LED BY THE SPIRIT

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Acts 8:26-40
Tuesday: Acts 10:1-24
Wednesday: Acts 13
Thursday: Acts 15:1-32
Friday: Acts 16:1-18
Saturday: Acts 17:16-34
Sunday: Acts 18:1-18

Romans 8:14 羅 馬 書

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God (Rom. 8:14).

因為凡被神的靈引導的,都是神的兒子。

INTRODUCTION:

Comparisons are often made between the early church and the church of today. *It is almost generally agreed that the "dynamic" of the early church does not presently exist as it did then.* Many varying theories have been advanced to support this charge. Certainly it is true that few, if any, groups of believers are having the kind of impact upon their city or society as Peter; Philip and the others had in the days following Pentecost and up until the end of the New Testament era. Several reasons exist for this difference not the least of which is the manner in which the Apostles were led by the Spirit.

LESSON NOTES:

Jerusalem and Samaria: One of the hallmarks of the early church was its <u>absolute reliance</u> not only on the power of the Holy Spirit but on the leading of the Holy Spirit. In connection with this, it must be pointed out that the leadings of the Holy Spirit and <u>obedience</u> to these leadings constituted the <u>strength</u> of their mission. As they followed the promptings of the Holy Spirit they always had fruitful results.

A variety of methods were used by the Spirit to lead His church. First, it was an "angel" who told Philip to go to the middle of a desert (Acts 8:26). However illogical this may have seemed to the natural man, Philip went. Then the Spirit prompted him to join him-self to the chariot (v.29). From that point on, it was a matter of explaining that which he knew to be the truth to one who was seeking an answer (v.35). In the case of the Cornelius, he saw an "angel" in his vision (10:3). Peter fell into a trance and saw a vision whose symbolic meaning he didn't understand. Three times the vision had to be repeated before his natural resistance subsided (dropped) (10:10, 17). Finally, the Spirit communicated to Peter specific knowledge and instruction which he followed. Here is a perfect example of the gift of knowledge, spoken of in 1 Corinthians 12, in operation.

	And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, "Arise, and go toward the south unto the
Acts 8:26	way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert."
使徒行傳	有主的一個使者對腓利說:起來!向南走,往那從耶路撒冷下迦薩的路上去。那路是
	曠野。
Acts 8:29	Then the Spirit said unto Philip, "Go near, and join thyself to this chariot."
	聖靈對腓利說:你去!貼近那車走。
Acts 8:35	Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him
	Jesus. 腓利就開口從這經上起,對他傳講耶穌。

Acts 10:3	He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour (3 p.m.) of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, "Cornelius." 有一天,約在申初,他在異象中明明看見神的一個使者進去,到他那裡,說:哥尼
	流。 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a
Acts 10:10	trance, 覺得餓了,想要吃。那家的人正預備飯的時候,彼得魂遊象外,
Acts 10:17	Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate, 彼得心裡正在猜疑之間,不知所看見的異象是甚麼意思。哥尼流所差來的人已經訪問到西門的家,站在門外,

Uttermost Parts of the Earth: Very few steps were taken by the early church without the definite leading of the Holy Ghost. The fulfillment of the command to carry the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth did not take place until the Holy Ghost explicitly directed the church at Antioch to send Paul and Barnabas forth to the work to which they had been previously called. We are not told exactly how this knowledge was communicated to the church. We do know that it was a Spirit-filled church and a Spirit-directed church that spent much time in waiting before the Lord (13:2). Whatever leadings Paul and Barnabas had as to the specifics of what they were separated unto, it is clear that they judged all leadings in light of the Scriptures (v.47).

Acts 使徒行 傳 13:2	As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, "Separate me Barnabas and
	Saul for the work whereunto I have called them."
	他們事奉主、禁食的時候,聖靈說:要為我分派巴拿巴和掃羅,去做我召他們所做的。
Acts 使徒行 傳 13:47	For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, "I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that
	thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth."
	因為主曾這樣吩咐我們說:我已經立你作外邦人的光,叫你施行救恩,直到地極。

A very significant role was played by the Holy Spirit in the First Church Council. Note that even though these men were Spirit-filled and Spirit-led they did not always have perfect knowledge just automatically. Ingrained prejudices and feelings are not wiped away in one broad sweep. Observe, however, how they *leaned on the Holy Spirit for guidance*.

