

“Encouraging, Edifying, & Strengthening The Church in Tyre!”

Acts 21:1-7

Now it came to pass, that when **We** (The Eight: **Paul** ¹, **Sopater** ² of **Berea**, **Aristarchus**, ³ & **Secundus** of the **Thessalonians**, ⁴ **Gaius** of **Derbe**, ⁵ **Timothy**, ⁶ **Tychicus** ⁷ & **Trophimus** of **Asia**. ⁸) had departed from **Them** (**Ephesian Church Leaders & Elders**) and set sail (from **Miletus**). Running a straight course we came to **Cos**, the following day to **Rhodes**, and from there to **Patara**. And finding a ship sailing over to **Phoenicia**, we went aboard and set sail. When we had sighted **Cyprus**, we passed it on the left, sailed to **Syria**, and landed at **Tyre**; for there the ship was to unload her cargo. And finding **Disciples**, **We** (The Eight) stayed **There** (Tyre) Seven Days. **They** (Disciples at Tyre) told **Paul** through the **Spirit** not to go up to **Jerusalem**. When **We** had come to the end of those days, **We** (The Eight) departed and went on our way; and **They** (All the Disciples at Tyre) accompanied Us, with **Their Wives** and **Children**, till **We** were out of the **City** (of Tyre). And **We** (All Together) knelt down on the shore and prayed. When **We** (All Together) had taken our leave of one another, **We** (The Eight) boarded the ship, & **They** (Disciples at Tyre) returned home. And when **We** (The Eight) had finished our voyage from **Tyre**, **We** came to **Ptolemais**, greeted the **Brethren** (of Ptolemais), and stayed with **Them** one day. Acts 21:1-7 (NKJV)

Q

“What Was The Original Purpose For Which Paul & His Companions Had Been Revisiting & Traveling All Over Greece, Macedonia, Asia Minor, & Now Back To Israel?”

A

Purposed 5th Journey To Jerusalem

1st Journey (37 A.D.) **Acts 9:20-25**, **2nd Journey** (47 A.D.) **Acts 11:29-30**,

3rd Journey (49 A.D.) **Acts 15:1-29**, **4th Journey** (53 A.D.) **Acts 18:18-22**,

5th Journey (**Purposed** Spring 56 A.D. - **Postponed** Spring 57 A.D.), **Acts 21:15 – 23:25**

Q

“Why The Almost One Year Postponement In Arriving In Jerusalem For Paul’s 5th Journey To The City?”

A

5th Journey (**Purposed** Spring 56 A.D. - **Postponed** Spring 57 A.D.), **Acts 21:15 – 23:25**

Return Journeying & Its Many Stops Along The Way, Bad Weather For Sailing, Etc. Delayed Paul.

Q

“Where Are We On This Journey Back To Jerusalem To Finish Paul’s 3rd Missionary Journey?”

A

Tyre & Sidon On The Northern Coast Of Israel

Choice To Be Made?

By Land: 1200 Miles **Or By Sea** 500 Miles

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Acts 21:1-3

Decision Made To Go By Sea

- 1) Smaller Ship’s Journey Along The Coast From Miletus – Cos – Rhodes – Patara**
- 2) Larger Commercial Ship’s Journey On The Open Ocean From Patara – Tyre**



Q

“What Did Paul & His Companions Find In The City Of Tyre?”

A

Disciples in The Faith – Most Likely A **House Church**,
 Started During the Dispersion of the Church After The Martyrdom of Stephen.

Possibly Started By **Peter Or Philip The Evangelist**,

One of the Original # 7 **Deacons** of the **Church in Jerusalem**

Past Story – Spring 32 A.D.

Now Those Who Were Scattered after the Persecution that Arose Over Stephen traveled as far as **Phoenicia (Tyre & Sidon)**, **Cyprus**, and **Antioch** (On The Orontes), **Preaching the Word** to no one but the **Jews** only ...

Past Story – Fall 46 A.D.

... But some of them were men from **Cyprus** and **Cyrene**, who, when they had come to **Antioch**, spoke to the **Hellenists**, Preaching the Lord Jesus. And the **Hand of the Lord** was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the **Lord**. Then news of these things came to the ears of the **Church in Jerusalem**, and **They (Elders & Church Leaders)** sent out **Barnabas** to go as far as **Antioch**.
 Acts 11:19-22

Future Story – Late Winter / Early Spring 57 A.D.

On the next day **We Who** were **Paul's Companions** (The Eight: **Paul** ¹, **Sopater** ² of **Berea**, **Aristarchus**, ³ & **Secundus** of the **Thessalonians**, ⁴ **Gaius** of **Derbe**, ⁵ **Timothy**, ⁶ **Tychicus** ⁷ & **Trophimus** of **Asia**. ⁸) departed and came to **Caesarea**, and entered the **House of Philip the Evangelist**, Who was **One of the Seven (First Deacons)** of the **Church in Jerusalem** and stayed with **Him**. Now this **Man** had **Four Virgin Daughters Who Prophesied**. And **We** stayed many days.

Acts 21:8-10a

Q

“What Does Paul Do Later In His Ministry Upon Entering Any New Place?”

A

He Searches For The Local Church & Congregation!

And finding **Disciples**, **We (The Eight)** stayed **There (Tyre)** Seven Days.

