

Philippians - Introduction

City of Philippi

- Located about 9 miles from Neapolis and the shore
- Located on the Egnatian way, a major Roman road from Italy to Turkey
- In the neighborhood of gold and silver mines
- After Antony and Octavius defeated Brutus there it became a Roman colony and place of retirement for Roman soldiers.

Macedonian Call (Acts 16:9-13)

- What was the foremost city of Macedonia?
- What help did the Macedonians need?
- How did Paul react to the need?
- What is similar and what is different to today?

Philippian Jailer (Acts 16:16-33)

- Why did they drag Paul and Silas to the magistrates?
- How were they described to the magistrates?
- What action did the jailer take upon being charged to keep them securely?
- What were Paul and Silas doing at midnight and how did the other prisoners react?
- At the same hour, what did the jailer immediately do?

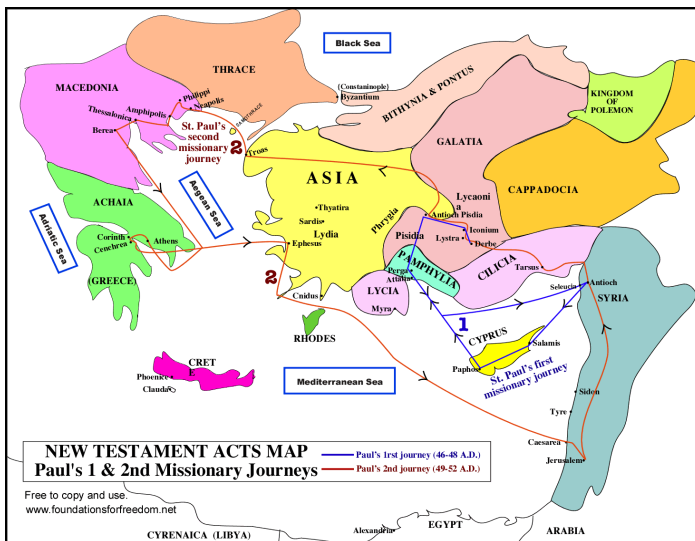
Epistle to the Philippians

- What is an epistle?
- How do you think it was read?

Read through the whole book of Philippians (estimate about 14 minutes)

Overview

- What main themes (topics) do you see in Philippians?
- Describe Paul's relation to the Philippians?
- What does this imply about the Philippians?
- Were the Philippians a diverse group?
- Are there indications the Philippians were mature?



First Converts

Lydia (Acts 16:14-15)

- Why were they meeting at the riverside and not at the synagogue?
- What was Lydia's occupation?
- How did she heed Paul's words (v15)?