

# THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## CHAPTER 16:11-19

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### TITLE:

**"SIGNED, SEALED & DELIVERED"**

BEING READY TO SHARE TO LORD

### THEME:

*Acts 1:8*

*"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and "you shall be witnesses to Me" in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

At the 91 fwy southbound to the 57 fwy northbound connector  
you're at or about 100 ft above the Freeway below, backed, it's banked turn and it's fast (90-100 mph) Rebekah  
at about 3 years old looking down, say's to herself.... "So that's How Big the World is"

## How Big is Your World ?

From my perspective, looking down from my nose, it's pretty small  
From His Perspective, looking out from His Hand it's limitless

Missions and Missionary Ventures  
are the feet of the Gospel

Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of those who brings good news, who proclaim  
peace, who bring glad tidings of good things,  
who proclaim salvation,

## Signed Sealed & Delivered

Signed, The Bible was written to announce this news !

Sealed, Jesus' rising from the dead secured our hope !

Delivered, Our Mission is to invite others - for Jesus Sake !

Have You Ever Desired To Share Your Faith

1 Peter 3:15

But (1) sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and (2) always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you (3) a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

- (1) The Lord **occupies** your heart
- (2) **Know** what you believe as a Christian
- (3) **be willing & Able** to tell others about The Lord

## Can You Answer these Vital Questions

- why did Jesus come to earth ?
- how do you get into heaven ?
- what does it mean to be born again ?

## This is the Good News of God

John 14:12

"Truly, Truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; **and greater works than these he will do,**  
because I go to My Father.

The Greater Works is... *Evangelism, Sharing Christ*

Last Week Paul Got a Break.... Verses 9-10

~ The Macedonian Call ~

*The area of Greece and Yugoslavia*

## 1.) God's Unorthodox Ways

*vv. 11-15*

While God was closing *the doors in Asia, He was Opening the doors to Europe and also in the heart of a Gentile woman named Lydia!*

A Side Note;

Verse 11-12

# The General Populace was of Roman Citizenship

It Occupied Territory of the Roman Empire

**Philippi** (Named after Philip of Mecedon, the father of Alexander The Great) it known as a "**Rome away from Rome**" giving the ITALIAN BORN VISITOR ALL THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF ROME INCLUDING A TAX EXEMPT STATUS

**Though Living on Foreign Soil, "His Privileges were guaranteed by his Roman citizenship - 100% - guaranteed !**

**PAUL WOULD LATER USE THIS "PRIVILEGE" TO WRITE TO THESE PEOPLE... THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS**

**Philippians 3:20**

**For our citizenship (politics or political position, privileges) is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,**

**EVERY "ROMAN CITIZEN" UNDERSTOOD EXACTLY WHAT THAT STATEMENT MEANT**

**That All of our Privileges are in Heaven**

**Here in Philippi Paul will win to Christ  
3 different Kinds of Sinners**

- A **Religious Woman** with an open heart vv. 13-15
- A **Slave Girl** with a Possessed Heart vv. 16-18
- A **Hardened Man**, a man with a hardened Heart vv. 19-40

**Verse 12b**

**~~A Welcoming Committee? A Missionary Reception Group?~~  
Wait for some days... (a month or more)**

## Verse 13

### A Smart Move

No Synagogue There *so Paul heads to the river bank because the Jews would have gone to the river for rites*

The Hebrew Rabbi's taught;

"It is better to burn the Law with fire than to deliver it to a woman"

Rabbi Paul had become Brother Paul

## Verse 14

One reason for the  
**Forbidding of the Spirit**  
was (A **Certain** Woman)

- Regional Sales Rep for a textile firm that was based out of Thyatira
- She was wealthy having a house in Thyatira and Philippi
- Big enough to handle servants, family and (4) missionaries

She was a “Toga Pusher”

\* *worshipped* GRK 4576 *sebomai* (seb'-om-ahee);  
to revere, to adore: (she was not a Jewish convert)

## The Value God Places On One Life !!!

\* **Opened** GRK 1272 *dianoigo* (dee-an-oy'-go)  
to open thoroughly, (used to describe  
the birth or breaking forth of the first-born)

\* *Heed*

*GRK 4337 prosecho (pros-ekh'-o)*

to arrest the mind, to bend the ear, to stick to as glue

She had been prepared **by the Lord**

**Remember, God's Unorthodox Ways**

**John 6:44**

"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will

*The Seeking Sinner will always meet The Seeking Savior*

Luke 19:10

For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Jeremiah 29:13

And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

An Example;

Luke 24:32

**The Emmaus Road**

And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

**God is into Open Hearts**

Revelation 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and **opens** the door, **I will come in** to him and eat with him, and he with Me.

