

Notes on the Greek New Testament Day 182 – July 1st – Acts 21:1-16

Works frequently referenced in these notes on Acts

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

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

Verse 1

Ὡς δὲ ἐγένετο ἀναχθῆναι ἡμᾶς ἀποσπασθέντας ἀπ' αὐτῶν, εὐθυδρομήσαντες ἦλθομεν εἰς τὴν Κῶ, τῇ δὲ ἐξῆς εἰς τὴν Ῥόδον, κάκειθεν εἰς Πάταρα

ἐγένετο Verb, aor midd dep indic, 3 s γινομαι
ἀναχθῆναι Verb, aor pass infin ἀναγω midd
or pass set sail

ἀποσπασθέντας Verb, aor pass ptc, m acc pl
ἀποσπαω pass leave, go off

Literally 'tear oneself away'. Some of the literal sense may remain here.

εὐθυδρομήσαντες Verb, aor act ptc, m nom pl
εὐθυδρομεω sail a straight (direct?)
course

ἐξῆς on the next day

κάκειθεν and from there - formed from και
ἐκειθεν

Verse 2

καὶ εὐρόντες πλοῖον διαπερῶν εἰς Φοινίκην ἐπιβάντες ἀνήχθημεν.

πλοῖον, ου n boat, ship

διαπεραω cross over

ἐπιβαινω go on board, embark

ἀνήχθημεν aor pass indic, 1 pl ἀναγω v.1

Verse 3

ἀναφάναντες δὲ τὴν Κύπρον καὶ καταλιπόντες αὐτὴν εὐώνυμον ἐπλέομεν εἰς Συρίαν, καὶ κατήλθομεν εἰς Τύρον, ἐκεῖσε γὰρ τὸ πλοῖον ἦν ἀποφορτιζόμενον τὸν γόμον.

ἀναφαινω come in sight of, sight

καταλειπω leave, leave behind

εὐώνυμος, ου left (hand side)

πλεω sail

κατερχομαι go down, leave, disembark

ἐκεῖσε adv there, at that place

ἀποφορτιζομαι unload

γομος, ου m cargo

Verse 4

ἀνευρόντες δὲ τοὺς μαθητὰς ἐπεμείναμεν αὐτοῦ ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ, οἵτινες τῷ Παύλῳ ἔλεγον διὰ τοῦ πνεύματος μὴ ἐπιβαίνειν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα.

ἀνευρόντες Verb, aor act ptc, m nom pl
ἀνευρισκω find, find by searching
μαθητης, ου m disciple, pupil, follower

The church in Tyre was probably the result of the Phoenician mission mentioned in Acts 11:19.

ἐπεμείναμεν Verb, aor act indic, 1 pl ἐπιμενω
remain, stay

ἑπτα seven

οἵτινες Pronoun, m nom pl ὅστις, ἡτις, ὁ τι
who, which

ἐπιβαινω v.2

"Their inspired vision foresaw the difficulties and dangers that lay ahead of Paul (cf. v.11); they drew the conclusion that he should not go up to Jerusalem (cf. v.12). We must not infer that his continuing on the journey was contrary to God's will; it was 'under the constraint of the Spirit' (20:22) that he was going to Jerusalem." Bruce

Verse 5

ὅτε δὲ ἐγένετο ἐξαρτίσαι ἡμᾶς τὰς ἡμέρας, ἐξελθόντες ἐπορευόμεθα προπεμπόντων ἡμᾶς πάντων σὺν γυναιξὶ καὶ τέκνοις ἕως ἔξω τῆς πόλεως, καὶ θέντες τὰ γόνατα ἐπὶ τὸν αἰγιαλὸν προσευξάμενοι

ὅτε conj when, at which time

ἐξαρτίσαι Verb, aor act infin ἐξαρτιζω be
completed (of time)

ἐξελθόντες Verb, aor act ptc, m pl nom
ἐξερχομαι

πορευομαι go, proceed, travel

προπεμπω send on one's way, accompany

τεκνον, ου n child

ἔξω prep with gen. outside

πολις, εως f city, town

θέντες Verb, aor act ptc, m nom pl τιθημι

On this phrase see 20:36

αἰγιαλος, ου m beach, shore

προσευχομαι pray

Verse 6

ἀπησασάμεθα ἀλλήλους, καὶ ἐνέβημεν εἰς τὸ πλοῖον, ἐκεῖνοι δὲ ὑπέστρεψαν εἰς τὰ ἴδια.

