ACTS CHAPTER 14 – SPREADING THE GOSPEL - PERSECUTION

At Iconium (vs. 1-7) - Questions 1-4 Idolatry at Lystra (vs. 8-18) - Questions 5-8 Stoning, Escape to Derbe (vs. 19-20) – Question 9 Strengthening the Converts (vs. 21-28) – Question 10

<u>Would you please study the FOURTEENTH chapter of Acts?</u> After reading it a time or two, become familiar with the questions asked below and give your answers. We will discuss these during our meeting on Tuesday! See you there!!

Discussion Questions:

At Iconium (vs. 1-7) - Questions 1-4

1. Where did Paul and Barnabas normally go to do their teaching as they went into the various cities on this first missionary journey? (v. 1). What was the result of Paul and Barnabas' teaching with regard to the multitude of Jews and Greeks? (v. 1)

*2. What occurred to the minds of the Gentiles because of being stirred up by unbelieving Jews in Iconium? (v.2) How did Paul and Barnabas respond to this resistance? (v.3). Often times we see that people in the church would like to have the presence of sign and wonders (miracles) performed to attract the unbelievers. As was evidenced in Iconium, did the signs and wonders precede or follow the bearing witness to the word of grace to the crowd? (v. 3).

3. Does the Lord primarily use signs and wonders to attract the unconverted or to confirm the word being taught? (See also Mark 16:20)

*4. How did Paul and Barnabas respond to the violent attempt which was made by the Gentiles, Jews and rulers to abuse and stone them? (v. 6) What did they do upon arrival at Lystra and Derbe? (v. 7)

Idolatry at Lystra (vs. 8-18) - Questions 5-8

*5. What spiritual gifts did Paul demonstrate in his recognition of the crippled man's faith and in Paul's command to "Stand up straight on your feet!" (See 1 Cor. 12:9-10). Following the healing of the crippled man, what was the crowd's response to Paul and Barnabas? (vs. 11-13)

*6. What danger to the continuing usefulness and the ministry of Paul and Barnabas was the crowd's response in wanting to worship them as gods for the healing miracle that had been performed? Was this danger greater than the danger of the crowd wanting to stone them in Iconium and in other cities? (See Is. 42:8a).

*7. Is taking of God's glory for one's self ever not a danger (a threat to the ministry), for all believers? Do people have a tendency to glorify the instrument whenever a significant miracle is performed?

*8. How did Paul and Barnabas respond to the crowd as they tried to worship them? (v. 14) Were they successful in deflecting self-glory and in turning the glory to God? (vs. 15-17)

Stoning, Escape to Derbe (vs. 19-20) – Question 9

` the unbelieving and resisting Jews from Antioch and Iconium do to Paul? (v.19). Did it appear that they were successful in killing him? What did Paul do following his rising up? (v. 20)

Strengthening the Converts (vs. 21-28) - Question 10

*10. What ministry steps were taken by Paul and Barnabas in Derbe, Lystra, Iconium and Antioch? (vs. 21-23) Are these steps still important and instructive today? Why was it important to revisit Lystra, Iconium and Antioch? (v. 22). How important was it to appoint elders in every church and to pray for them with fasting? (v. 23)