- <u>Peter</u> used his experience of being <u>led</u> by the Holy Spirit as an argument in favor of agreeing that salvation for the Gentiles was through faith alone.
- **Paul** showed how his Holy Spirit-inspired journey was confirmed by its results.
- Lastly, <u>James</u>' decree was based on the Scripture and given in <u>Holy Ghost wisdom</u>, for we read how "it seemed good to the Holy Ghost and to us," etc. (15:28).

	For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than
Acts 15:28	these necessary things;
	因為聖靈和我們定意不將別的重擔放在你們身上;惟有幾件事是不可少的,

On Paul's second missionary journey we have an interesting example of how the Spirit led Paul. His own inclination was to go to Asia but the Spirit somehow prevented this (16:6). When he then thought to go to Bithynia we read the "Spirit of Jesus" forbad him (v.7_{RSV}). This is the only use of this expression in the New Testament. Finally, it was a vision which he and Luke felt was the call of God which took him into Europe.

	Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden
Acts 16:6	of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,
	聖靈既然禁止他們在亞西亞講道,他們就經過弗呂家、加拉太一帶地方。

After they were come to Mysia, they assayed (examine; evaluate) to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. (KI) And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. (ESV)
到了每西亞的邊界,他們想要往庇推尼去,耶穌的靈卻不許。

THE LESSONS:

All of the visions and dreams of the apostles had very practical effects. This method of leading has come into much disrepute (disgrace) in these days because of some of the foolishness which people have attributed to visions and other revelations. The fact that there has been so much error and confusion on account of purported (claim) visions and dreams does not mean that all visions and dreams are in error. God still speaks to people that way today. One is impressed by reading the accounts in Acts how the visions and dreams did not become the essence of their life and a sign of superior spirituality. They kept their visions to themselves and acted in response to the leading thus given. This action and its results attest (show; prove; demonstrate) to the genuineness of the leading.

Without doubt the secret of the power of the early church was its desire to know God's will and acting upon this knowledge only after this had been revealed. Once they knew God's will, they obeyed explicitly. Much of the time they were led just one step at a time. Obedience to each step resulted in knowledge of what to do next. They didn't try to out-guess God or plan ahead for Him. They allowed Him to lead, and they maintained the simple faith of just following. It takes a great deal of faith, self-control, humility, abandonment, and obedience to live this way. Very few of us are content with such a mode. We do have examples today, however, of the results which those who have endeavored to walk in this way have had.

In all facets (aspects) of their lives the Holy Spirit led these early disciples. One of the most marvelous things to behold was the manner in which *He <u>guided</u> them into all truths* just as Jesus had promised He would. A Spirit-filled life does not invest (endow) one with completeness or perfection. *Each day as the Spirit is allowed to lead, new light is given.* The decision of the First Church Council is an example of how the Spirit gave light in a matter of greater importance. Also both Peter and Paul illustrate how *the Spirit led them daily into fuller light regarding the kingdom of God. We miss a great deal of blessing when we fail to enter into the place of living a Spirit-led life. Complete <u>sonship</u> entitles us to the knowledge of what the Father would have us do and to the mysteries of His kingdom (Romans 8:14).*

Romans	For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
8:14	因為凡被神的靈引導的,都是神的兒子。

Monday: Acts 使徒行傳 8:26-40

²⁶And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

有主的一個使者對腓利說:起來!向南走,往那從耶路撒冷下迦薩的路上去。那路是曠野。

"And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, 腓利就起身去了,不料,有一個埃提阿伯(即古實,見以賽亞十八章一節)人,是個有大權的太監,在埃提阿伯女王干大基的手下總管銀庫,他上耶路撒冷禮拜去了。

²⁸Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

現在回來,在車上坐著,念先知以賽亞的書。

²⁹Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

聖靈對腓利說:你去!貼近那車走。

³⁰And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

腓利就跑到太監那裡,聽見他念先知以賽亞的書,便問他說:你所念的,你明白麼?

