

chapters

13a *I've Been Everywhere*

13b *The Old Rugged Cross*

**14** *Eye of the Tiger*

15a The Gospel

15b Kingdom Work

16 Every Opportunity

17 Believe

18 Together

19 Motives

20-21 Commit

22 Witness

26 Respond

27 Trust

# Acts of the Apostles

September 15, 2024

**Acts 14:22:** We must go thru  
Many Hardships to Enter the  
*Kingdom of God*



Stoning of Paul & Barnabas at Lystra,  
by Barent Pietersz Fabritius (1624-1673)



Sunrise 9-8-24



# Paul's Missionary Journeys

	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Summary</i>
Sept 1	13a	<i>I've Been Everywhere</i>	Paul to Paphos on Cyprus & Sorcerer Elymus
Sept 8	13b	<i>The Old Rugged Cross</i>	Paul Gains Ear of Whole City of Pisidian Antioch
Sept 15	14	<i>Eye of the Tiger</i>	Paul & Barnabas Divide Iconium, Flee to Lystra & Derbe, – Beaten in Lystra, Flee to Derbe then <b>RETURN</b>
Sept 22	15a	The Gospel	Paul & Barnabas to Jerusalem for 1st Church Council
Sept 29	15b	Kingdom Work	Paul, Silas, & Timothy Thru Macedonia
Oct 6	16	Every Opportunity	Paul & Crew to Phrygia, Troas, Philippi, Convert Lydia, Paul & Silas Beaten, Jailed, Earthquake Freed
Oct 13	17	Believe	Paul & Silas Thessalonica, Berea, Athens' Areopagus
Oct 20	18	Together	Paul to Corinth, Meets Aquila & Priscilla, to Ephesus
Oct 27	19	Motives	Paul in Ephesus w Big Miracles – Riot x “The Way”
Nov 3	20-21	Commit	Paul Hunted Thru Greece, Ephesus, to Jerusalem
Nov 10	22-24	Witness	Paul—Roman Citizen, Sanhedrin, to Governor Felix
Nov 17	25-26	Respond	Paul to Festus, Then Paul's Words Impress Agrippa
Nov 24	27-28	Trust	Paul's Storm-Rocking Trip to Rome

Paul & Barnabas go through a LOT ...

guessing Acts 14 covers weeks, maybe a month



# Our Church

What are yah gonna do ...

If they BEAT you to near **DEATH?**

Sunset 9-8-24





In Acts 14, Paul is **STONED** ... for defending

- ✝ The Gospel
- ✝ “The Way”
- ✝ The Truth
- ✝ The Life

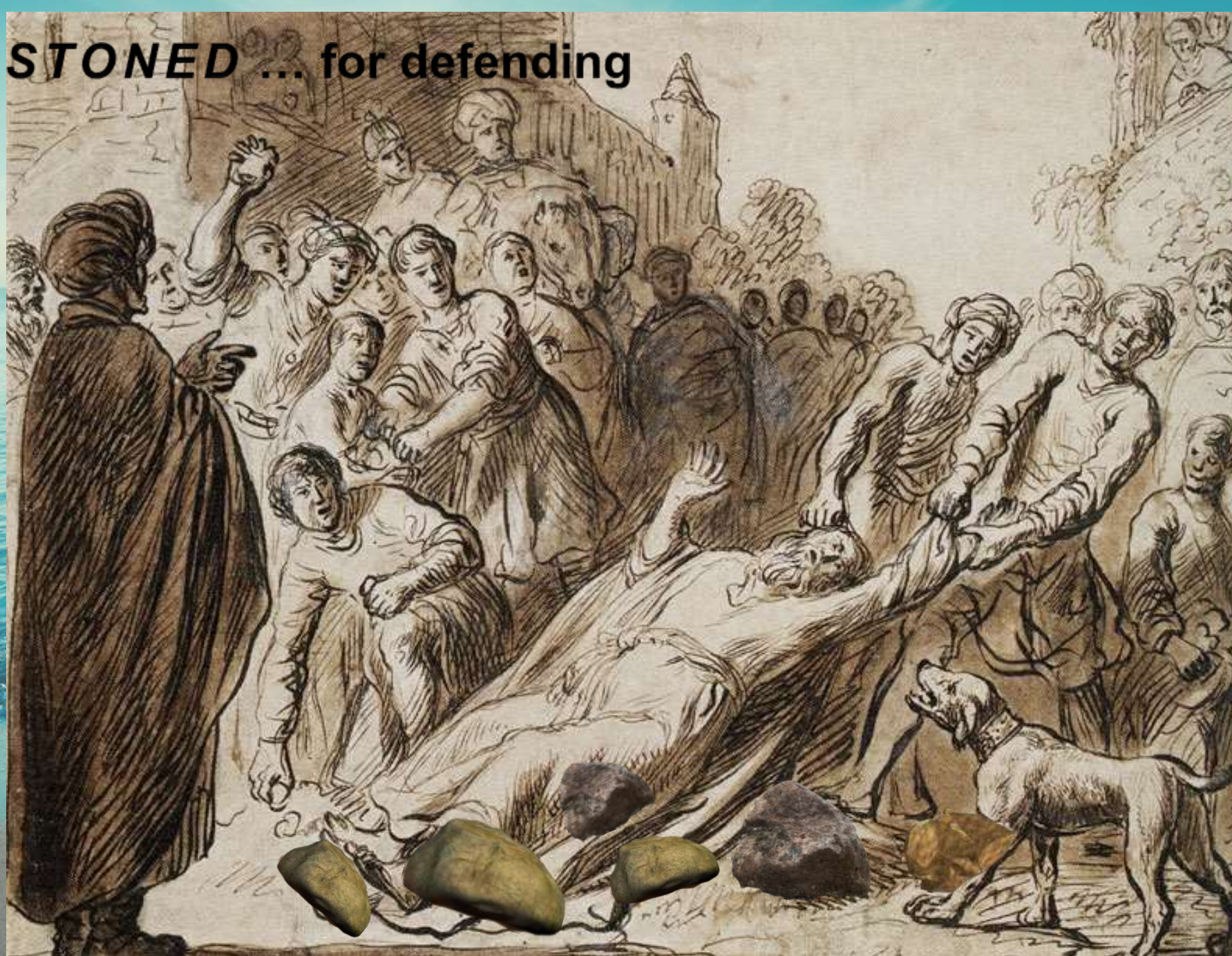
And Paul is

**DRAGGED**

out of Lystra

**Left for DEAD**

Stoning of Saint Paul  
at Lystra, by Jan Lievens  
(1607-74)





# Acts 14—Only God Is Worthy of Worship & Praise

## Acts 14 – Paul & Barnabas Tour Iconium, Lystra, Derbe

1-7 Paul & Barnabas Preach Heavy in Iconium

8-10 Healed a Man *BORN* Lame

11-13 “Zeus & Hermes Have Come” – oh No, says Paul

14-18 “What the *HECK* Are You Doing?”

