

Notes on the Greek New Testament Day 173 – June 22nd – Acts 14:8-28

Works frequently referenced in these notes on Acts

Bruce, FF, *The Acts of the Apostles*, London, 2nd ed. 1952

Polhill, John B, *Acts: The New American Commentary*, Nashville, 1992

Stott, John R W, *The Message of Acts*, IVP (The Bible Speaks Today), Leicester, 1990

Verse 8

Καί τις ἀνὴρ ἀδύνατος ἐν Λύστροις τοῖς ποσὶν ἐκάθητο, χωλὸς ἐκ κοιλίας μητρὸς αὐτοῦ, ὃς οὐδέποτε περιεπάτησεν.

ἀδυνατος, ον impossible, weak, crippled
πους, ποδος m foot

ἀδύνατος ... τοῖς ποσὶν 'crippled in the feet'

καθημαι sit, sit down, live
χωλος, η, ον lame, crippled
κοιλια, ας f stomach, womb

Cf. 3:2.

οὐδέποτε never

A threefold stress on the severity of his condition.

Verse 9

οὗτος ἤκουσεν τοῦ Παύλου λαλοῦντος· ὃς ἀτενίσας αὐτῷ καὶ ἰδὼν ὅτι ἔχει πίστιν τοῦ σωθῆναι

ἀτενίζω fix eyes on, look intently at

Cf. 3:4.

πιστις, εως f faith, trust, belief
σωθῆναι aor pass infin σωζω save, heal

Used here primarily in the sense 'to be healed' but not excluding also the spiritual sense.

Verse 10

εἶπεν μεγάλη φωνῇ· Ἀνάστηθι ἐπὶ τοὺς πόδας σου ὀρθός· καὶ ἤλατο καὶ περιεπάτει.

μεγας, μεγαλη, μεγα large, great
ἀνάστηθι Verb, 2 aor act imperat, 2 s
ἀνιστημι rise, stand up

πόδας Noun, acc pl πους see v.8
ὀρθος, η, ον straight, upright, erect
ἤλατο Verb, aor midd dep indic, 3 s ἄλλομαι
leap

Cf. 3:8

Verse 11

οἱ τε ὄχλοι ἰδόντες ὃ ἐποίησεν Παῦλος ἐπήραν τὴν φωνὴν αὐτῶν Λυκαονιστὶ λέγοντες· Οἱ θεοὶ ὁμοιωθέντες ἀνθρώποις κατέβησαν πρὸς ἡμᾶς

ἐπαιρω raise, lift up

Λυκαονιστι adv in the Lycaonian language

Those spoken of here were not the aristocracy of Lystra, whose language would have been Latin, but the native inhabitants. "The apostles evidently did not at first understand what the crowd was saying, and realised it only when they saw the preparation that followed." Bruce

ὁμοιωθέντες Verb, aor pass ptc, m nom pl
ὁμοιοω make like; pass resemble, be like

Cf. 28:6.

Verse 12

ἐκάλουν τε τὸν Βαρναβᾶν Δία, τὸν δὲ Παῦλον Ἑρμῆν, ἐπειδὴ αὐτὸς ἦν ὁ ἡγούμενος τοῦ λόγου.

Δία Proper name, acc Ζεὺς gen Διὸς acc Δια
m Zeus (Greek equivalent of Roman god Jupiter)

Ἑρμῆς Hermes, son of Zeus (Greek equivalent of Roman god Mercury).

ἐπειδὴ since, because, for
ἡγεομαι lead, rule; ὁ ἡ. leader, ruler

ὁ ἡγούμενος τοῦ λόγου the chief speaker.

Verse 13

ὁ τε ἱερεὺς τοῦ Διὸς τοῦ ὄντος πρὸ τῆς πόλεως ταύρους καὶ στέμματα ἐπὶ τοὺς πυλῶνας ἐνέγκας σὺν τοῖς ὄχλοις ἤθελεν θύειν.

ἱερεὺς, εως m priest

του ὄντος προ της πολεως 'whose [temple] was in front of the city'

ταυρος, ου m bull

στεμμα, τος n garland, wreath

Festive woolen wreaths.

πυλων, ονος m gate, gateway, entrance, porch

It is not clear whether the entrance mentioned here is that of the temple, the city or the apostles' lodging place. "Perhaps, as in 3:2, the lame man lay at the temple gate." Bruce

ἐνέγκας Verb, aor act ptc, m nom s φερω
bring, carry, bear, lead

ἤθελεν Verb, imperf act indic, 3 s θελω
wish, will
θυω slaughter, sacrifice, kill

Verse 14

ἀκούσαντες δὲ οἱ ἀπόστολοι Βαρναβᾶς καὶ
Παῦλος, διαρρήξαντες τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτῶν
ἐξεπήδησαν εἰς τὸν ὄχλον κρίζοντες

διαρρήξαντες Verb, aor act ptc, m nom pl
διαρρηγνυμι and διαρησσω tear, rip
ἱματιον, ου n garment, robe, cloak

The rending of their garments indicated horror
at blasphemy (cf. Mk 15:63).

