

Saul, Saul and Acts

Exploring who, where and when in ACTS

Saul, Saul and Acts

- Where did Saul go?
- Whom did he meet?
- How long was he there?
- What did he say or preach?

Saul, Saul and Acts

Explore some (not all) of his journeys

My Viewpoint

1. Gospel of Grace was preached. (How? And Where?)
2. There were disputes all along the way (a hint ?)
3. Everything is up for discussion as we explore

Saul, Saul and Acts

Journeys:

- Damascus
- Jerusalem (at least 5 times)
- Tarsus
- Antioch
- Galatia
- Macedonia (Philippi, Thessalonika, Berea)
- Achaia (Athens, Corinth)
- Rome

A Map of Mediterranean



A Map of Mediterranean



A Map of Mediterranean



A Map of Mediterranean



MAP G Second Apostolic Journey: Acts 15:36-18:22



Damascus (Acts 9:1-25)

- Where did Saul go?
 - To Damascus with some fellow persecutors and stayed at Judas's house

- Whom did he meet?
 - Jesus (Acts 9:4-6)
 - Ananias , a certain disciple of the Lord Jesus (v.17) at Damascus
 - (refers to "saints" and "all that call on thy name")
 - The disciples at Damascus (v.19)

- How long was he there?
 - "certain days with ..." v. 19
 - After that ... many days were fulfilled ... (v. 23) - was this after Arabia? Gal 1:17
 - 3 years since conversion: Gal 1:18, 2 Cor 11:32-33
 - "Jews took counsel to kill him" v.23

- **What did he say or preach?**

Damascus (Acts 9:1-25)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

➤ v. 20: “And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.”

➤ v.22: “... confounded the Jews ..., proving that this is very Christ.”

➤ **Questions:**

➤ Was “Saul increased the more in strength” by his travel to Arabia (Gal 1:17)?

➤ Do you think that there must have been more than “very Christ” in his message in the synagogues (more than one) for the Jews to get violent?

➤ There seem to be 2 groups in view in verses 23-25: Jews and disciples. What was their relationship with each other? Co-existence or uneasy?

➤ WE will see more content as we progress into ACTS

Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-31)

- Where did Saul go?
 - To Jerusalem

- Whom did he meet?
 - **Not** the disciples afraid of the disciple, Saul (v 26)
 - Barnabas , a Levite from Cyprus (Acts 4:36-37) v 27
 - Brought to the apostles (v 27) and was with the apostles coming in and going out (v 28)
 - Grecians, whom he must have offended (Why? By what he did and what he said?)

- How long was he there?
 - Was he there 15 days and just stayed with Peter and James the Lord's brother (Gal 1:18-19)?
 - Or was this some other time?
 - He then went to Caesarea (the coasts) Acts 26:20
 - and back to Tarsus (Acts 9:30) and there was peace v. 31 in all the churches in Judea, Samaria and Galilee and they (kingdom believers) grew and multiplied

- **What did he say or preach?**

Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-31)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- Barnabas related Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus v.27
- Saul "spoke boldly in the name of Jesus"
- Acts 22:17-21 ... Saul thought his testimony would sway the listeners
- Acts 26:20-21

➤ Questions:

- Was his conversion not genuine? Three years later his persecutors would be "angry" at Saul
- He proved Jesus was the Messiah by revelation, experience and scripture?
- Why did the subject of Gentiles – the mere mention of Gentiles – inspire killing Saul?

Tarsus (Acts 9:30,11:25)

- Where did Saul go?
 - To Tarsus via Caesarea

- Whom did he meet?
 - It does not say: presumably disciples like Philip and the church at Caesarea
 - It does not say: presumably his family and kin in Tarsus
 - Barnabas just went to Tarsus to bring back Saul to Antioch

- How long was he there?
 - It does not say
 - 3-4 years? Till 41 BC? Till the end of the reign of evil Caligula?
 - Till 7 years since the stoning of Stephen?
 - It does not say
 - Till Antioch in Syria became a thriving centre of faith (outside of the land of Israel) – ACTS 11:22

- **What did he say or preach? It does not say.**

Antioch (Acts 11:26-30)

