

A reading from Acts chapter 16 verses 1 through 10. You can find this reading on page 924 of your pew Bible.

Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium. Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 89.

Leader: Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said:
“I have granted help to one who is mighty;
I have exalted one chosen from the people.

**People: I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him,
so that my hand shall be established with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.**

Leader: The enemy shall not outwit him;
the wicked shall not humble him.

**People: I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.**

Leader: My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall be with him,
and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

**People: I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.**

Leader: He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.’

**People: And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.**

Leader: My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.

**People: I will establish his offspring forever
and his throne as the days of the heavens.**

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it
was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.***

**Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.**

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.