

Acts Background Review For Philipians

Acts 16:9 - Macedonia call

- Paul sees vision of man saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.”
- An interruption to Paul’s schedule turns into a disaster. . .or is it?

Acts 16:13 - Outside the gate by the river

- A place of prayer
 - Paul’s usual routine was to head to the synagogue when he came to a city. Since this is not mentioned we can possibly assume that there was no synagogue in the city.



Gangitis River¹

Acts 16:14 - Meets Lydia (wealthy business woman)

- A dealer in purple cloth
 - Legend says that Herakles discovered the color when his dog came back with a purple mouth from eating snails.²
 - Earliest discovery around 1900 B.C. in Crete³
 - Purple originated in Tyre and mentioned in texts dating back to 1600 B.C.⁴
 - Phoenicia (land of purple) was the dye making center of the industry⁵
 - Around 12,000 mollusk needed to make 1.5 grams of dye⁶
 - 1 gram = 1 Nestles Smartie/M&M⁷
- Listens eagerly
- She and household baptized
- Opens home to Paul



Mollusk⁸

¹ Todd Bolen, Greece, Philippi, BiblePlaces.com, <http://www.bibleplaces.com/philippi.html> August 23, 2006 (Greece CD Purchase for SBS Montana)

² Dr. Richard M. Podhajny, Ph.D. Contributing Editor, PFFC, History, Shellfish, Royalty, and the Color Purple, http://pffc-online.com/mag/paper_history_shellfish_royalty/ August 23, 2006

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Wikipedia: Gram, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gram> October 25, 2006

⁸ Wikipedia: Tyrian purple, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tyrian_purple August 23, 2006

Acts 16:16 - Meets slave girl (not named)

- Spirit of Divination
- Owners wealthy from her fortune-telling
- Cried out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.”
- Annoyed Paul
- Paul ordered Spirit out from her
- Owners upset
- Dragged Paul and Silas to the magistrates

Acts 16:22 - Meeting with Magistrates

- Beaten and thrown in jail

Acts 16:25 - Meets jailer

- Singing praise - prisoners listening
- Earthquake
- Doors opened
- Everyone’s chains unfastened
- Jailer ready to kill himself
- Paul assures him they are all there
- Washes their wounds
- Jailer and household is saved and baptized
- Police come to release them
- Discover they were Roman citizens

Acts 16:38 - Meeting with Magistrates

- Apologize
- Asked, not ordered, to leave city
- Return to Lydia’s
- Departs Philippi



Traditional place of Paul’s Prison⁹

⁹ Todd Bolen, Greece, Philippi, BiblePlaces.com, <http://www.bibleplaces.com/philippi.html> August 23, 2006
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