³¹And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

他說:沒有人指教我,怎能明白呢?於是請腓利上車,與他同坐。

³²The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

他所念的那段經,說:他像羊被牽到宰殺之地,又像羊羔在剪毛的人手下無聲;他也是這樣不開口。

³³In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

他卑微的時候,人不按公義審判他(原文是他的審判被奪去);誰能述說他的世代,因為他的生命從 地上奪去。

³⁴And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

太監對腓利說:請問,先知說這話是指著誰?是指著自己呢?是指著別人呢?

**Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. 腓利就開□從這經上起,對他傳講耶穌。

*And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

二人正往前走,到了有水的地方,太監說:看哪,這裡有水,我受洗有甚麼妨礙呢?(有古卷在此有:

³⁷And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

腓利說:你若是一心相信,就可以。他回答說:我信耶穌基督是神的兒子。)

³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

於是吩咐車站住,腓利和太監二人同下水裡去,腓利就給他施洗。

³⁹And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

從水裡上來,主的靈把腓利提了去,太監也不再見他了,就歡歡喜喜的走路。

**But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea. 後來有人在亞鎖都遇見腓利;他走遍那地方,在各城宣傳福音,直到該撒利亞。

Tuesday: Acts 使徒行傳 10:1-24

¹There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, 在該撒利亞有一個人,名叫哥尼流,是義大利營的百夫長。

²A <u>devout</u> man, and one that <u>feared God</u> with <u>all his house</u>, which <u>gave much alms</u> (charitable donations) to the people, and <u>prayed</u> to God alway.

他是個虔誠人, 他和全家都敬畏神, 多多賙濟百姓, 常常禱告神。

³He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour (3 p.m.) of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

有一天,約在申初,他在異象中明明看見神的一個使者進去,到他那裡,說:哥尼流。

⁴And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, *Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God*.

哥尼流定睛看他,驚怕說:主阿,甚麼事呢?天使說:你的禱告和你的賙濟達到神面前,已蒙記念了。

⁵And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

現在你當打發人往約帕去,請那稱呼彼得的西門來。

⁶He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

他住在海邊一個硝皮匠西門的家裡,房子在海邊上。

⁷And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

向他說話的天使去後,哥尼流叫了兩個家人和常伺候他的一個虔誠兵來,

⁸And when he had declared all these things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

把這事都述說給他們聽,就打發他們往約帕去。

⁹On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

第二天,他們行路將近那城。彼得約在午正,上房頂去禱告,

¹⁰And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance, 覺得餓了,想要吃。那家的人正預備飯的時候,彼得魂遊象外,

¹¹And *saw heaven opened*, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

看見天開了,有一物降下,好像一塊大布,繫著四角,縋在地上,

¹²Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

裡面有地上各樣四足的走獸和昆蟲,並天上的飛鳥;

¹³And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

又有聲音向他說:彼得,起來,宰了吃!

¹⁴But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

彼得卻說:主阿,這是不可的!凡俗物和不潔淨的物,我從來沒有吃過。

¹⁵And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. 第二次有聲音向他說:神所潔淨的,你不可當作俗物。

¹⁶This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven. 這樣一連三次,那物隨即收回天上去了。

¹⁷Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

彼得心裡正在猜疑之間,不知所看見的異象是甚麼意思。哥尼流所差來的人已經訪問到西門的家,站 在門外,

 $^{\mathbf{18}}$ And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

喊著問:有稱呼彼得的西門住在這裡沒有?

¹⁹While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

彼得還思想那異象的時候,聖靈向他說:有三個人來找你。

²⁰Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

起來,下去,和他們同往,不要疑惑,因為是我差他們來的。

²¹Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?

於是彼得下去見那些人,說:我就是你們所找的人。你們來是為甚麼緣故?

²²And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.

