

ACTS chaps 11 & 12

"ADVERSITY CAN BUILD STRENGTH"

MAP of PALESTINE

1. Dispersion of Jewish saints from Jerusalem because of persecution ^{by Jews} (because of Stephen)
2. These saints proclaimed Gospel in Phoenicia, Cyprus, Antioch etc. some only to Jews, some also to gentiles (view of Peter's vision)
3. Geography etc.
 - a. Cyprus ^{Cu (Cypriote)}
 - copper mines (Greek Kuprion)
 - rich agriculture (wine grapes, honey, fruit, flax)
 - Senatorial Province (ruled by governor appointed by the Senate)
 - 3rd largest Is in med 140 mi x 60 mi
 - Mt Olympus 6,406 ft, highest point
 - extensive forests now gone (goats) Cypriote Cypress trees
 - NICOSIA - capital
 - Rainfall ~ 15 in / yr. 50% falls betw Dec + Feb.
 - Temp. 50° ave Jan - 80° July ave
 - b. Jewish revolt 116-117 AD Jewish revolt (also in Egypt + Cyrene) massacred 240,000 persons - Hadrian (Emperor) expelled all Jews.

- b. Antioch name of many ancient cities
 - most famous on left bank of Orontes, 20 mi from sea
 - trade route { fertile plain separate Lebanon range from spurs of the Taurus
 - Tradition of asylum law morals
 - earthquakes 1st record 148 BC.
 - ~100,000 Christians by 400 AD
 - called ANTAKYA today (Turkey)

at time of ACTS Antioch in PISIDIA - Greek speaking city rapidly being romanized - had many Jews.

THEATRE, ARENA, RACETRACK

Christ race BEN HUR here

PARKS (Garden of Daphne), Temples, porticos, theatres, palaces, wrestling schools /

Events

Barnabas - from Cyprus - invited saints in "exile" branches sought Paul to help.

Paul & Barnabas preached for 1 yr at Antioch

Term CHRISTIAN first used at ANTIOCH

See B of M Alma 46:15 - term used first here

AGABUS (prophet) learned of drought coming to Jerusalem. sent Paul & Barnabas with relief (Acts 11:28)

Persecution

Herod the king persecuted Christians

James (bro. of John, killed by sword)

Peter imprisoned

Peter's Release by Angel (before Herod was to deliver Peter to council)
Acts 12:4-11

Peter at home of Mary ← Mother of John Mark (Acts 12:12-17)

Damsel Rhoda

Later Events

1. Jailkeepers put to death
2. Herod slain by angel
3. Herod eaten by worms before dying
4. Persecution did not thwart church growth but aided it
5. Peter & Barnabas returning to Antioch from Jerusalem brought John Mark with them thought to be Mark who wrote 2nd gospel

DISCUSS

ADVERSITY / PERSECUTION

Pioneers

Testimony of Adversity in life

Key scripture Acts 12:24 "BUT THE WORD OF GOD GREW & MULTIPLIED"