ἐκπηδαω rush out
ὄχλος, ου m crowd, multitude
κραζω cry out, call out

Verse 15

καὶ λέγοντες· Ἄνδρες, τί ταῦτα ποιεῖτε; καὶ
ἡμεῖς ὁμοιοπαθεῖς ἐσμεν ὑμῖν ἄνθρωποι,
εὐαγγελιζόμενοι ὑμᾶς ἀπὸ τούτων τῶν
ματαίων ἐπιστρέφειν ἐπὶ θεὸν ζῶντα ὃς
ἐποίησεν τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὴν
θάλασσαν καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς·

ὁμοιοπαθης, ες like in every way

Cf. Jas. 5:17.

εὐαγγελιζω act. and midd proclaim the
good news
ματαιος, α, ου worthless, futile, useless
ἐπιστρεφω turn back, turn round, turn
ζωω live, be alive
γη, γης f earth
θαλασσα, ης f sea

"This is the first recorded Christian address to
a pagan audience." Bruce
The way that the Gospel is presented is
accommodated to an audience who are without
any knowledge of the Scriptures. Their
preaching begins with God as Creator and one
true God. Cf. Rom 1:19ff; 2:14f.

Verse 16

ὃς ἐν ταῖς παρωχημέναις γενεαῖς εἶασεν πάντα
τὰ ἔθνη πορεύεσθαι ταῖς ὁδοῖς αὐτῶν·

"With the teaching of this verse cf. 17:30,
where the meaning is similar; also Rom
1:18ff., where the meaning is somewhat
different. Here and in ch. 17 the point is that
until the full revelation of God came to the
Gentiles, He overlooked their errors in so far
as these arose from ignorance of His will; in
Rom 1, God's giving them up to their own
devices is the penalty for their rejecting even
the little light they had." Bruce

παρωχημέναις Verb, perf midd/pass dep ptc, f
dat pl παροιχομαι pass (pf. ptc. past)
γενεα, ας f generation

εἶασεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s εἰω allow,
permit
ὁδος, ου f way, path, road, journey

Verse 17

καίτοι οὐκ ἀμάρτυρον αὐτὸν ἀφήκεν
ἀγαθουργῶν, οὐρανόθεν ὑμῖν ὑετοὺς διδοὺς
καὶ καιροὺς καρποφόρους, ἐμπιπλῶν τροφῆς
καὶ εὐφροσύνης τὰς καρδίας ὑμῶν.

καίτοι yet, and yet, although
ἀμαρτυρος, ον without evidence or witness

Cf. Rom 1:20.

ἀφήκεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s ἀφημι
allow, leave
ἀγαθουργεω (contracted form of ἀγαθοεργεω)
do good, show kindness
οὐρανοθεν adv from heaven
ὑετος, ου m rain
διδους Verb, pres act ptc, m nom s διδομι
καιρος, ου m time, season
καρποφορος, ον fruitful
ἐμπι(μ)πλημι and ἐμπιπλαω fill, satisfy,
enjoy
τροφή, ης f food, nourishment
εὐφροσυνη, ης f gladness, joy

Verse 18

καὶ ταῦτα λέγοντες μόλις κατέπαυσαν τοὺς
ὄχλους τοῦ μὴ θύειν αὐτοῖς.

μολις adv with difficulty, scarcely
καταπαυω trans cause to rest, prevent
θυω slaughter, sacrifice, kill

Verse 19

Ἐπῆλθαν δὲ ἀπὸ Ἀντιοχείας καὶ Ἰκονίου
Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ πείσαντες τοὺς ὄχλους καὶ
λιθάσαντες τὸν Παῦλον ἔσυρον ἔξω τῆς
πόλεως, νομίζοντες αὐτὸν τεθνηκέναι.

ἐπῆλθαν Verb, 2 aor act indic, 3 pl
ἐπερχομαι come, come upon

Lystra & Pisidian Antioch were separated by
more than 100 miles but were closely
connected by trade.

πείσαντες Verb, aor act ptc, m nom pl πειθω
persuade, win over
λιθαζω stone

See 2 Corinthians 11:25

συρω drag, drag away, sweep down
ἔξω out, outside, away
νομιζω think, suppose, assume
τεθνηκέναι Verb, perf act infin θνησκω die;
pf be dead

"There is grim irony in the quick reversal of the inhabitants' attitude to the apostles (cf. 28:4-6). This may have been the occasion when Paul received the *στιγματα* of Gal 6:17; for his remembrance many years later of what he endured at Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, cf. 2 Tim 3:11." Bruce

Verse 20

κυκλωσάντων δὲ τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτὸν ἀναστὰς εἰσηλθεν εἰς τὴν πόλιν. καὶ τῇ ἐπαύριον ἐξῆλθεν σὺν τῷ Βαρναβᾶ εἰς Δέρβην.

κυκλωσάντων Verb, aor act ptc, gen pl
κυκλω surround

μαθητης, ου m disciple, pupil, follower

An indication of the effect of their ministry in Lystra.