19 Paul Stoned in Lystra ... *Left for Dead*

20 Paul Goes **BACK** to Lystra ... Then Goes to Derbe

21-12 Return to Lystra, Iconium, Antioch in Pisidia ...

then south & sail back to Antioch in Syria

**End of the Paul's First Missionary Journey**



**Key Verse Acts 14:22**

**We must go through  
many hardships  
to enter the Kingdom of God**





Alternate Title

# Credibility

Credibility—Never Bought

Yet, CAN be sold to GULLIBLE

Credibility—Only Earned

Yet, CAN be conned to the WEAK

Credibility—Key to Leadership

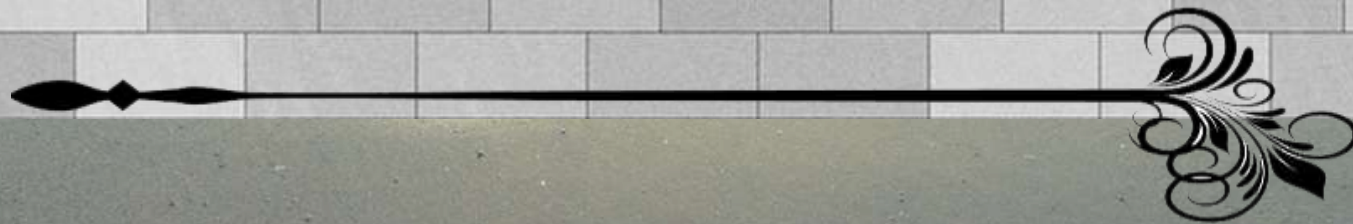
*in those with good hearts*

## Scars that Earn Credibility *Remain*





Build your  
**credibility** so you  
won't have to say the  
same thing twice before  
someone **BELIEVES** it.



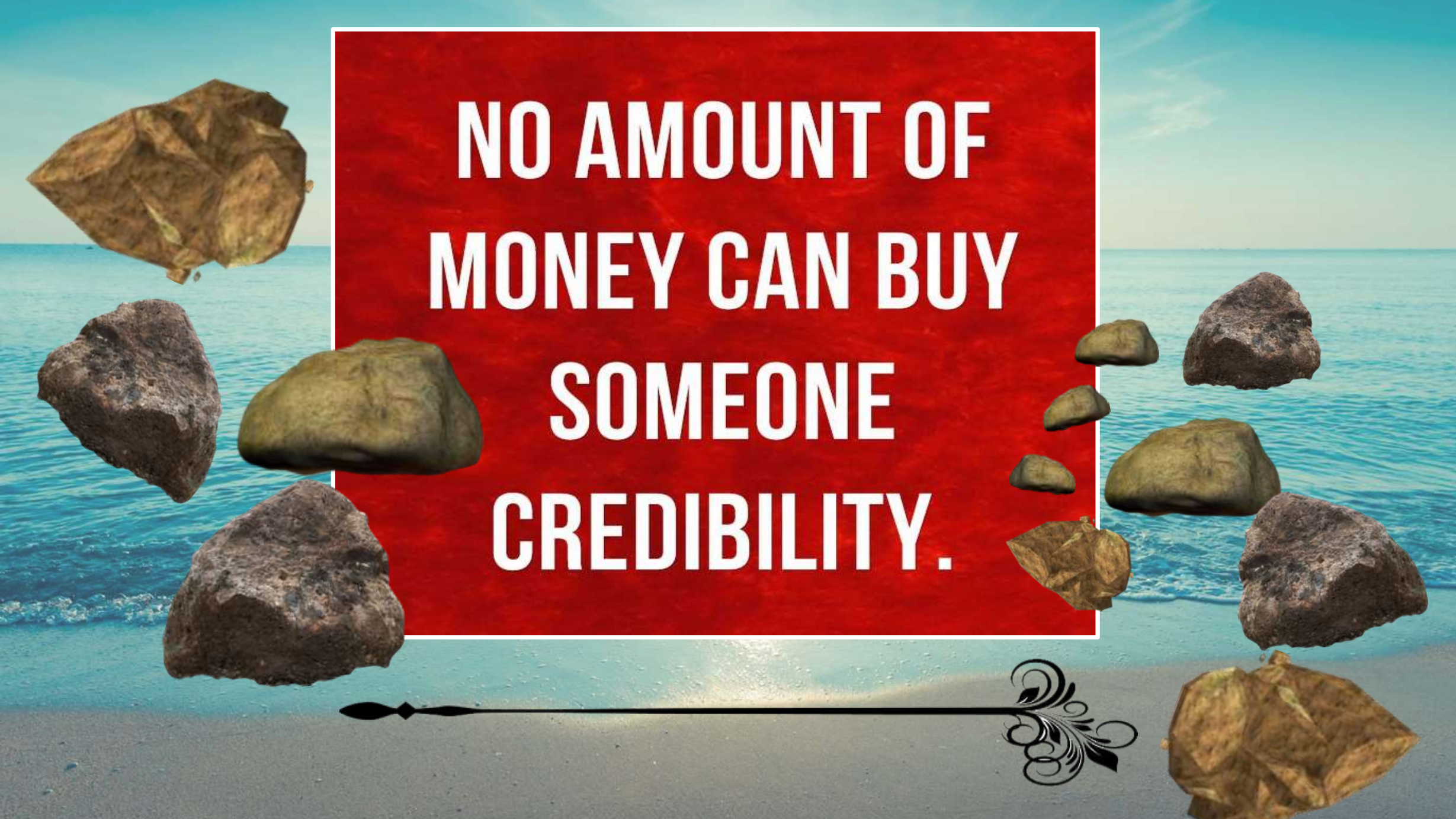


Nothing  
builds  
credibility  
like failure.