他們說:百夫長哥尼流是個義人,敬畏神,為猶太通國所稱讚。他蒙一位聖天使指示,叫他請你到他家裡去,聽你的話。

²³Then called he them in, and lodged them. And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

彼得就請他們進去,住了一宿。次日,起身和他們同去,還有約帕的幾個弟兄同著他去;

²⁴And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and he had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

又次日,他們進入該撒利亞,哥尼流已經請了他的親屬密友等候他們。

Wednesday: Acts 13

¹Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

在安提阿的教會中,有幾位先知和教師,就是巴拿巴和稱呼尼結的西面、古利奈人路求,與分封之王 希律同養的馬念,並掃羅。

²As they *ministered to the Lord*, and *fasted*, the Holy Ghost said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them."

他們事奉主、禁食的時候,聖靈說:要為我分派巴拿巴和掃羅,去做我召他們所做的工。

³And when they had *fasted and prayed*, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. 於是禁食禱告,按手在他們頭上,就打發他們去了。

⁴So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus. 他們既被聖靈差遺,就下到西流基,從那裡坐船往居比路去。

⁵And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

到了撒拉米,就在猶太人各會堂裡傳講神的道,也有約翰作他們的幫手。

⁶And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:

經過全島,直到帕弗,在那裡遇見一個有法術,假充先知的猶太人,名叫巴耶穌。

⁷Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

這人常和方伯士求保羅同在。士求保羅是個通達人,他請了巴拿巴和掃羅來,要聽神的道。

⁸But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

只是那行法術的以呂馬(這名翻出來就是行法術的意思)敵擋使徒,要叫方伯不信真道。

⁹Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him. 掃羅又名保羅,被聖靈充滿,定睛看他,

¹⁰And said, "O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

說:你這充滿各樣詭詐奸惡,魔鬼的兒子,眾善的仇敵,你混亂主的正道還不止住麼?

¹¹And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season." And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

現在主的手加在你身上,你要瞎眼,暫且不見日光。他的眼睛立刻昏蒙黑暗,四下裡求人拉著手領他。

¹²Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, <u>believed</u>, being <u>astonished</u> at the doctrine of the Lord. 方伯看見所做的事,很希奇主的道,就信了。

¹³Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.

保羅和他的同人從帕弗開船,來到旁非利亞的別加,約翰就離開他們,回耶路撒冷去。

¹⁴But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down.

他們離了別加往前行,來到彼西底的安提阿,在安息日進會堂坐下。

¹⁵And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, "Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."

讀完了律法和先知的書,管會堂的,叫人過去,對他們說:二位兄台,若有甚麼勸勉眾人的話,請說。

¹⁶Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, "Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience. 保羅就站起來,舉手,說:以色列人和一切敬畏神的人,請聽。

¹⁷The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it.

這以色列民的神揀選了我們的祖宗,當民寄居埃及的時候抬舉他們,用大能的手領他們出來;

¹⁸And about the time of forty years suffered he their manners in the wilderness.

又在曠野容忍(或作:撫養)他們,約有四十年。

¹⁹And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot. 既滅了迦南地七族的人,就把那地分給他們為業;

²⁰And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.

此後給他們設立士師,約有四百五十年,直到先知撒母耳的時候。

²¹And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years.

後來他們求一個王,神就將便雅憫支派中基士的兒子掃羅,給他們作王四十年。

²²And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave their testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

既廢了掃羅,就選立大衛作他們的王,又為他作見證說:我尋得耶西的兒子大衛,他是合我心意的人, 凡事要遵行我的旨意。

²³Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus: 從這人的後裔中,神已經照著所應許的,為以色列人立了一位救主,就是耶穌。

24When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. 在他沒有出來以先,約翰向以色列眾民宣講悔改的洗禮。

²⁵And as John fulfilled his course, he said, "Whom think ye that I am? I am not he. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of his feet I am not worthy to loose."

約翰將行盡他的程途說:你們以為我是誰?我不是基督;只是有一位在我以後來的,我解他腳上的鞋帶也是不配的。

²⁶Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.

