

BIBLE WOMEN - LYDIA - SELLER OF PURPLE

ACTS 16:11-15

Little said about Lydia in Scripture, only two mentions in Acts 16, but she was the first recorded soul saved in Europe.

I. LYDIA SEEKS GOD

A. She was by the riverside

1. Not enough Jewish men to open a Synagogue
2. Women gathered to pray on the Sabbath Day

B. We know four things about her:

1. Her name: Lydia - Recorded in the Bible
 - a. Great honor (PHIL. 4:3) Greater (LUKE 10:20)
2. Her job: A seller of Purple
 - a. Archeological records of a "Dyer's Guild"
 - b. Either purple cloth or dye or purple silk
3. Her place: From Thyatira, trading in Philippi
4. Her religion: Worshipped God (good reputation)
 - a. Even "good" people need Jesus (1 COR. 6:11)
 - b. It's a common Salvation (JUDE 1:3)

II. LYDIA HEARS PAUL

A. She honored God on the Sabbath Day

1. Paul honored God on the Sabbath Day - SAME PLACE
2. "We" (vs. 13) Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke

B. Paul preached the Gospel

1. And Lydia HEARD it - really listened! (vs. 14)
2. ATTENDED - "To regard; to fix the mind upon."

III. LYDIA FINDS JESUS

A. God "opened" her heart

1. This is not Calvinism - but conviction!
2. Preaching opens earnest hearts (1 COR. 14:24-25)

B. She got Saved and then (naturally) Baptized (in order)

IV. LYDIA TREATS MISSIONARIES

A. She constrained them to stay at her house (hospitable)

B. We know she was Saved - Paul believed it (vs. 15) "IF"

V. LYDIA'S LASTING LEGACY

A. Nothing else written about Lydia (but maybe?)

B. Jesus addresses a CHURCH in Thyatira REV. 2:18-28

PHIL. 4:3 - "And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life."

LUKE 10:20 - "Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven."

JUDE 1:3 - "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

1 COR. 6:11 - "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."

1 COR. 14:24-25 - "But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: (25) And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth."