

**History of Church at Philippi**  
**Acts 15 & 16**  
**February 20, 2008**

In order to have a better understanding of the Letter to the Philippians, we must know some things about the author, the recipients & the culture of the time. Acts 15 and 16 describe some of the history and the events surrounding the first conversions in Philippi (which were actually the first conversions in Europe).

**READ ACTS 15:1-35** (the year is approximately AD 49)

1. Who are the characters in chapter 15? (List individuals who are named & also the collective groups – such as the Antioch church, legalists from Judea, etc.)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What caused the “sharp disagreement” referred to in :2?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What was the first step taken in solving the problem?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Who appears to be responsible for the decision? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ of the Jerusalem church.  
Who influenced their decision? (15:28) \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Who “represented” the Gentiles in the meeting?  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_

Summarize the facts they presented:

6. \_\_\_\_\_ spoke for the Jerusalem leaders & issued his judgement:  
“....therefore we should not make it \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ who are turning to God. (:19)

7. The “apostles and elders with the whole church” sent a team consisting of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_ to Antioch with their report.

The decisions of the Jerusalem Council were important as the gospel spread across the Roman Empire & as Gentiles (including the people in Philippi) were converted to Christ.

**READ 15:36 – 16:5**

8. What does Paul suggest to Barnabas?

9. What is the disagreement between Paul and Barnabas?

10. What was the history behind this disagreement?

11. The debate continued and Luke (author of Acts) referred to it as a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (:39)

12. What was their solution? (look at the attached map & also at 15:39-41 & 16:1-2).

The route taken by Barnabas and John Mark included areas to the \_\_\_\_\_; and Paul

and Silas’ journey took them on a more \_\_\_\_\_ route. It appears that, between the 2 teams, they visited the churches planted by Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey.

13. Paul also added \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to his missionary team and they continued on their way, sharing news of the Jerusalem Council’s decisions and encouraging the Gentile converts.