弟兄們,亞伯拉罕的子孫和你們中間敬畏神的人哪,這救世的道是傳給我們的。

²⁷For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him.

耶路撒冷居住的人和他們的官長,因為不認識基督,也不明白每安息日所讀眾先知的書,就把基督定了死罪,正應了先知的預言;

- ²⁸And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain. 雖然查不出他有當死的罪來,還是求彼拉多殺他;
- ²⁹And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre.

既成就了經上指著他所記的一切話,就把他從木頭上取下來,放在墳墓裡。

³⁰But God raised him from the dead:

神卻叫他從死裡復活。

³¹And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.

那從加利利同他上耶路撒冷的人多日看見他,這些人如今在民間是他的見證。

- ³²And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, 我們也報好信息給你們,就是那應許祖宗的話,
- ³³God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

神已經向我們這作兒女的應驗,叫耶穌復活了。正如詩篇第二篇上記著說:你是我的兒子,我今日生你。

³⁴And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.

論到神叫他從死裡復活,不再歸於朽壞,就這樣說:我必將所應許大衛那聖潔、可靠的恩典賜給你們。

³⁵Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

又有一篇上說:你必不叫你的聖者見朽壞。

³⁶For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:

大衛在世的時候遵行了神的旨意,就睡了(或作:大衛按神的旨意服事了他那一世的人,就睡了), 歸到他祖宗那裡,已見朽壞;

³⁷But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

惟獨神所復活的,他並未見朽壞。

³⁸Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

所以,弟兄們,你們當曉得:赦罪的道是由這人傳給你們的。

³⁹And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

你們靠摩西的律法,在一切不得稱義的事上信靠這人,就都得稱義了。

⁴⁰Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; 所以,你們務要小心,免得先知書上所說的臨到你們。

⁴¹Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.

主說:你們這輕慢的人要觀看,要驚奇,要滅亡;因為在你們的時候,我行一件事,雖有人告訴你們,你們總是不信。

⁴²And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

他們出會堂的時候,眾人請他們到下安息日再講這話給他們聽。

⁴³Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to *continue in the grace of God*.

散會以後,猶太人和敬虔進猶太教的人多有跟從保羅、巴拿巴的。二人對他們講道,勸他們務要恆久在神的恩中。

⁴⁴And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. 到下安息日,合城的人幾乎都來聚集,要聽神的道。

⁴⁵But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

但猶太人看見人這樣多,就滿心嫉妒,硬駁保羅所說的話,並且毀謗。

⁴⁶Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles."

保羅和巴拿巴放膽說:神的道先講給你們原是應當的;只因你們棄絕這道,斷定自己不配得永生,我 們就轉向外邦人去。

⁴⁷For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, "I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth."

因為主曾這樣吩咐我們說:我已經立你作外邦人的光,叫你施行救恩,直到地極。

⁴⁸And when the Gentiles heard this, they were <u>glad</u>, and <u>glorified</u> the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life **believed**.

外邦人聽見這話,就歡喜了,讚美神的道;凡預定得永生的人都信了。

⁴⁹And the word of the Lord was *published* throughout all the region.

於是主的道傳遍了那一帶地方。

⁵⁰But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

但猶太人挑唆虔敬、尊貴的婦女和城內有名望的人,逼迫保羅、巴拿巴,將他們趕出境外。

⁵¹But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium.

二人對著眾人跺下腳上的塵土,就往以哥念去了。

⁵²And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

門徒滿心喜樂,又被聖靈充滿。

Thursday: Acts 15:1-32

¹And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, "Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved."

有幾個人從猶太下來,教訓弟兄們說:你們若不按摩西的規條受割禮,不能得救。

²When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

保羅、巴拿巴與他們大大的分爭辯論;眾門徒就定規,叫保羅、巴拿巴和本會中幾個人,為所辯論的, 上耶路撒冷去見使徒和長老。

³And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

於是教會送他們起行。他們經過腓尼基、撒瑪利亞,隨處傳說外邦人歸主的事,叫眾弟兄都甚歡喜。

⁴And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

到了耶路撒冷,教會和使徒並長老都接待他們,他們就述說神同他們所行的一切事。

⁵But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, "That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses."

