



# Welcome to BSD!

*Lesson 8. Acts 15-16. Breaking Free*

# let's worship

*Called me Higher*, by All Sons & Daughters



YouTube Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13\\_Py-6eRqI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13_Py-6eRqI)

memory verse

*Acts 16:31*

“Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved - you and your household.”

# video clip: my big fat greek wedding



YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPvO53JHnmY>

# the jerusalem council and its effects



- Heart of the book of Acts, structurally & theologically
- “Christ breaks barriers that separate humans and so creates a new humanity.” (NIVAC, p. 447)
- *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal 3:28*



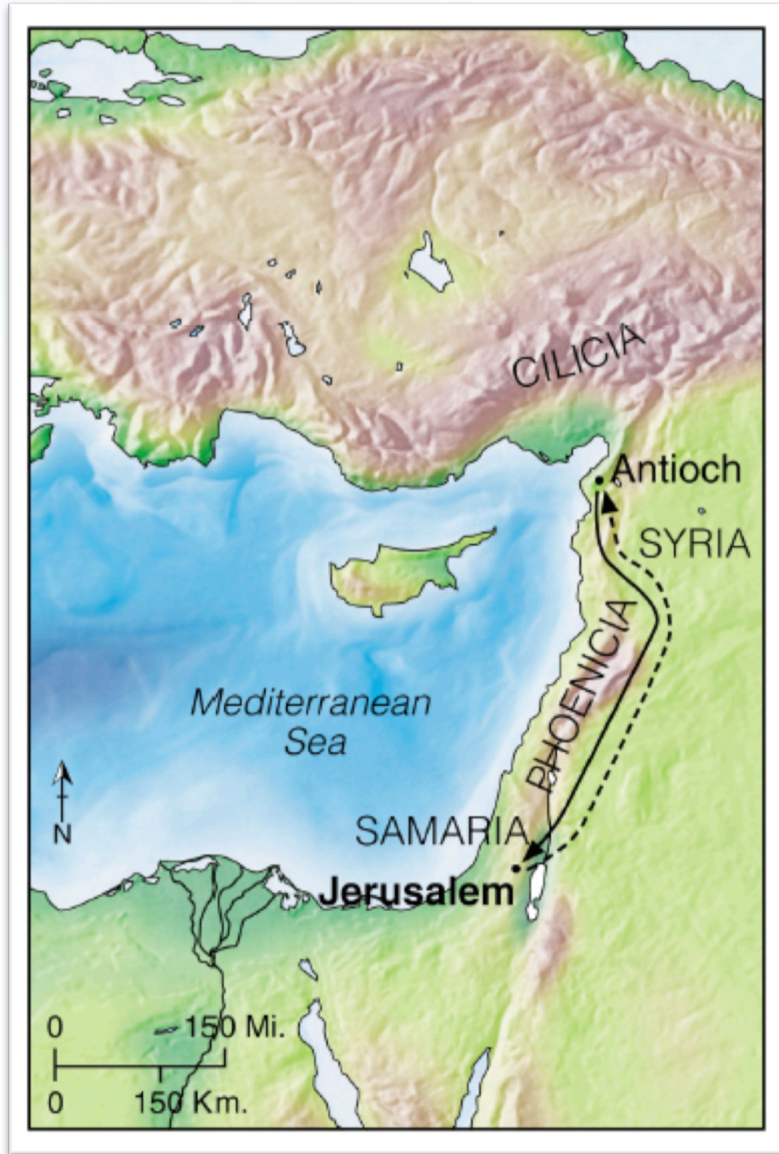
as you read, notice these things...

- **How groups relate to one another.**

- Inter- and intra-church dynamics
- Paul & Barnabus ↔ The Judaizers
- Peter to Paul

- **How the Spirit moves people...**

- The Verdict at the Council
- Choosing missionaries
- Silas to stay
- Paul to Greece
- Lydia



- **Down from Judea**

The name **Judea** is a Greek and Roman adaptation of the name "**Judah**", which originally encompassed the territory of the Israelite tribe of that name and later of the ancient Kingdom of **Judah**.

