



Purpose Of The Book Of Acts: Give us a glimpse of how the church was birthed and grew, the gospel spread, and how disciples were made during a time when it was costly to be a follower of Jesus.



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The Gospel Is Like Durian

- You either love it or you hate it
- Once you taste it, people can tell
- It can be hard to open





PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Transition of the church among the Jews to the church among the Gentiles

Outline: Acts 12:25-14:26

- Paul & Barnabas called by Holy Spirit and sent out at Antioch
- Opposed by false prophet and magician at Cyprus
 - The Proconsul believed
- Driven out of the city by Jews at Pisidia
 - But the Gentiles rejoiced and believed
- Jews, Gentiles, and their rulers almost stoned them at Iconium
 - But a great number of Jews and Greeks believed
- Paul stoned and left for dead at Lystra
- Healed a cripple
- Made many disciples in Derbe

Return to Antioch





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Acts 14:21-22

²¹ When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.



2 Corinthians 11:23-28

²³ Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one-I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴ Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea:



2 Corinthians 11:23-28

²⁶ on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; ²⁷ in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food,[b] in cold and exposure. 28 And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.





What We Have Is Durian Tribulation

- People pleasing
 - "I worry about whether or not others will still like me if I share the gospel."
- Losing face
 - "I'm worried about what other people will think of me if I share the gospel."
- Fear of financial or physical consequences
 - "I'm worried about what it might cost me financially, or physically."



Tribulation Is The Way Acts 14:21-22

²¹ When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.



Matt 16:24-26

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

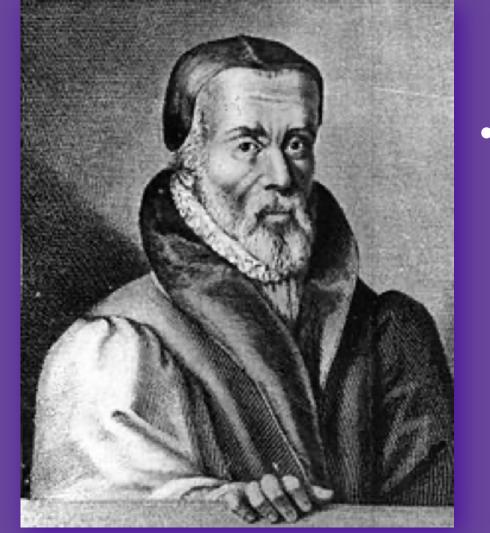


Matt 16:24-26

²⁴ Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. 25 And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, 26 and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. 27 And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Ac 14:24–27). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.





 William Tyndale began working on a New Testament translation directly from the Greek in 1523.

- Could speak 7 languages
- Death penalty issued in England for anyone possessing unlicensed scripture in English
- He was strangled and burned at the stake
- The Father of The English Bible, 80% of his translation was used for the KJV

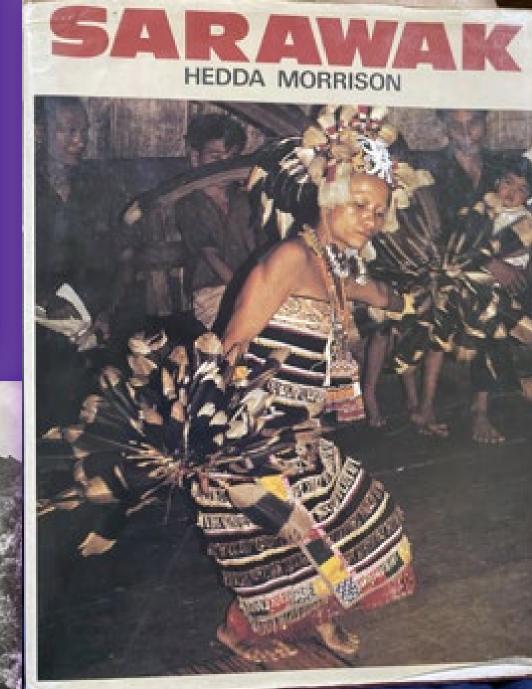




Frank Davidson, Carey Tolley, Hudson Southwell, George Aitken (seated) 1931









Matt 27: 13-14

13 Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?" 14 But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed...

Matt 27: 26-31

²⁶ Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. ²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him.



²⁸ And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29 and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 30 And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. 31 And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

