cell doors. But they stayed put, knowing they were right where God wanted them. In the aftermath of God’s dramatic display of power, and seeing Paul and Silas’ faithful response, the jailer and his whole family believed in Jesus. What does this story show you about the importance of our faithful perseverance in the face of our own circumstances?
- While discussing [Acts 17: 19-34](#), Darrell discussed how Paul saw the altar to “an unknown god” as a wide-open door to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the people of Athens. Instead of condemning them for their pagan religion, Paul seized the opportunity, and they listened to him. What do you learn about sharing your faith, or how are you encouraged by Paul’s example?
- Discussing how Jesus spoke to Paul in a dream ([Acts 18:9](#)), Darrell and host Scott Hoezee acknowledge that we “may or may not hear God speaking [to us] in this kind of voice,” but remind us that God continues to assure us of his presence through our brothers and sisters in Christ and prayers. What are the most impactful ways God encouraged you when you needed it?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Matthew 28:18-20](#), [1 Corinthians 1](#), [Ephesians 3:14-21](#)

CONCLUSION

Think about Paul's encounters in [Acts 15-18](#): Barnabas, the Macedonian man in his dream, the new believers, those who did not believe and outright opposed him, and the Lord in his vision. How do these stories enlighten you, change your perspective, or encourage you? How does Paul's second missionary journey help you live faithfully today?

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