惟有幾個信徒、是法利賽教門的人,起來說:必須給外邦人行割禮,吩咐他們遵守摩西的律法。

⁶And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

使徒和長老聚會商議這事;

⁷And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them,

"Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should *hear* the word of the gospel, and *believe*.

辯論已經多了,彼得就起來,說:諸位弟兄,你們知道神早已在你們中間揀選了我,叫外邦人從我口中得聽福音之道,而且相信。

⁸And God, which *knoweth* the hearts, *bare* them witness, *giving* them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; 知道人心的神也為他們作了見證,賜聖靈給他們,正如給我們一樣;

⁹And put no difference between us and them, *purifying* their hearts by faith.

又藉著信潔淨了他們的心,並不分他們我們。

¹⁰Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

現在為甚麼試探神,要把我們祖宗和我們所不能負的軛放在門徒的頸項上呢?

¹¹But we believe that through the grace of the LORD Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they." 我們得救乃是因主耶穌的恩,和他們一樣,這是我們所信的。

¹²Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

眾人都默默無聲,聽巴拿巴和保羅述說神藉他們在外邦人中所行的神蹟奇事。

¹³And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying,

"Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

他們住了聲,雅各就說:諸位弟兄,請聽我的話。

14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did *visit* the Gentiles, to *take* out of them a people for his name. 方才西門述說神當初怎樣眷顧外邦人,從他們中間選取百姓歸於自己的名下;

¹⁵And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

眾先知的話也與這意思相合。

¹⁶After this I will return, and will **build** again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will **set** it **up**:

正如經上所寫的:此後,我要回來,重新修造大衛倒塌的帳幕,把那破壞的重新修造建立起來,

¹⁷That the residue of men might *seek* after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

叫餘剩的人,就是凡稱為我名下的外邦人,都尋求主。

¹⁸Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

這話是從創世以來,顯明這事的主說的。

¹⁹Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: 所以據我的意見,不可難為那歸服神的外邦人;

²⁰But that we write unto them, that they abstain

- from pollutions of idols, and
- from fornication, and
- from things strangled, and
- from blood.

只要寫信,吩咐他們禁戒偶像的污穢和姦淫,並勒死的牲畜和血。

²¹For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day."

因為從古以來,摩西的書在各城有人傳講,每逢安息日,在會堂裡誦讀。

²²Then pleased it the apostles and elders with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas and Silas, chief men among the brethren: 那時,使徒和長老並全教會定意從他們中間揀選人,差他們和保羅、巴拿巴同往安提阿去;所揀選的就是稱呼巴撒巴的猶大和西拉。這兩個人在弟兄中是作首領的。

²³And they wrote letters by them after this manner;

"The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia.

於是寫信交付他們,內中說:使徒和作長老的弟兄們問安提阿、敘利亞、基利家外邦眾弟兄的安。

²⁴Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, "Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law:" to whom we gave no such commandment:

我們聽說,有幾個人從我們這裡出去,用言語攪擾你們,惑亂你們的心。(有古卷在此有:你們必須受割禮,守摩西的律法。)其實我們並沒有吩咐他們。

²⁵It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

所以,我們同心定意,揀選幾個人,差他們同我們所親愛的巴拿巴和保羅往你們那裡去。

²⁶Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

這二人是為我主耶穌基督的名不顧性命的。

27We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth. 我們就差了猶大和西拉,他們也要親口訴說這些事。

²⁸For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

因為聖靈和我們定意不將別的重擔放在你們身上;惟有幾件事是不可少的,

²⁹That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well."

就是禁戒祭偶像的物和血,並勒死的牲畜和姦淫。這幾件你們若能自己禁戒不犯就好了。願你們平安!

他們既奉了差遣,就下安提阿去,聚集眾人,交付書信。

眾人念了,因為信上安慰的話就歡喜了。

猶大和西拉也是先知,就用許多話勸勉弟兄,堅固他們。

³⁰So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle:

³¹Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.