**NO AMOUNT OF  
MONEY CAN BUY  
SOMEONE  
CREDIBILITY.**





# Quite possibly—High Credibility is only attained after High Endurance

Acts 14 – I see TWO Themes, TWO Forces at Work

1. **Credibility** – Before those in Antioch Pisidia had a Bible, Paul was BELIEVED because of his WORDS & the Spirit aiding in his CREDIBILITY
2. **“Eye of the Tiger”** – Paul became a FEARLESS apostle, evangelist, defender of the FAITH





**Alternate Title #2**

# **Eye of the Tiger**

**Quite possibly—High Credibility is only attained  
after High Endurance**





*Eye of the Tiger* – #1 Hit for band **Survivor** in 1982

Sylvester Stallone asked Survivor to write a song for  
1982 – #1 many countries, sold 2,000,000+ in U.S., 90

About SURVIVING – more about the **WILL** to survive

Risin' up, back on the street

Did my time, took my chances

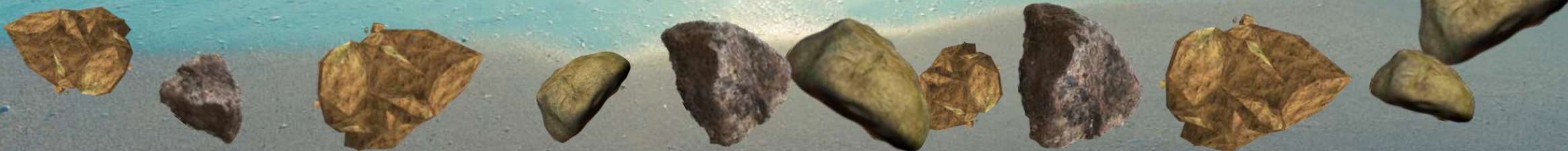
Went the distance, now I'm back on my feet

Just a man and his **WILL TO SURVIVE**



PAUL is unstoppable ... fearless ... BEATEN UP ...

**RISES UP**





# Book of Acts – the Early Church

1 Intro – Theophilus, Appearances, Ascension

2-12 Peter – Church from Jerusalem to Antioch

2-7 Jerusalem – Peter, John, Ananias & Sapphira, Stephen

8 Samaria – Paul persecutes, Philip, Simon

9 Conversion of Paul

10-12 Conversion of Cornelius, Peter vision of sheets



**13-28 Paul – Church from Antioch to Rome**

13 – 14 1st Missionary Journey – Saul/Paul & Barnabas

15:1-35 1st Church Council in Jerusalem

15:36 – 18:22 2nd Missionary Journey of Paul

18:23 – 21:16 3rd Missionary Journey of Paul

21:17 – 23 Paul to Jerusalem

24 – 26 Paul to Caesarea ... 27-28 Paul to Rome

**You are HERE**

A red arrow originates from a black box containing the text 'You are HERE'. The arrow points from the right side of the box towards the text '15:36 – 18:22' in the list of events.



13:1 – 14:28

## Paul's *FIRST* Missionary Journey

13:1-12 Cyprus

14:1-7 Iconium

13:13-52 Pisidia Antioch

14:8-28 Lystra, Derbe, to Antioch

15:1-35

Jerusalem Council

15:36 – 18:22

## Paul's *SECOND* Missionary Journey

15:36 – 16:10

Antioch to Troas

16:11-40

Troas to Philippi

17:1-34

Philippi to Thessalonica to Athens

18:1-22

Athens to Corinth

18:23 – 21:16

## Paul's *THIRD* Missionary Journey

18:23 – 19:41

Ephesian Pentecost

20:1 – 21:16

Macedonia to Troas, Athens, Corinth, return

21:17 – 28:31

## Paul in Route to & in Rome

21:17 – 23:35

In Jerusalem

24:1 – 26:32

In Caesarea

27:1 – 28:15

Voyage to Rome

28:16-31

Ministry in Rome



**Greece  
Hellás**

**Rome**

**You are here  
in Lystra**

**Israel**

**Book Acts Starts**

**600 Miles**



THE ROMAN EMPIRE  
AT ITS GREATEST EXTENT  
c. 107 A.D.



# 13:1 – 14:28 Paul's First Missionary Journey

From Syrian Antioch to Pisidian Antioch, Paul travelled 500+ miles

13:13-52 Paul leaves Pisidian Antioch ...

