




WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?: POST-ELECTION REFLECTIONS

Bethel AME Bible Study
Wednesday, November 11, 2020



The Book of Acts

- Why is this book so important?

Importance of Acts

- The movement has “legs” – it’s going somewhere
- It’s the beginning of a New Heaven and a New Earth
- The Holy Spirit is key to the power of this movement
- The Movement’s direction is made clear

Acts Fundamentals

- Who?
- What?
- Why?
- Where?
- When?
- How?

TRADE ROUTES AND GREAT EMPIRES OF THE FIRST CENTURY A.D.



1st
Century
A.D. (C.E.)



PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

ROME

ITALY

THESSALONICA

PHILIPPI

BEREA

TROAS

GALATIA

ANTIOCH

ICONIUM

CILICIA

ATHENS

EPHESUS

LYSTRA

DERBE

TARSUS

CORINTH

ANTIOCH

PATARA

MALTA

RHODES

CYPRUS

SYRIA

CRETE

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

SEA OF GALILEE

CAESAREA

JERUSALEM

DEAD SEA

EGYPT

Acts 16 – Multiple Themes

- Outline of the Story
- “Good Trouble”
- Power of Praise
- Miracles out of Mess
- God in the Earthquake
- Philippian Jailer & His Household

Overlooked Theme – Paul & the Philippian Authorities

- Big Whys?
- Big Whats
 - *Speaking Truth to Power*
 - *Speaking Up for the Voiceless*

Paul's Motivations

- Love for Justice – you can't love a God of justice, if you don't love justice
 - *Isaiah 58:1-7*
 - *Amos 5: 23-24*
 - *Micah 6: 8*

Paul's Motivations

- Love for Justice – you can't love a Jesus who loves justice, if you don't love justice
 - *Jesus the Son of God*
 - *Jesus' Mission – Luke 4:18*
 - *Jesus and Caesar – Matthew 22:21*
 - *Jesus and the Cleansing of the Temple – Matthew 21:12; Mark 11:15; John 2:15*

Paul's Motivations

- Love for People – you can't love the Creator and hate the people the Creator created. You can't love the Jesus who died for the whole world and not love the whole world He died for.
 - *1 John 4:20*
 - *1 John 3:17-18*
 - *Galatians 6:10*

Why is the Church So Confused About This?

- Confusion – righteousness or justice
- Co-optation – principalities & powers doing their thing

Say Something

- Prayer
- Speak Power (in Love) with/for/to the
“Powerless”
- Speak Truth (in Love) to the Powerful