Antioch ~ 220ft

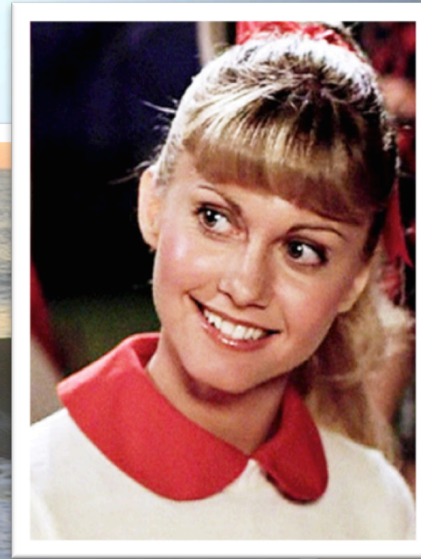
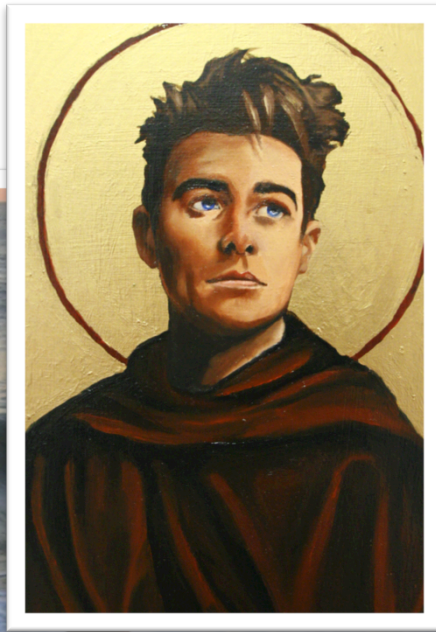
Jerusalem ~ 2500 ft.



The **Law of Moses**, also called the Mosaic **Law**, refers primarily to the Torah or first five books of the Hebrew Bible, traditionally believed to have been written by **Moses**.

(613 commandments)











# intertextuality

- When a text makes reference to another text outside the “walls” of its own document.
- Acts 15 quotes Amos 9, most likely from the Septuagint (LXX), a Greek translation of the OT completed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE

Amos 9:11-12	Acts 15:16-17
<i>In that day</i>	<i>After this</i>
	<i>I will return</i>
<i>I will raise up</i>	<i>and I will rebuild</i>
<i>the tent of David</i>	<i>the tent of David</i>
<i>that is fallen</i>	<i>that has fallen</i>
<i>and repair its breaches</i>	
<i>and raise up its ruins</i>	<i>I will rebuild its ruins</i>
<i>and rebuild it</i>	<i>and I will restore it</i>
<i>as in the days of old</i>	
<i>That they may possess the remnant of Edom</i>	<i>That the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord</i>
<i>and all the nations who are called by my name</i>	<i>and all the Gentiles who are called by my name</i>
<i>declares the Lord</i>	<i>says the Lord</i>
<i>who does this</i>	<i>who makes these things</i>
	<i>known from of old</i>

Source: <http://johnmarkhicks.com/2013/05/10/james-interprets-amos-911-12-acts-1513-18/>

**From the apostles and leaders, your friends, to our friends in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia:**

**Hello!**

**We heard that some men from our church went to you and said things that confused and upset you. Mind you, they had no authority from us; we didn't send them. We have agreed unanimously to pick representatives and send them to you with our good friends Barnabas and Paul. We picked men we knew you could trust, Judas and Silas—they've looked death in the face time and again for the sake of our Master Jesus Christ. We've sent them to confirm in a face-to-face meeting with you what we've written. It seemed to the Holy Spirit and to us that you should not be saddled with any crushing burden, but be responsible only for these bare necessities: Be careful not to get involved in activities connected with idols; avoid serving food offensive to Jewish Christians (blood, for instance); and guard the morality of sex and marriage. These guidelines are sufficient to keep relations congenial between us. And God be with you!**

# video clip 2: my big fat greek wedding



YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BFnMUJFfYk>





# Why in the world would Paul circumcise Timothy just months after he fought against this requirement at the Jerusalem Council?

- Qualification for being a child of God? *NO*.
- Qualification for [this] ministry? *YES*.





memory verse

*Acts 16:31*

“Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved - you and your household.”

# household conversion



**“people movement”**

- the conversion of all members of a social unit (a household)
- Not a mass conversion against a person's will or without personal faith
- More prevalent in communities where Christianity is not the major religion thus conversion = social dislocation.

applying the lesson to your life

**Notice what it *feels like* when the Spirit of God is nudging, leading, trying to speak to YOU.**



# prayer

“As she listened with intensity to what was being said, the Master gave her a trusting heart—and she believed!” (Acts 16:14)