ἀπησασάμεθα Verb, aor pass indic, 1 pl
ἀπασπαζομαι say good-bye to

A rare compound. Here only in NT.

ἀλλήλων, οἱς, οὗς one another
ἀναβαινω go up, embark
ἐκεῖνος, ἡ, ο that (one), those
ὑποστρεφω return, turn back
ἰδιος, α, ον one's own; τὰ ἴδια home

"The picture of all the Christian families of Tyre accompanying the little group to the ship at the end of the week is an affecting one, illustrating what a close bond of friendship primitive Christianity was." Bruce

Verse 7

Ἡμεῖς δὲ τὸν πλοῦν διανύσαντες ἀπὸ Τύρου κατηντήσαμεν εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, καὶ ἀσπασάμενοι τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς ἐμείναμεν ἡμέραν μίαν παρ' αὐτοῖς.

πλους, πλοος m voyage
διανυω complete, continue

Here only in the NT.

κατανταω arrive, reach
Πτολεμαῖδα Proper name, acc s Πτολεμαῖς

"The Gospel probably found its way there at much the same time as it came to Tyre (cf. 11:19)." Bruce

ἀσπαζομαι greet
μενω remain, stay
εἷς, μία, ἓν gen ἑνος, μίας, ἑνος one

Verse 8

τῇ δὲ ἐπαύριον ἐξεληθόντες ἦλθομεν εἰς Καισάρειαν, καὶ εἰσεληθόντες εἰς τὸν οἶκον Φιλίππου τοῦ εὐαγγελιστοῦ ὄντος ἐκ τῶν ἑπτὰ ἐμείναμεν παρ' αὐτῷ.

ἐπαυριον the next day
ἐξεληθόντες v.5

Unclear whether still by ship or now by road.

οἶκος, οὗ m house, home
εὐαγγελιστης, οὗ m one who preaches the good news, evangelist

Cf. 8:12, 35, 40

ἑπτα seven

"The Seven were originally the leaders of the Hellenists in the Jerusalem church, and after the death of Stephen the survivors probably took a leading part among the Hellenists of the dispersion." Bruce

Verse 9

τούτῳ δὲ ἦσαν θυγατέρες τέσσαρες παρθένοι προφητεύουσαι.

θυγατηρ, τρος f daughter
τέσσαρες neut τέσσαρα gen τεσσαρων four
παρθενος, ου f virgin, unmarried girl
προφητεω prophesy, speak God's message

"Peter, in his Pentecost sermon, pointed to the prophesying of 'daughters' as a sign of the gift of the Spirit in the last days (Acts 2:17)."

Polhill

"The introduction of Philip's four daughters is significant; there is good evidence [from historical sources] that from them Luke received much of the information which he gives in the earlier part of Acts, as well as much of the material peculiar to the Third Gospel ... He certainly had ample opportunity to learn all he could from them, not only during the 'many days' spent in Caesarea on this occasion, but also during the two years of Paul's imprisonment there (24:27)." Bruce

Verse 10

ἐπιμενόντων δὲ ἡμέρας πλείους κατήλθεν τις ἀπὸ τῆς Ἰουδαίας προφήτης ὀνόματι Ἄγαβος, ἐπιμενω remain, stay, persist in
πλειων, πλειον οἱ πλεον many, a large(r) number

κατερχομαι come down, come

"Caesarea was officially in Judaea, being its political capital; but it was a Gentile city, and thus not part of Judaea in the ethnic sense." Bruce

προφητης, ου m prophet
ὄνομα, τος n name

On Agabus see also 11:28

Verse 11

καὶ ἔλθων πρὸς ἡμᾶς καὶ ἄρας τὴν ζώνην τοῦ Παύλου δήσας ἑαυτοῦ τοὺς πόδας καὶ τὰς χεῖρας εἶπεν· Τάδε λέγει τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον τὸν ἄνδρα οὗ ἐστιν ἡ ζώνη αὕτη, οὕτως δήσουσιν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι καὶ παραδώσουσιν εἰς χεῖρας ἐθνῶν.

