

Sermon Title: "ON TO EUROPE"

Date: October 1, 2023 - Acts 16:11-40

Central Idea: Be ready to explain the gospel to anyone, anytime, anywhere. Are you ready?

Introduction: Many Bible scholars consider one of the greatest events in history was when Paul responded to the famous vision of "a man of Macedonia" imploring him to bring help to Europe. We find Paul at Troas, first gazing and then going across the Aegean Sea to Europe. For four thousand years Asia had been the cradle of the human race, but now it was to give place in importance to Europe which was to become the center of Christianity.

I. The Power of the Gospel at a Prayer Meeting vv. 11-15

- 1. Trip to Philippi vv. 11-12**
- 2. Rejoicing at the river vv. 13-14**
- 3. A gathering place v. 15**

II. The Power of the Gospel in Prison v. 16-28

- 1. The slave girl vv. 16-21**
- 2. The stocks vv. 22-24**
- 3. The shake-up vv. 25-28**

III. The Power of the Gospel in Faith and Freedom vv. 29-40

- 1. Redemption and regeneration vv. 29-34**
- 2. Change in attitude vv. 35-39**
- 3. Fellowship and departure v. 40**

Conclusion: As Paul and his companions began the second journey, it is clear that the Holy Spirit was very much in control. He was leading in every decision. The promise of the Holy Spirit's guidance was being fulfilled exactly, as Paul learned that the Lord wanted him to go to Macedonia. This event changed the course of history.

Paul formed his team and led them into the battle. He found good men; he recruited them to the cause; he led them as a team evangelizing the lost and building up the new believers.