ἐπαυριον the next day

Derbe was about 60 miles by road from Lystra and would have taken several days on foot.

Verse 21

Εὐαγγελισάμενοί τε τὴν πόλιν ἐκείνην καὶ μαθητεύσαντες ἱκανοὺς ὑπέστρεψαν εἰς τὴν Λύστραν καὶ εἰς Ἰκόνιον καὶ εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν,

μαθητεω trans make a disciple of
ἱκανος, η, ον sufficient, large, much
ὑποστρεφω return, turn back

"Had the two chosen to do so, they could have continued southeast from Derbe on through the Cilician Gates the 150 miles or so to Paul's hometown of Tarsus and from there back to Syrian Antioch. It would have been the easiest route home by far. They chose, however, to retrace their footsteps and revisit all the congregations that had been established in the course of the mission." Polhill

"Luke makes no comment on the courage shown by the apostles in returning so soon to the cities where they had been so shamefully treated; the bare statement that they did so is eloquent enough." Bruce

Verse 22

ἐπιστηρίζοντες τὰς ψυχὰς τῶν μαθητῶν, παρακαλοῦντες ἐμμένειν τῇ πίστει καὶ ὅτι διὰ πολλῶν θλίψεων δεῖ ἡμᾶς εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ.

ἐπιστηρίζω strengthen

Cf. 11:33; 13:43.

παρακαλω exhort, encourage, urge
ἐμμενω remain faithful to, obey, stay
πίστει Noun, dat s πιστις, εως f faith, the Christian faith

θλιψις, εως f trouble, suffering

δει impersonal verb it is necessary, must, should, ought

Cf. 2 Thess 1:4,5; Rom 8:17; 2 Tim 2:12.

Verse 23

χειροτονήσαντες δὲ αὐτοῖς κατ' ἐκκλησίαν πρεσβυτέρους προσευξάμενοι μετὰ νηστειῶν παρέθεντο αὐτοὺς τῷ κυρίῳ εἰς ὄν πεπιστεύκεισαν.

χειροτονεω appoint, choose
πρεσβυτερος, α, ον elder

"Although the etymological sense of χειροτονεω is 'to elect by show of hands', it came to be used in the sense 'designate', 'appoint': cf. the same word with prefix προ in 10:41. The πρεσβυτεροι were appointed on the model of those in the Jerusalem church (cf. 11:30)." Bruce

"The pattern of the Jewish synagogue seems to have been followed by appointing a group of lay elders to shepherd the flock." Polhill

προσευχομαι pray
νηστεια, ας f fasting

Cf. 13:3.

παρέθεντο Verb, aor midd indic, 3 s
παρατιθημι midd. commit, entrust
πεπιστεύκεισαν Verb, pluperf act indic, 3 pl
πιστεω

Verse 24

καὶ διελθόντες τὴν Πισιδίαν ἦλθον εἰς τὴν Παμφυλίαν,

Pisidia was the southernmost 'region' of the province of Galatia. It lay across the northern boundary of Pamphylia (cf. 13:14).

Verse 25

καὶ λαλήσαντες ἐν Πέργῃ τὸν λόγον κατέβησαν εἰς Ἀτάλειαν,

Attalia was the chief port of Pamphylia.

Verse 26

κἀκεῖθεν ἀπέπλευσαν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, ὅθεν ἦσαν παραδεδομένοι τῇ χάριτι τοῦ θεοῦ εἰς τὸ ἔργον ὃ ἐπλήρωσαν.

κἀκεῖθεν and from there - formed from και
ἐκειθεν

ἀπέπλευσαν Verb, aor act indic, 3 pl
ἀποπλεω set sail, sail away

ὅθεν where, from where

παραδεδομένοι Verb, perf pass ptc, m nom pl
παραδιδωμι hand or give over, commit
πληρωω fill, fulfill, accomplish

Compare 13:2f

Verse 27

παραγενόμενοι δὲ καὶ συναγαγόντες τὴν ἐκκλησίαν ἀνήγγελλον ὅσα ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς μετ' αὐτῶν καὶ ὅτι ἤνοιξεν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν θύραν πίστεως.

παραγίνομαι come, arrive, appear
συναγω gather, gather together
ἀναγγελλω tell, report
ὅσος, η, ον as much as, how much

μετ' αὐτῶν perhaps suggests the idea of co-workers with God (cf. 2 Cor 6:1).

ἄνοιγω open
ἔθνεσιν Noun, dat pl ἔθνος, οὐς n nation, people; τα ἔ. Gentiles
θύρα, ας f door, gate

Cf. 1 Cor 16:9; 2 Cor 2:12; Col 4:3.

Verse 28

διέτριβον δὲ χρόνον οὐκ ὀλίγον σὺν τοῖς μαθηταῖς.

διετριβω remain, stay
χρονος, ου m time, period of time
ὀλιγος, η, ον little, small; pl. few

Cf. 12:18.

μαθητης, ου m disciple, pupil, follower

"It is in this period that we may most satisfactorily place the events of Gal 2:11ff."
Bruce.