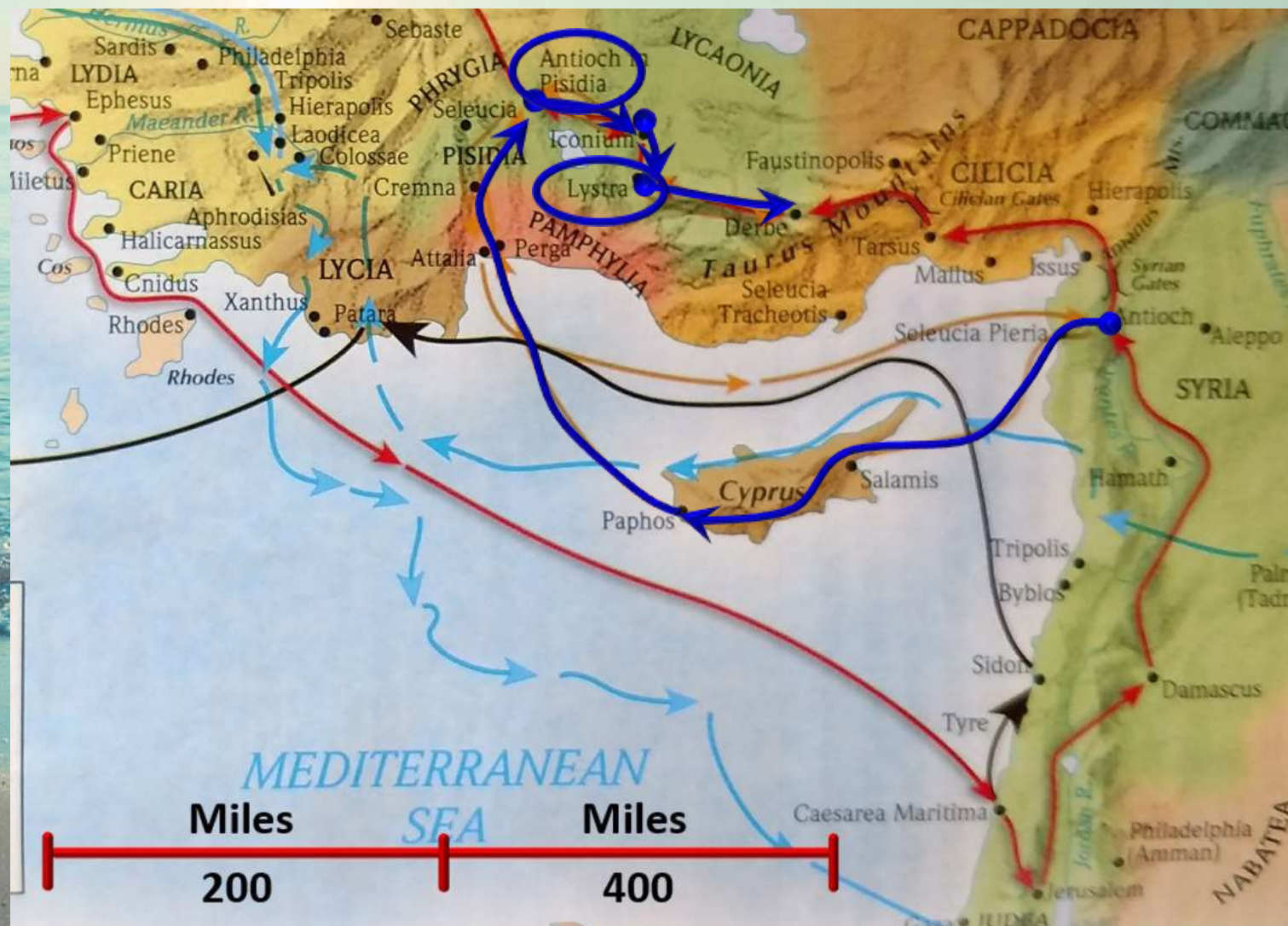
14:1-7 to Iconium

14:8-28 to Lystra

perhaps 75-100 miles

then another 100 to Derbe

**Paul & Barnabas'**  
**Days of**  
**Wine & Roses**  
**are short-lived**





# Paul the Apostle—*Reminder*

Has *NOT* taken up his pen yet

But Paul IS thinking about it ... will *soon* write



Paul the Apostle, c. 1657  
Rembrandt

Acts 13:1-14:28	1st Missionary Journey	47-48 AD	
Acts 15:1-35	Jerusalem Council	49 AD	Galatians from Antioch before the Jerusalem Council
Acts 15:36-18:22	2nd Missionary Journey	49-52 AD	1 Thessalonians (from Corinth) 2 Thessalonians (from Corinth)
Acts 18:22-20:38	3rd Missionary Journey	53-57 AD	1 Corinthians (from Ephesus) 2 Corinthians (from Macedonia) Romans (from Corinth)
Acts 21:1-26:32	Prison in Caesarea	58-60 AD	
Acts 27:1-28:31	1st Imprisonment in Rome	61-63 AD	Ephesians (from Rome) Colossians (from Rome) Philemon (from Rome) Philippians (from Rome)
Post-Acts	"Fourth Journey"	63-65 AD	1 Timothy (from Macedonia) Titus (from Nicopolis)
Post-Acts	2nd Imprisonment in Rome, Death	66-67 AD	2 Timothy (from Rome)



From the first time we see Paul in the N.T.

*We see Leadership*

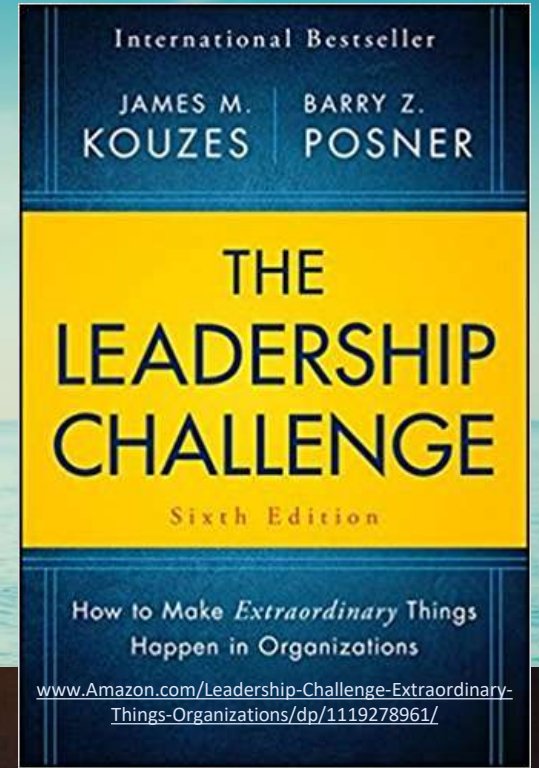
James Kouzes & Barry Posner researched  
3,000 managers in 1983

Published their results in

*The Leadership Challenge: How to Get  
Extraordinary Things Done in Organizations*  
(Jossey-Bass, 1987)

**5 Leadership Practices  
in**

**10 Leader Commitments**



Paul the Apostle, c. 1657  
by Rembrandt



# I. Challenging the Process — see *Apostle Paul*

1. Search for Opportunities: Confronting & Changing the Status Quo
2. Experiment and Take Risks: Learning from Mistakes & Success