Acts 21:4a

CQ?

“What Is Paul’s Plan For Visiting Existing Churches During His Missionary Journeys?”

CA1

These **Follow-Up Visits** Are To Confirm The Believers Faith Utilizing Paul’s **5-Part Formula**

1) Edification, 2) Exhortation, 3) Strengthen, 4) Preach, & 5) Teach

CA2

These **Follow-Up Visits** Includes: Public Preaching, Teaching, Testimonies, & Miracles, Which In Turn Provide New Decisions & Believers To Add To The Local Church Community

CA3

These **Follow-Up Visits** Always Include: Paul’s **Follow Up 4-Part Plan**

1) Report / Testify, 2) Encourage / Decision 3) Commission / Ordain, & 4) Equip / Mentor

1) Report / Testify

Report the Advancement of the Kingdom in the Other Churches: The Number of New Believers, The Number & Names of New Church Elders & Leaders, Testify to the Miracles: Signs & Wonders God Has Performed, & The Faith of Those Who Have Faced Tribulation, Imprisonment, Beatings, & Martyrdom for the Name of Jesus Christ Our Lord. This in Turn Edifies & Strengthens the Local Church.

2) Encourage / Decision

Encourage the Hearts & Minds of Believers By Demonstrating that God Is Faithful to the Other Churches & Listening to the Stories of the Local Church. Seeking New Decisions of Faith By Both Justification & Sanctification of the Local Believers & Neighbors. This Edifies & Strengthens the Local Church. It Also Exhorts the Church to Go Onto Higher Ground Growing in the Faith & in Holiness of Heart, Mind, & Life. This Also Brings New Preaching, Teaching, Testimonies, & Miracles In Public Services.

3) Commission / Ordain

This Divine Laying On Of Hands & Invoking the Coming of the Holy Spirit Brings New Strength & Edification Through the Commission & Ordination of New Church Elders: Priests, Pastors, Deacons, Missionaries, & Teachers. This in Turns Increases Exhortation, Preaching, & Teaching in the Local Church.

4) Equip / Mentor

Equipping & Mentoring New Believers & Existing Christians Together in the Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit, Bible Study, etc. Provides New: Edification, Exhortation, Strength, Preaching, Teaching, Leadership, & Service in the Local Church & Community. This In Turn Increases the Local Evangelism Efforts & Outreach of the Local Church into the Community.

Q

“What Is Different About Each of These Church Visits On Paul’s Return To Jerusalem?”

A

Others Prophecy A Warning To Paul Not To Return To Jerusalem!

They (Disciples at Tyre) told **Paul** through the **Spirit** not to go up to **Jerusalem**.

Acts 21:4b

Review of Warnings Concerning Paul’s Journey To Jerusalem

When these things were accomplished, **Paul Purposed in the Spirit**, when **He** had passed rough **Macedonia** and **Achaia**, to go to **Jerusalem**, saying, *“After I have been **There**, I must also see **Rome!**”*

Acts 19:21

“And see, now I go Bound in the Spirit to Jerusalem, ⁶ not knowing the things that will happen to Me there, except that the Holy Spirit Testifies (Prophecies) in every City, saying that Chains and Tribulations await Me. But none of these things move Me; nor do I count My Life dear to Myself, so that I may Finish My Race with Joy, and the Ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to Testify to the Gospel of the Grace of God. And indeed, now I know that You All, among Whom I have gone Preaching the Kingdom of God, will see My Face no more!

Acts 20:22-25

Notice The Similarity

To Jesus' Resolve When He Also Knew What Is Destiny In God's Will & Timing Was To Be
Now it came to pass, when the Time had come for Him to be Received Up, that He Steadfastly Set His Face to go to Jerusalem, and Sent Messengers before His Face. And as They went, They entered a Village of the Samaritans, to Prepare for Him. But They Did Not Receive Him, because His Face was Set for the Journey to Jerusalem.

Luke 9:51-53

Paul Sets His Face Toward Jerusalem & Departs

When We had come to the end of those days, We (The Eight) departed and went on our way; and They (All the Disciples at Tyre) accompanied Us, with Their Wives and Children, till We were out of the City (of Tyre). And We (All Together) knelt down on the shore and prayed. When We (All Together) had taken our leave of one another, We (The Eight) boarded the ship, and They (Disciples at Tyre) returned home.

Acts 21:5-6

Paul Continues His Steadfast Journey

And when We (The Eight) had finished our voyage from Tyre, We came to Ptolemais, greeted the Brethren (of Ptolemais), and stayed with Them one day.

Acts 21:7

Personal Question

PQ?

*“Have You Set Your Face Surrendered
To The Call & Will Of God For Your Life,
No Matter What He Asks Of You,
Now, Tomorrow, & Until The End,
He Has Written For You In His Book Of Life?”*

*“Let Us His True Disciples, Once & For All Time
Set Our Faces & Wills Fully Surrendered
To His Good & Perfect Call & Will On Each Of Our Lives,
And On The Call & Will For Us All Together, His Holy Church!
Let Us His True Disciples,
Resolve To Use The Remaining Days Of Our Earthly Lives,
In The Service Of One Another In Perfect Love & Unity!
Let Us His True Disciples,
Resolve To Be About His Mission For Us: To Love & Serve Those
Who Are Still Not In Communion With HIM!”*