ἄρας Verb, aor act ptc, m nom s αἰρω take, take up

ζωνη, ης f belt, money belt

δεω bind, tie

πόδας Noun, acc pl πους, ποδος m foot
χειρ, χειρος f hand

Acted prophecy was common in the OT, cf. 1 Kings 11:29ff; Is. 20:2ff; Ezek 4:1ff.

ὁδε, ἡδε, τοδε this; ταδε these things
ἄνδρα Noun, acc s ἀνηρ, ἄνδρος m man
οὕτως and οὕτω adv. thus, in this way

παραδωσουσιν Verb, fut act indic, 3 pl
 παραδιδωμι hand over, deliver up
 ἔθνος, ος n nation, people; τα ἔ. Gentiles

"The prophecy is couched in words similar to those used by our Lord of Himself (Mk 10:33, παραδωσουσιν αὐτον τοις ἔθνεσιν); see on ver. 14. In the event, Paul was delivered *by* the Gentiles *from* the Jews, who were forced against their will to hand him over (vv. 31ff.)."
 Bruce

Verse 12

ὡς δὲ ἠκούσαμεν ταῦτα, παρεκαλοῦμεν ἡμεῖς
 τε καὶ οἱ ἐντόπιοι τοῦ μὴ ἀναβαίνειν αὐτὸν εἰς
 Ἱερουσαλήμ.

παρακαλεω exhort, encourage, urge
 τε καὶ and also
 ἐντοπιος, α, ον local; pl. residents
 ἀναβαινω go up

τοῦ μὴ ἀναβαίνειν αὐτὸν The present infinitive with gen def art expressing purpose or outcome (Final Infinitive), 'that he should not continue to go up'

Verse 13

τότε ἀπεκρίθη ὁ Παῦλος· Τί ποιεῖτε κλαίοντες
 καὶ συνθρύπτοντές μου τὴν καρδίαν; ἐγὼ γὰρ
 οὐ μόνον δεθῆναι ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀποθανεῖν εἰς
 Ἱερουσαλήμ ἐτοιμῶς ἔχω ὑπὲρ τοῦ ὀνόματος
 τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ.

τοτε then, at that time
 ἀπεκρίθη Verb, aor midd dep indic, 3 s
 ἀποκρίνομαι answer
 κλαιω weep, cry
 συνθρυπτω break (of one's heart)

Literally 'pounding away at', used of washing clothes by pounding with stones.

δεθῆναι Verb, aor pass infin δεω bind, tie
 ἀποθνησκω die, face death, be mortal
 ἐτοιμῶς readily; ἔ. ἔχω be ready or prepared

Verse 14

μὴ πειθομένου δὲ αὐτοῦ ἡσυχάσαμεν εἰπόντες·
 Τοῦ κυρίου τὸ θέλημα γινέσθω.

πειθω persuade, convince, win over

μὴ πειθομένου δὲ αὐτοῦ 'as he would not be persuaded'

ἡσυχάζω be silent, cease

ἡσυχάσαμεν εἰπόντες 'we ceased speaking with the words'

θελημα, ατος n will, wish, desire
 γινέσθω Verb, aor midd dep imperat, 3 s
 γινομαι

Cf. Lk 22:42. "Like his Lord, Paul refused to be diverted from the path of duty and suffering by the pleas of well-meaning friends, but 'steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem' (cf. Lk 9:51)." Bruce

Verse 15

Μετὰ δὲ τὰς ἡμέρας ταύτας ἐπισκευασάμενοι
 ἀνεβαίνομεν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα·

ἐπισκευαζομαι make ready, pack up

This verb can also bear the sense of getting horses ready, and may bear this sense here.

ἀναβαινω go up, come up, ascend,
 embark

Verse 16

συνῆλθον δὲ καὶ τῶν μαθητῶν ἀπὸ Καισαρείας
 σὺν ἡμῖν, ἄγοντες παρ' ᾧ ξενισθῶμεν
 Μνάσωνι τινὶ Κυπρίῳ, ἀρχαίῳ μαθητῇ.

συνερχομαι come or go with, accompany
 ξενισθῶμεν Verb, aor pass subj, 1 pl ξενίζω
 entertain as a guest (pass. live, stay)
 ἀρχαιος, α, ον old

'bringing (us) to Mnason of Cyprus, one of the early disciples, with whom we were to lodge'. Some of the disciples from Caesarea seem to have introduced Paul and his companions to a suitable place where they could all stay with "a Hellenist (and therefore probably liberal) believer." Bruce