# II. Inspiring a Shared Vision

3. Envision the Future: Imagining Ideal Scenarios
4. Enlist Others: Attracting People to Common Purposes

# III. Enabling Others to Act

5. Foster Collaboration: Getting People to Work Together
6. Strengthen Others: Sharing Power & Information

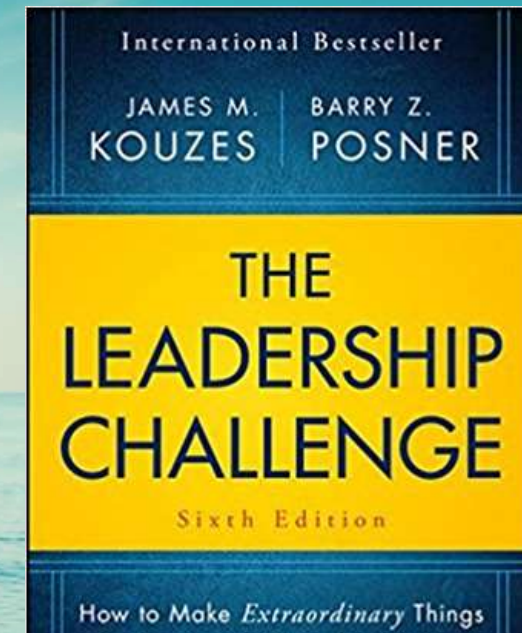
# IV. Modeling the Way

7. Set the Example: Leading by Doing
8. Plan Small Wins: Building Commitment to Action

# V. Encouraging the Heart

9. Recognize Individual Contribution: Link Rewards w Performance
10. Celebrate Accomplishments: Valuing the Victories

**5 Leadership Practices  
in  
10 Leader Commitments**



**These could have COME from the Apostle Paul**

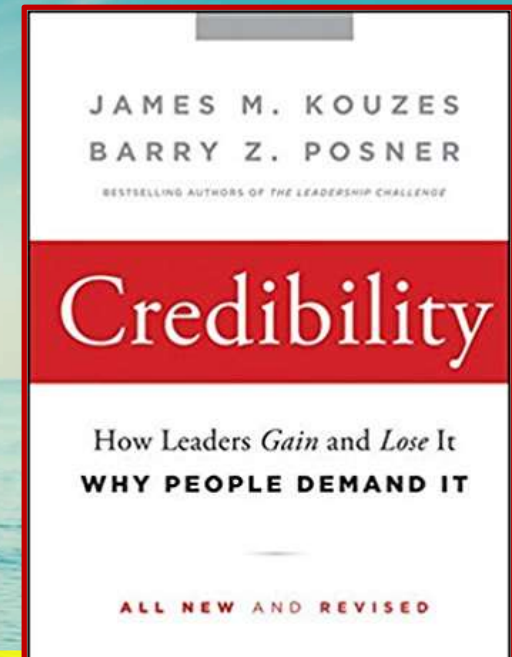


Paul the Apostle, c. 1657  
by Rembrandt



Kouzes & Posner did not stop there ... from 1987 to 1993  
they surveyed 15,000 CEOs, Mid-managers, subordinates

a 1987 – b 1993:	a–b	a 1987 – b 1993:	a–b	a 1987 – b 1993:	a–b
Honest	87–83	Intelligent	38–43	Mature	14–23
Forward-looking	71–62	Straightforward	34–34	Determined	13–20
Inspiring	68–58	Courageous	33–27	Ambitious	10–21
Competent	58–67	Dependable	32–32	Loyal	10–11
Fair-minded	49–40	Cooperative	30–25	Self-Controlled	5–13
Supportive	46–32	Imaginative	28–34	Independent	5–10
Broad-minded	41–37	Caring	27–26		



Not a lot of differences between 1987 & 1993 respondents

Kouzes & Posner isolate a SINGLE LEADERSHIP VIRTUE,  
which became the title of their 1993 follow-up book

***Credibility: How Leaders Gain and Lose It, Why People Demand It*** (Jossey-Bass, 1993)

**Paul – Most Credible Apostle**





Paul & Barnabas had **GREAT**  
success in Pisidian Antioch

Nearly the whole city came out to hear  
Hang on every word ... What Word?

**SALVATION** to the Gentile

**Christ's Resurrection**

**Fulfilled All Mosaic Law**

Yet the Jews are troubled  
apparently **FOLLOW** Paul  
**75 miles to Iconium**





14:1-7 Paul & Barnabas Preach Heavy in Iconium

<sup>1</sup> At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke so effectively that a great number of Jews and Greeks believed.

<sup>2</sup> But the Jews who refused to believe **STIRRED** up the other Gentiles and poisoned their **MINDS AGAINST THE BROTHERS.**

Now hear this ...

In every church ... a little poison



Paul is a good example of what to do



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



14:1-7 Paul & Barnabas Preach Heavy in Iconium

**Look at what they do ...**

**<sup>3</sup> So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to perform signs & wonders.**

**<sup>4</sup> The people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews, others with the apostles.**

**Don't call the Iconium "believers" a church**

**Not yet ...**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



14:1-7 Paul & Barnabas Preach Heavy in Iconium

Yet ... what is happening?

This is NOT a case of a divided church

To the leading Jews, though, it is a case of

**the DIVIDED Synagogue**

Paul & Barnabas are the CAUSES

Yet how is the Iconium Synagogue divided?

Synagogue leaders *CANNOT* refute the

Reasoning & Miracles of

Paul & Barnabas



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



Rather than do the **HARD** work of:

- ✝ Checking on Paul's Sources
- ✝ Checking the Scriptures
- ✝ Praying & Seeking the Lord

Rather than seek *TRUTH* ... the snakes plot

<sup>5</sup> There was a plot afoot among both Gentiles and Jews, together with their leaders, to mistreat them and stone them.

Pretty serious animus ... anger ... jealousy

Angry at Paul and Barnabas with

**GREAT HATE**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



6-7 Paul & Barnabas find out & flee to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and to the **SURROUNDING COUNTRY**, where they continued to preach the gospel.



To Lystra first ...

then to Derbe ... to

**SURROUNDING  
Country**

There's a LOT of  
country between  
Iconium & Derbe



**Tyler County  
to scale**



14:8-10 Healed a Man *BORN* Lame

In Lystra ... one of **MANY** miracles

<sup>8</sup> In Lystra there sat a man who was lame.  
He had been that way from birth and  
had **NEVER WALKED**.