³²And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them.

Friday: Acts 16:1-18

¹Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed: but his father was a Greek:

保羅來到特庇,又到路司得。在那裡有一個門徒,名叫提摩太,是信主之猶太婦人的兒子,他父親卻 是希利尼人。

²Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

路司得和以哥念的弟兄都稱讚他。

³Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

保羅要帶他同去,只因那些地方的猶太人都知道他父親是希利尼人,就給他行了割禮。

⁴And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.

他們經過各城,把耶路撒冷使徒和長老所定的條規交給門徒遵守。

⁵And so were the churches *established in the faith*, and increased in number daily.

於是眾教會信心越發堅固,人數天天加增。

⁶Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

聖靈既然禁止他們在亞西亞講道,他們就經過弗呂家、加拉太一帶地方。

⁷After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. 到了每西亞的邊界,他們想要往庇推尼去,耶穌的靈卻不許。

⁸And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas.

他們就越過每西亞,下到特羅亞去。

⁹And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us."

在夜間有異象現與保羅。有一個馬其頓人站著求他說:請你過到馬其頓來幫助我們。

¹⁰And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

保羅既看見這異象,我們隨即想要往馬其頓去,以為神召我們傳福音給那裡的人聽。

¹¹Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; 於是從特羅亞開船,一直行到撒摩特喇,第二天到了尼亞波利。

¹²And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

從那裡來到腓立比,就是馬其頓這一方的頭一個城,也是羅馬的駐防城。我們在這城裡住了幾天。

¹³And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont (accustomed to something) to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

當安息日,我們出城門,到了河邊,知道那裡有一個禱告的地方,我們就坐下對那聚會的婦女講道。

¹⁴And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

有一個賣紫色布疋的婦人,名叫呂底亞,是推雅推喇城的人,素來敬拜神。他聽見了,主就開導他的心,叫他留心聽保羅所講的話。

¹⁵And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, "If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there." And she constrained us.

他和他一家既領了洗,便求我們說:你們若以為我是真信主的(或作:你們若以為我是忠心事主的), 請到我家裡來住。於是強留我們。

¹⁶And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

後來,我們往那禱告的地方去。有一個使女迎著面來,他被巫鬼所附,用法術,叫他主人們大得財利。

¹⁷The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, "These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation."

他跟隨保羅和我們,喊著說:這些人是至高神的僕人,對你們傳說救人的道。

¹⁸And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, "I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out the same hour.

他一連多日這樣喊叫,保羅就心中厭煩,轉身對那鬼說:我奉耶穌基督的名,吩咐你從他身上出來! 那鬼當時就出來了。

Saturday: Acts 17:16-34

¹⁶Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

保羅在雅典等候他們的時候,看見滿城都是偶像,就心裡著急;

¹⁷Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.

於是在會堂裡與猶太人和虔敬的人,並每日在市上所遇見的人,辯論。

¹⁸Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, "What will this babbler say?" other some, "He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods:" because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.

還有以彼古羅和斯多亞兩門的學士,與他爭論。有的說:這胡言亂語的要說甚麼?有的說:他似乎是 傳說外邦鬼神的。這話是因保羅傳講耶穌與復活的道。

¹⁹And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?

他們就把他帶到亞略巴古,說:你所講的這新道,我們也可以知道麼?

20 For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean." 因 為 你 有 些 奇 怪 的 事 傳 到 我 們 耳 中 , 我 們 願 意 知 道 這 些 事 是 甚 麼 意 思 。

²¹(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

(雅典人和住在那裡的客人都不顧別的事,只將新聞說說聽聽。)

²²Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, "Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious."