- Where did Saul go?
 - To Antioch in Syria
- Whom did he meet? v. 26, 27
 - Barnabas
 - The church
 - Much people
 - Disciples
 - Christians
 - Prophets from Jerusalem
- **How long was he there?**
 - A whole year
- **What did he say or preach?**

Antioch (Acts 11:26-30)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- No details
- They assembled and taught for a whole year
(We know Saul had been called to the Gentiles)
- Disciples had to help the poor saints in Judea v. 29
- Elders were running Jerusalem (not the apostles) v. 30

➤ Questions:

- Were they readying to get a message to the Gentiles?
- Did they know that God would not provide to the saints anymore as expected before the change in dispensation: after persecution arising from the stoning of Stephen?
- Barnabas and Saul were a team – Barnabas was the rep from Jerusalem church
- John-Mark joined the team from Jerusalem

Salamis to Paphos, Cyprus (Acts 13:1-13)

➤ Where did Saul go?

- Saul **who is also called Paul** travelled with Barnabas (they were both a prophet and a teacher) and John-Mark (their minister) to CYPRUS
- The whole of the island: from Salamis to Paphos (West to East)



Salamis to Paphos, Cyprus (Acts 13:1-13)

- Where did Saul go?
 - Saul who is also called Paul travelled with Barnabas (they were both a prophet and a teacher) and John-Mark (their minister) to CYPRUS
 - The whole of the island: from Salamis to Paphos (West to East)

- Whom did he meet?
 - Those in the synagogues of the Jews
 - Bar-Jesus, a certain sorcerer, a Jew, a false prophet
 - Sergius Paulus, a prudent man, a Gentile

- How long was he there?
 - Does not say

- **What did he say or preach?**

Salamis & Paphos, Cyprus (Acts 13:1-13)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- Separated for the work of the Holy Ghost v.2
 - Preached the “word of God” in the synagogues of the Jews v.3
 - Word of God v.7 equated to “the faith” in v. 8
 - The right ways of the Lord v. 10
 - The doctrine of the Lord v. 12
 - No specifics yet except the 1st event reported is:
 - “Blindness on the Jew for a season” v.11
 - Salvation of a Gentile v.12
 - John, their minister (v.5), abandoned the mission and departed for Jerusalem v.13
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- Why did John Mark depart?
 - Saul is also called Paul – he is both disciple and apostle to Gentiles – by the Holy Ghost v.9
 - Saul is saved under the kingdom gospel Acts 22:16
 - Paul is the first member of the Body of Christ 1 Tim 1:16
 - Did they teach what was implied (“hereafter”) by 1 Tim 1:16 at Antioch for the year? Acts 11:26

Antioch , Pisidia (Acts 13:14-52)

- Where did Paul go?
 - Paul travelled with Barnabas
 - Antioch is deep in GALATIAN Province
- Whom did he meet?
 - Those in the synagogue, including the rulers (v.15):
 - Men of Israel v.16
 - Ye that fear God v.16
 - Outside of synagogue
 - The Gentiles v. 42, 48
 - Many of the Jews and religious proselytes v.43
 - The whole city v.44
 - But ... the Jews v.45, 50
 - Those “ordained to eternal life” v. 48
 - Devout and honourable women v. 50
 - Chief men of the city v. 50
- How long was he there?
 - 2 sabbaths maybe v. 44
- **What did he say or preach?**

Antioch , Pisidia (Acts 13:14-52)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