Something most intriguing takes place

<sup>9</sup> He listened to Paul as he was speaking.  
Paul looked directly at him,  
**SAW THAT HE HAD FAITH** to be healed

<sup>10</sup> called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that,  
the man **JUMPED UP** and began to walk.

Miracle ... only one we know about in Lystra so far



St Paul Healing the Cripple at Lystra,  
1663, by Karel Dujardin (1626-1678)



**St Paul Healing the Cripple at Lystra,  
1663, by Karel Dujardin (1626-1678)**

*Remarkable*





St Paul Healing the Cripple at Lystra,  
1663, by Karel Dujardin (1626-1678)

You must know ... ***MUST KNOW***

**BORN** lame in town of Lystra:

- ✝ He's got many callouses
- ✝ Knees are odd looking
- ✝ **EVERYONE** Knew Him
- ✝ Another Nameless beggar

You & I so very well **KNOW**

That man ***BELIEVED***

**BELIEVED WHOLEHEARTEDLY**





14:11-13 “Zeus & Hermes Have Come”

Yet, so many others were ... *astounded*

**11** When the crowd saw what Paul had done,  
they shouted in the Lycaonian language,  
“The gods have come down to us in  
human form!”

Lycaonia – north of the Taurus Mountains  
... a large elevated plain ... and trade route

From the Acts, they retained their unique culture

Lycaonians were a warlike, wild race

Iconium was the capital since 300 B.C.

Much like Antioch in Pisidia

was a capital of sorts of Pisidia



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



14:11-13 “Zeus & Hermes Have Come”

<sup>11</sup> When the crowd saw what Paul had done,  
they *SHOUTED* in the Lycaonian language,  
“The gods have come down to us in  
**HUMAN FORM!**”

<sup>12</sup> **Barnabas** they called **Zeus**, and  
**Paul** they called **Hermes**  
because he was the chief speaker.

There is no greater adoration ... **THEY** think  
**Paul's clarity & the miracles attest**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



# No greater honor than Hermes & Zeus



**St. Paul and Barnabas in Lystra, 1636**  
by Willem de Poorter (1608-68)



**Paul**

**Barnabas**

St. Paul and Barnabas in Lystra  
by Willem de Poorter





# Lystra





# Paul & Barnabas in Lystra

Town in Anatolia ... Turkey today ...

- ✝ Lystra made Roman colony by Augustus (63 B.C. to A.D. 14), first & greatest Roman Emperor
- ✝ Mound was confirmed in 1820
- ✝ Border of Phrygia & Lycaonia passed between Iconium & Lystra
- ✝ Populated aristocracy of Roman soldiers from a garrison
- ✝ SUPERSTITIOUS ... gods came in likenesses of men
- ✝ Barnabas “Zeus” & Paul “Hermes”





# Lystra

Two inscriptions found in Lystra area

1. “Kakkan & Maramoas & Iman Licinius  
priests of Zeus”

2. “Toues Macrinus also called  
Abascantus and Batasis son of Bretasis having  
made in accordance with a vow at their own expense  
(a statue of) Hermes Most Great along with a sun-dial  
dedicated it to Zeus the sun-god.”

**Greek language is being overtaken by Latin with Romans**





# Lystra

Temples to Zeus & Hermes reside just outside the city





Eye of the Tiger – #1 Hit for band Survivor in 1982

As the Jew-Snakes plot ... you know

Paul & Barnabas feel the HATE

So many times, it happens too fast

You trade your passion for glory

Don't lose your grip on the dreams of the past

You must fight just to keep them alive

It's the Eye of the Tiger ...





Matthew Easton thinks Barnabas was thought to be Zeus because his

**“stately venerable appearance”**

- ✠ Zeus god of sky = Roman Jupiter
- ✠ Zeus the Thunder god
- ✠ King of gods on Mount Olympus
- ✠ Father of several gods & goddesses  
Athena, Apollo, Artemis, Hermes,  
Persephone, Dionysus, Perseus,  
Heracles, Helen of Troy, Minos,  
and the Muses



**Barnabas?**

Jupiter de Smyrne, or Greek Zeus  
discovered in Smyrna in 1680



**Paul was Hermes, “Chief Speaker”**

**Hermes—Messenger of the gods**

- ✦ **god of trade**
- ✦ **god of thieves, travelers**
- ✦ **god of sports, athletes**
- ✦ **god of border crossings**
- ✦ **Guide to the Underworld**
- ✦ **Roman god Mercury**
- ✦ **Same as Hermes**
- ✦ **Origin of “Merchandise”**

**Mercury with His Symbols, 1610  
by Hendrik Goltzius (1558-1617)**



**Paul?**



**Hermes Ingenui, Vatican Museums,  
2nd century BC Roman copy of 5th  
century BC Greek original**



# Lystra

2 Timothy 3:8-9, *after excoriating, exfoliating 8 verses,*

Paul concludes verse 8, “They are men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected.”

Yet to dear Timothy ... 3:10-11 ... Paul implores:

<sup>10</sup> You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance,

<sup>11</sup> persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured.

Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.





# Lystra

When Paul and Silas return  
to Lystra on 2nd Journey

Timothy has become a  
**LEADING** Christian in Lystra

Paul recalls, we have to say,  
*dear reflections* in 2 Tim. 3:5,

<sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith,  
which first lived in your grandmother  
Lois and in your mother Eunice and,  
I am persuaded, now lives in you also.



Timothy and His Grandmother, 1648  
by Rembrandt (1606-69)



See the detail of  
Rembrandt's Timothy

Here's a  
close up  
of Timothy

*Exquisite*  
does not  
seem to  
capture  
the artistry



Timothy and His Grandmother, 1648  
by Rembrandt (1606-69)



14:11-13 “Zeus & Hermes Have Come”

What happens next is so informative

These Lycaonians are so *gullible* ...

Or ... the Lycaonians are so *religious*

<sup>13</sup> The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because

He [the Priest himself] and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

What in the world? .... Might be tempted to say these Lycaonians were like Hillbillies



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**Temples to gods**

**Hermes & Zeus**

**Paul & Barnabas**

**Believers flocked  
to them in Antioch**

**YET Jews want to  
stone them in  
Iconium & Lystra**

**NOW GODS**



**Saints Paul and Barnabas at Sacrifice at Lystra, 1637, Bartholomeus Breenberg, (1598-1657), Princeton University Art Museum**



14:14-18 “What the *HECK* Are You Doing?”