保羅站在亞略巴古當中,說:眾位雅典人哪,我看你們凡事很敬畏鬼神。

²³For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

我遊行的時候,觀看你們所敬拜的,遇見一座壇,上面寫著未識之神。你們所不認識而敬拜的,我現在告訴你們。

²⁴God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

創造宇宙和其中萬物的神,既是天地的主,就不住人手所造的殿,

²⁵Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

也不用人手服事,好像缺少甚麼;自己倒將生命、氣息、萬物,賜給萬人。

²⁶And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

他從一本(有古卷作血脈)造出萬族的人,住在全地上,並且預先定準他們的年限和所住的疆界,

²⁷That they should seek the Lord, if haply (maybe) they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

要叫他們尋求神,或者可以揣摩而得,其實他離我們各人不遠;

²⁸For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

我們生活、動作、存留,都在乎他。就如你們作詩的,有人說:我們也是他所生的。

²⁹Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

我們既是神所生的,就不當以為神的神性像人用手藝、心思所雕刻的金、銀、石。

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 世人蒙昧無知的時候,神並不監察,如今卻吩咐各處的人都要悔改。

**Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead." 因為他已經定了日子,要藉著他所設立的人按公義審判天下,並且叫他從死裡復活,給萬人作可信的憑據。

³²And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, "We will hear thee again of this matter."

眾人聽見從死裡復活的話,就有譏誚他的;又有人說:我們再聽你講這個罷!

³³So Paul departed from among them.

於是保羅從他們當中出去了。

³⁴Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

但有幾個人貼近他,信了主,其中有亞略巴古的官丟尼修,並一個婦人,名叫大馬哩,還有別人一同信從。

Sunday: Acts 18:1-18

¹After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 這事以後,保羅離了雅典,來到哥林多。

²And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

遇見一個猶太人,名叫亞居拉,他生在本都;因為革老丟命猶太人都離開羅馬,新近帶著妻百基拉,從義大利來。保羅就投奔了他們。

³And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.

他們本是製造帳棚為業。保羅因與他們同業,就和他們同住做工。

⁴And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

每逢安息日,保羅在會堂裡辯論,勸化猶太人和希利尼人。

⁵And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.

西拉和提摩太從馬其頓來的時候,保羅為道迫切,向猶太人證明耶穌是基督。

⁶And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, "Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean; from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles."

他們既抗拒、毀謗,保羅就抖著衣裳,說:你們的罪(原文作血)歸到你們自己頭上,與我無干(原文是我卻乾淨)。從今以後,我要往外邦人那裡去。

⁷And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue.

於是離開那裡,到了一個人的家中;這人名叫提多猶士都,是敬拜神的,他的家靠近會堂。

⁸And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

管會堂的基利司布和全家都信了主,還有許多哥林多人聽了,就相信受洗。

⁹Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a **vision**,

"Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace:

夜間,主在異象中對保羅說:不要怕,只管講,不要閉口,

¹⁰For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city."

有我與你同在,必沒有人下手害你,因為在這城裡我有許多的 百姓。 ¹¹And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

保羅在那裡住了一年零六個月,將神的道教訓他們。

¹²And when Gallio was the deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection with one accord against Paul, and brought him to the judgment seat,

到迦流作亞該亞方伯的時候,猶太人同心起來攻擊保羅,拉他到公堂,

¹³Saying, "This fellow persuadeth men to worship God contrary to the law."

說:這個人勸人不按著律法敬拜神。

¹⁴And when Paul was now about to open his mouth, Gallio said unto the Jews, "If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness, O ye Jews, reason would that I should bear with you:

羅剛要開口,迦流就對猶太人說:你們這些猶太人!如果是為冤枉或奸惡的事,我理當耐性聽你們。

¹⁵But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ye to it; for I will be no judge of such matters."

但所爭論的,若是關乎言語、名目,和你們的律法,你們自己去辦罷!這樣的事我不願意審問;

¹⁶And he drave them from the judgment seat.

就把他們攆出公堂。

¹⁷Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. And Gallio cared for none of those things.

眾人便揪住管會堂的所提尼,在堂前打他。這些事迦流都不管。

¹⁸And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren, and sailed thence into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila; having shorn his head in Cenchrea: for he had a vow.

保羅又住了多日,就辭別了弟兄,坐船往敘利亞去;百基拉、亞居拉和他同去。他因為許過願,就在 堅革哩剪了頭髮。