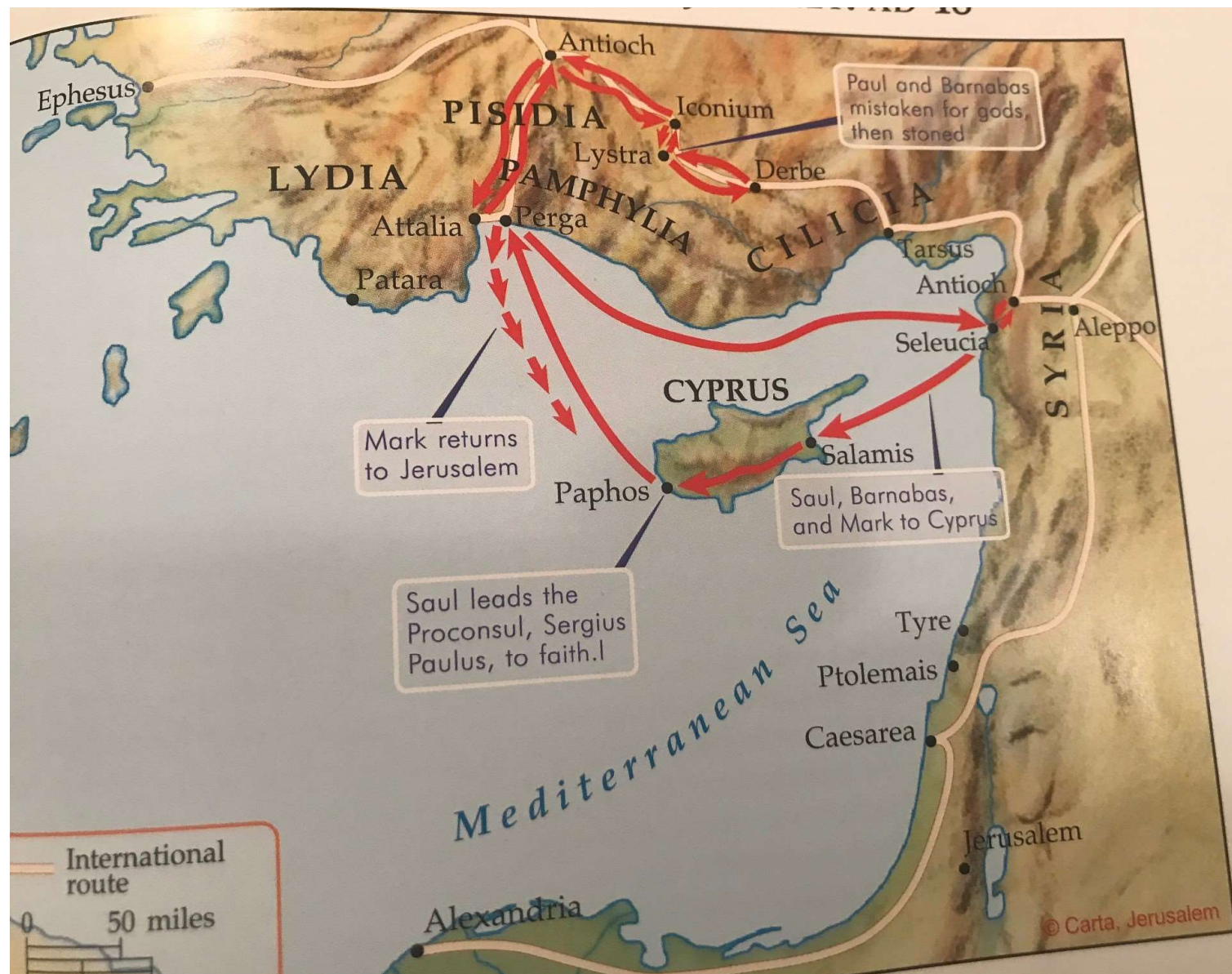
- In the synagogue, he addressed Jew and Gentile: v. 16
- Recounted the acts of God to Israel and Old Testament promises vss. 17-22 (Moses, David)
- Reminded them of John the Baptist's specific ministry vss 24-25
- Identified Jesus as Israel's promised Saviour, as did John, v 23
- He then preached the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus to Jew and God-fearers : v 26-31
- Sounds a little like Peter in Acts 2:39 in vss 32-38
- Justification by faith alone in verse 39: sounds like Rom 3:20, Gal 3:24, Peter in Acts 15:10,11
- Continue in the Grace of God v 43 – said to Jews
- Separated from "Jews in the synagogue" as they rejected Paul and Barnabas' teaching v.48
- Therefore, followers of the grace of God had to meet separately from the Jews

Antioch , Pisidia (Acts 13:14-52)

- Paul took the “truth” from the beginning – Moses through David and John to Jesus
- Paul included the Gentiles (Men of Israel and Ye that fear God v.16)
- The Word of the Lord spread throughout the region (i.e., Galatia) ... “not done in in a corner” (Acts 26:26)
- Definite mix of believing Jews and Gentiles in Galatia
- QUESTION:
- What does “as many as were ordained to eternal life believed” signify?