No **WORSE** Misunderstanding ...

**14** But when the apostles Barnabas & Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting:

**15** “Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them.



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



14:14-18 “What the *HECK* Are You Doing?”

A very clipped portion of what **MUST** have been a very, very good message ...

**16** In the past, he let all nations go their own way.

**17** Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy

Paul & Barnabas ... now Hermes & Zeus

**deflect ... deflect ... deflect ...**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
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14:14-18 “What the *HECK* Are You Doing?”

But the Lycaonians don't even believe  
their own gods Zeus & Hermes ...

**18 Even with these words, Barnabas &  
Paul had difficulty keeping the  
crowd from sacrificing to them.**

Outrageous *IGNORANCE* ...

These Lycaonians *LOVED* their sacrificing

Rather, they *BELIEVED* their sacrificing

was their **ONLY** response to miracles



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**Strangely, oddly**

**That is ALL**

- 1. Paul Healing**
- 2. Lycaonians lose their marbles**
- 3. Paul & Barnabas deflecting dopey Lycaonians**

**That is ALL**

**No More**



**Saints Paul and Barnabas at Sacrifice at Lystra, 1637, Bartholomeus Breenberg, (1598-1657), Princeton University Art Museum**





**Sacrifice at Lystra, 1515, by Raphael (1483-520)**



**WHILE** Paul & Barnabas deflect  
Lycaonians from worshiping them

Jews come and do **NOT HELP**  
the dopey Lycaonians

Instead of **GUIDING** Lycaonians  
into the Mosaic Law ...

“**REAL**” Jews totally ignore the  
**Lycaonian PAGANISM**

Jews from the capital cities of  
Pisidian Antioch & Iconium ...

**could NOT care LESS** about  
**Lycaonian's FAITH**



Saints Paul and Barnabas at Sacrifice at Lystra  
1637, Bartholomeus Breenberg, (1598-1657)  
Princeton University Art Museum



“Real” JEWS ... instead of HELPING ...

<sup>19</sup> Jews came from Antioch and Iconium  
and won the crowd over.

They *STONED* Paul

*STONED* Paul

and *DRAGGED* him outside the city,  
thinking he was *DEAD*.

Doesn't say what they did to Zeus,  
aka Barnabas!

Nor anything about ANY Disciple—Nada

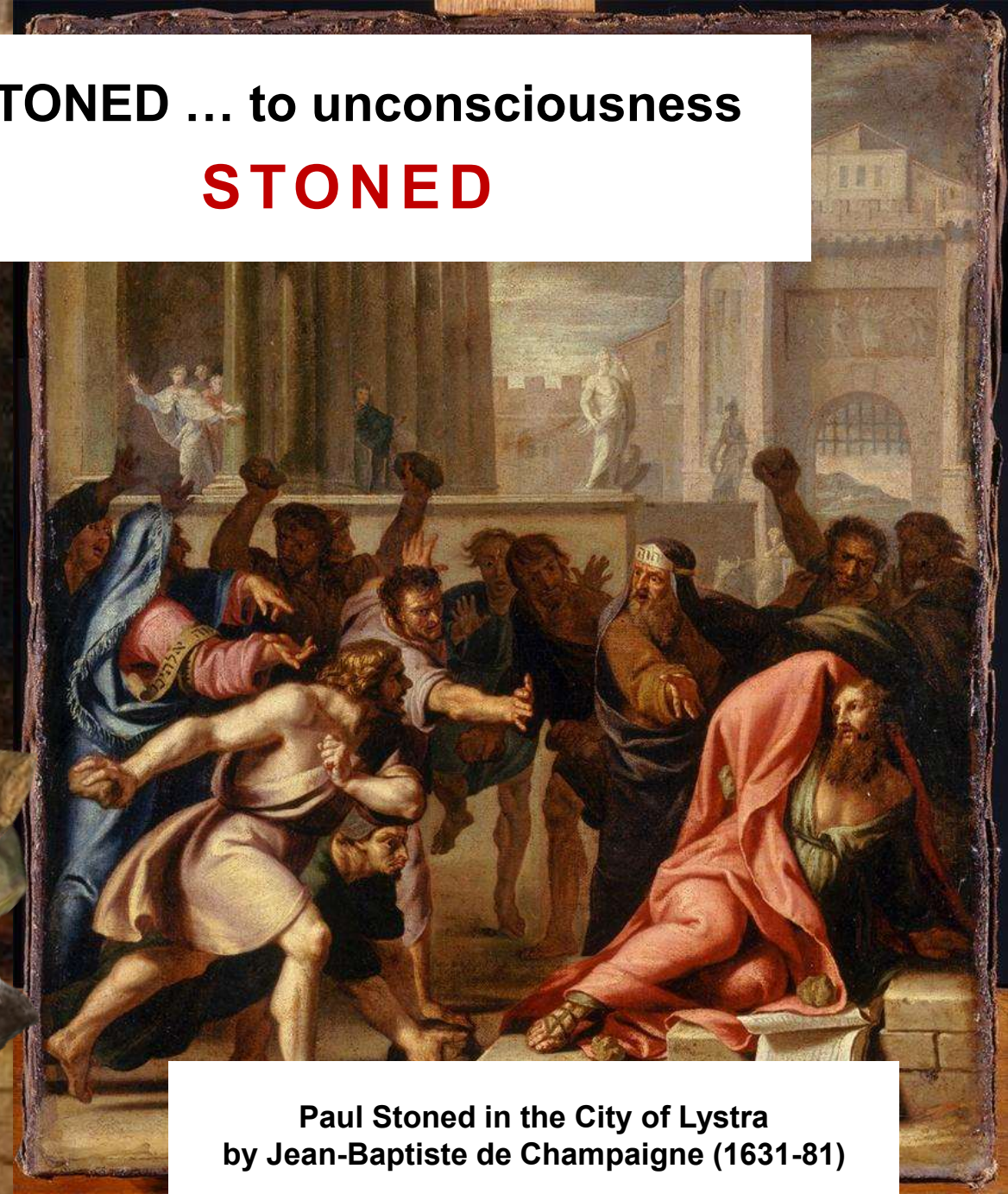


Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**STONED ... to unconsciousness**