**Mark 7:32-35**

And they brought unto Jesus their friend whom was deaf, and had a speech impediment; and they begged Jesus to put his hand upon him.

**Mark 7:33-25**

And He took him aside from the multitude, and **put His fingers in his ears**, and He **spit** and **touched his tongue**. :34 Then, **looking up to heaven**, He **sighed**, and said to him, "**Be opened.**" :35 Immediately his ears were **OPENED**, and the speech impediment was loosed, and he spoke understandably.

**she was a Gentile who knew that God was real,  
... but had no way to draw near Him**

No Miracles, No Crusade, No Healing

**Personally !!!**

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed (Proud) of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

**Remember, God's Unorthodox Ways**

From This Woman's Conversion, a Home fellowship Started... which turned into the Philippian Church

Note the Order of Following Jesus  
Internal, Personal Faith, leads to an External Public Display

We have a Baptism Coming Up !!!

**2.) Satan's Subtle Plays *vv. 16-18***

\* *Divination GRK 4436 Puthon (poo'-thone)*

a pitheos, a pitheon spirit, the practice of Apollo.

## In The Oracles of Delphi,

In Greek mythology Delphi was known for predictions, she was killed by Apollo who embodied himself in a snake and was then able to prophecy about future events and when he spoke he would do so via a woman or slave girl.

## A Slave (caged) Girl

(a young girl, a teenager)

For Apollo to speak the future...

He had to possess a snake, the snake would possess a girl

(a Pitheos is a talking snake)

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## Talking Snakes - Genesis 3

In Mormonism there is the high secretive and controversial Salamander writings that were to have been given by a talking serpent (the doctrine of becoming gods is nothing new)

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## The Practice;

The magicians used "Pitheos" - "Python", the taking of a young girl and by the skill of "Pitheos" deceive people. The Word Pitheos in Greek is word ventriloquist in English.

To speak out something else

In Greek mythology Apollos was consulted by anyone who wanted to know about the coming day...

**(we might recognize the Babylonian word used for the same practice, in Babylonian it's Horoscope)**

Deuteronomy 13:1

"If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, :2 "and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, `Let us go after other gods'-- which you have not known--` and let us serve them,' :3 you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Parents, a warning !!!

Ouija boards, crystals, The Game dungeons and dragons, any new-age practice, pornography and of course seance's, horoscope or fortune-tellers (palm readers and tarot cards... **you have opened up yourself to demonic forces that are real -**

Deuteronomy 18:10

Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, :11 or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. :12 "For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD,

## Verse 17

**she cried out**

\* *Cried GRK 2896 krazo (krad'-zo)*

to "croak" - "Barking"

Notice;

She was saying the right words with a different spirit or meaning

*Flattery is the grease that Satan  
uses to get you to slip*

Proverbs 6:24

**(The word of God)** will keep you from the evil woman,  
from the **flattering** (smooth) tongue of a seductress.

Proverbs 7:5

**(Know the word)** That it may keep you from the immoral woman, from the seductress  
who **flatters** (smooths) with her words.

Her Words are Normally...  
"Compliments"

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.  
:14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. :15 Therefore  
it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness,  
whose end will be according to their works.

## Verse 18

Note this;

God had shown them • **Where** to evangelize, • **How** to evangelize, • **When** to evangelize

## Never Force Evangelism !!!

It's God Who Opens The Door

## God Has A Plan,

The door Closed in Asia... So Paul would go to Troas... So He'd receive a vision to go to Europe... So he'd meet Lydia and first church in Europe would begin... So he'd meet a demonized girl... So he would be arrested... So he'd meet a Roman Jail guard who needed to be saved.....