MAP E
First Apostolic Journey
(Acts 13:1-14:28)

- Sea journey Antioch's port of Seleucia to eastern port on isle of Cyprus (Salamis)
- Go east to West and 1st Gentile convert documented as a Jew is blinded
- Sail to Paphos :Mark returns to Jerusalem: Why?
- Paphos to Asia Minor, up to Antioch (of Pisidia) and down to Derbe (going towards Tarsus) and back



Iconium(Acts 14:1-5)

- Where did Paul go?
 - Paul travelled with Barnabas to Iconium in GALATIA

- Whom did he meet?
 - In the synagogue v.1
 - Jews and Greeks who believed v.1
 - Unbelieving Jews and Gentiles (whose minds were “evil affected against the brethren”) v.2
 - Multitude of the city

- How long was he there?
 - Long time v. 3
 - Time enough to speak, give testimony and do miracles
 - Time enough to cause an assault and for opposition to plot to stone them v.5

- **What did he say or preach?**
 - Spoke ‘Boldly in the Lord”
 - Gave testimony ... “the word of his grace”
 - Granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands”

Lystra-Derbe-Lystra-Iconium-Antioch (Acts 14:6-23)

- Where did Paul go?
 - Paul travelled with Barnabas throughout Galatia
 - From Iconium to Lystra, then to Derbe and then turned around and returned to Antioch in Syria
 - From Derbe to Lystra, Iconium, Antioch in Pisidia ... to Antioch, Syria)
- Whom did he meet?
 - LYSTRA:
 - A certain man: a cripple who never walked (whom Paul healed)
 - “the people” listening to Paul and Barnabas
 - the priest of Jupiter
 - Certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium who stoned Paul (2 Cor 11:25 and lived to tell)
 - DERBE:
 - The city v.21
 - LYSTRA-Iconium-Antioch in Pisidia
 - The disciples
- **How long was he there?**
 - Does not say – a few days/weeks?: long enough to be worshipped as gods, to get stoned, to travel and to teach many v.21

Lystra-Derbe-Lystra-Iconium-Antioch (Acts 14:6-25)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- They preached the gospel (v.7 Lystra, v21 Derbe)
- Turn from these vanities (Greek gods) and unto the living God who created all things and good v.15-17
- Paul not fearful to return (2 Cor 12:1-arising from the dead helps) v.21-22
 - Confirmed the souls of the disciples – salvation by grace through faith
 - Continue in the faith
 - Through much tribulation, enter into the Kingdom of God
- Ordained elders in every church (more than one) v23
- Preached the word in PERGA v25

➤ **QUESTION:** Was there a mix of kingdom believers and grace believers, subtly in view in v21-22?

➤ **OF NOTE:**

1. Timothy comes from this region on Paul's 2nd journey
2. After 2nd visit, Acts 16:6, the Galatians were "so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ" (Gal 1:6)

Conclusion of 1st Apostolic Journey (Acts 14:26-28)

- Holy Ghost called Saul & Barnabas to **the work** (Acts 13:2)
- Holy Ghost sent them forth (Acts 13:4)
- They were recommended to the grace of God for the work (Acts 14:26)
- Saul was filled by the Holy Ghost in Cyprus (Acts 13:9) to cause blindness on a Jew
- After persecution in Antioch, Pisidia (Acts 13:52), they were filled with joy and the Holy Ghost
- They established churches in Galatia, believers in Cyprus
- They fulfilled the work! (Acts 14:26)

- What was the work? God “had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles” (Acts 14:27)
Through Israel’s program?
NO.
Through Paul’s Gospel of Grace

Antioch, Cilicia, Lystra-Derbe (Acts 15:40-16:5)

Acts 15:40-41

40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

Acts 16:1-5

1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father [was] a Greek: 2 Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium. 3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.