**STONED**



**Paul Stoned in the City of Lystra  
by Jean-Baptiste de Champaigne (1631-81)**



Paul is **STONED** ... to death  
so the Lycaonians **THOUGHT**

*So we know this:*

- ✠ **Paul knocked unconscious**
- ✠ **Brutal Stoning ... cause we know they know HOW to kill**
- ✠ **As quickly as Paul became a god, he was sentenced to die**
- ✠ **Lycaonians EASY Prey to every WIND of doctrine**

Stoning of Paul & Barnabas at Lystra,  
by Barent Pietersz Fabritius (1624-1673)





***We ALSO know this:***

- ✝ Paul got a **BLACK** left eye
- ✝ Big cut over his right eye
- ✝ Several **BRUISES** on left arm
- ✝ Paul's right **TOE** was broken
- ✝ Right hand **NUMEROUS**  
deep cuts *from*

**DEFLECTING STONES**

- ✝ Paul is a **BEAT-up MESS**
- ✝ Limps from a **BROKEN TOE!**

Stoning of Paul & Barnabas at Lystra,  
by Barent Pietersz Fabritius (1624-1673)





**Eye of the Tiger – #1 Hit for band Survivor in 1982**

**YOU know the kind of man we are watching now**

**No lazy shirker ... no couch potato ... no arm-chair Christian**

**It's the eye of the tiger, it's the thrill of the fight**

**Risin' up to the challenge of our rival**

**And the last known survivor stalks his prey in the night**

**And he's watching us all with the EYE OF THE TIGER**



**Paul is made from some tough fiber ...**





14:19-28 Paul & Barnabas Stoned ... and RETURN

Big City Jews do NOT help the Lycaonians  
OUT of Paganism w Judaism or Mosaic Law!

These City Jews just want Paul **DEAD!**

<sup>20</sup> But after the disciples had gathered  
around him,

From wherever the disciples were *HIDING*

<sup>20</sup> Paul got up and went BACK INTO the city.

Paul ... went ... back ... into ... the city

Undaunted ... Unstoppable



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain





Eye of the Tiger – #1 Hit for band Survivor in 1982

Face to face, out in the heat

Hangin' tough, stayin' hungry

They stack the odds still we take to the street

For the kill, with the **SKILL TO SURVIVE**





Remarkably resilient ...

<sup>21</sup> They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples.

Then they *WHAT?!?!?!?*

They **RETURNED** to Lystra, Iconium & Antioch

**WHAT?** ... Do they have a **Death Wish?**

No ... Paul & Barnabas **USE** their **EXAMPLE**

Used their example in **SUFFERING** to

**Encourage**

**FAITH**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



**Look what happens next ...**

**22 strengthening the disciples & encouraging them to remain true to the faith.**

**“We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.”**

**23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and ... committed them to the Lord, in whom THEY HAD PUT THEIR TRUST.**

**Yes, the loosely gathered “church” was now fully instituted after suffering.**

**Paul & Barnabas sail back to Syrian Antioch**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



What made Paul such a great Leader?

What made Paul so **CREDIBLE** in Lystra?

First time, it was fairly clear:

- ✝ **Expertise in Exposition**
- ✝ **Reasoning Superior to Jews**
- ✝ **Miracles & Signs from Lord**

So effective, Lycaonians crowned Paul a god

Yet, the Lycaonians were easily distracted

Fortunately for them, **Paul didn't distract**

**What made Paul so CREDIBLE?**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



What made Paul so **CREDIBLE** in Lystra?

That he was able to do Acts 14:22?

<sup>22</sup> strengthening the disciples & encouraging them to remain true to the faith.

“We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.”

Why did they **BELIEVE** in Paul?

First Paul came **BACK**

Second Paul came back **WOUNDED**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



Disciples in Lystra & Nameless ex-Lame Man

There ... at a distance ... they ALL saw

Paul was **LIMPING** back, *on his broken toe*

Yep ... that was Paul ... big black **EYE**

Few of the more ornery called out

**Hey, Ol' Racoons a-comin'**

*Unfazed* ... Paul continued forward

Some of the disciples shook their heads

Unbelieving ... yet, that **WAS** Paul

**Paul did NOT give up**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



Nameless ex-Lame Man **YELLED**

**Brother Paul**

**Sooo good to *SEE* YOU!**

See Paul coming ... there he is ...

Paul *still* limping from his broken toe

Cuts on face still red ... his arms too

Arms **DARK** black bruises ... esp. his  
*Right Arm used to deflect stones*

Yes, Paul “**encouraged**” ... yet **WHERE?** ...

Where was that sermon? ... that message?

All we have is **ONE LINE**



Statue of St. Paul, 1606  
by Gregorio Fernández (1576-1636)  
Iglesia de San Pablo, Spain



After the encouraging ...  
All we have is **ONE LINE** ... 14:22

**“We must go through many hardships  
to enter the kingdom of God”**

Paul had come **BACK**

Paul came back **WOUNDED**

Paul's black eye, cut arm, broken toe

And Nameless Beggar Born Lame

**Paul was very Credible**

**They Believed**



**First Church of Lystra**  
**Founded c. A.D. 45**



Eye of the Tiger – #1 Hit for band Survivor in 1982

Risin' up, straight to the top

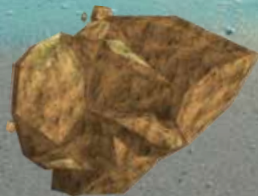
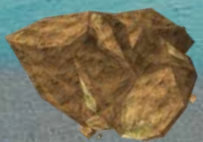
Had the guts, got the glory

Went the distance, now I'm not gonna stop

Just a man and his

## WILL TO SURVIVE

It's the eye of the tiger





Ladies & Gentlemen ...

What that all boils down to is this:

*More often than not*—the

**Credibility of your Testimony**

is directly related to the

**Endurance of Your**

**LOVE**



First Church of Lystra

Founded c. A.D. 45