4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem

5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

Antioch, Cilicia, Lystra-Derbe (Acts 15:40-16:5)

➤ Where did Paul go?

- Paul travelled with **Silas** through Syria, Cilicia to Galatia (Acts 15:22-35)
- Syria (?)
- Cilicia: Land route through Tarsus
- Visited the churches where they ordained elders (Acts 14:23)
- Through the cities (16:4)



Antioch, Cilicia, Lystra-Derbe (Acts 15:40-16:5)

➤ Where did Paul go?

➤ Paul travelled with **Silas** through Syria, Cilicia to Galatia (Acts 15:22-35)

Acts 15:22-35

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; [namely], Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren: 23 And they wrote [letters] by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren [send] greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: 24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, [Ye must] be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no [such] commandment: 25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell [you] the same things by mouth. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well. 30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: 31 [Which] when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation. 32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed [them]. 33 And after they had tarried [there] a space, they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles. 34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still. 35 Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

Antioch, Cilicia, Lystra-Derbe (Acts 15:40-16:5)

- Where did Paul go?
 - Paul travelled with **Silas** through Syria, Cilicia to Galatia (Acts 15:22-35)
 - Syria (Damascus?)
 - Cilicia: Land route through Tarsus
 - Visited the churches where they ordained elders (Acts 14:23)
 - Through the cities (16:4)
- Whom did he meet?
 - SYRIA/CILICIA: the churches (15:41)
 - DERBE-LYSTRA
 - Timotheus (16:1)
 - Eunice the Jewess (2 Tim 1:5) (Lois- grandmother and his Greek father: does not say)
 - Jews in those quarters (v3)
 - Brethren in Lystra and Iconium (v 2)
- How long was he there?
 - Does not say
 - Enough to note that daily the number of believers were increasing (v5)

Antioch, Cilicia, Lystra-Derbe (Acts 15:40-16:5)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- Confirmed the churches in Syria and Cilicia (1st time) – 15:41
- Circumcised Timotheus to go forth with Paul (16:3)
- Delivered them the decrees for them to keep (16:4)
- Established the churches in the faith (16:5) – Rom 1:1-13, 16:25

➤ **OF NOTE:**

1. The conflict between Law and Grace was not “over and done with” with the decrees sent out by the apostles and elders.
2. Decrees were for “brethren who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia” (Acts 15:23)
Who specifically?

Forbidden and Bidden: Troas, Luke and Macedonia (Acts 16:6-16:11)

Act 16:6-11

6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them. 11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next [day] to Neapolis;

Forbidden and Bidden: Troas, Luke and Macedonia (Acts 16:6-16:11)

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MAP G Second Apostolic Journey: Acts 15:36-18:22



Forbidden and Bidden: Troas, Luke and Macedonia (Acts 16:6-16:11)

➤ **Where did Paul go?**

- Paul travelled with Silas **and Timotheus** through Phrygia, the region of Galatia
- FORBIDDEN (Vs: 6-7): Asia and Bithynia
- Mysia and Troas (v 8)
- BIDDEN: Macedonia (v 9)
- Samothracia and Neapolis (v11)

➤ **Whom did he meet?**

- **Luke** in Troas (v10) who became a travelling companion

➤ **How long was he there?**

- Does not say
- Time to travel the distance (“passing by Mysias”)
- While in Troas, most likely wrote the letter to the Galatians (“so soon”)
- Immediately after the vision: Loosed from Troas to sail to Macedonia

Forbidden and Bidden: Troas, Luke and Macedonia (Acts 16:6-16:11)

➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- Forbidden to preach the word in Asia
- Assuredly intending to preach the gospel unto them in Macedonia

➤ **OF NOTE:**

1. After 2nd visit, Acts 16:6, the Galatians were “so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ” (Gal 1:1-10)
2. Why Asia and Bithynia verboten? 1 Peter 1:1
3. The conflict between Law and Grace was not “over and done with” with the decrees sent out by the apostles and elders.
4. Onto Philippi (verses 12+)