

Chapter 11

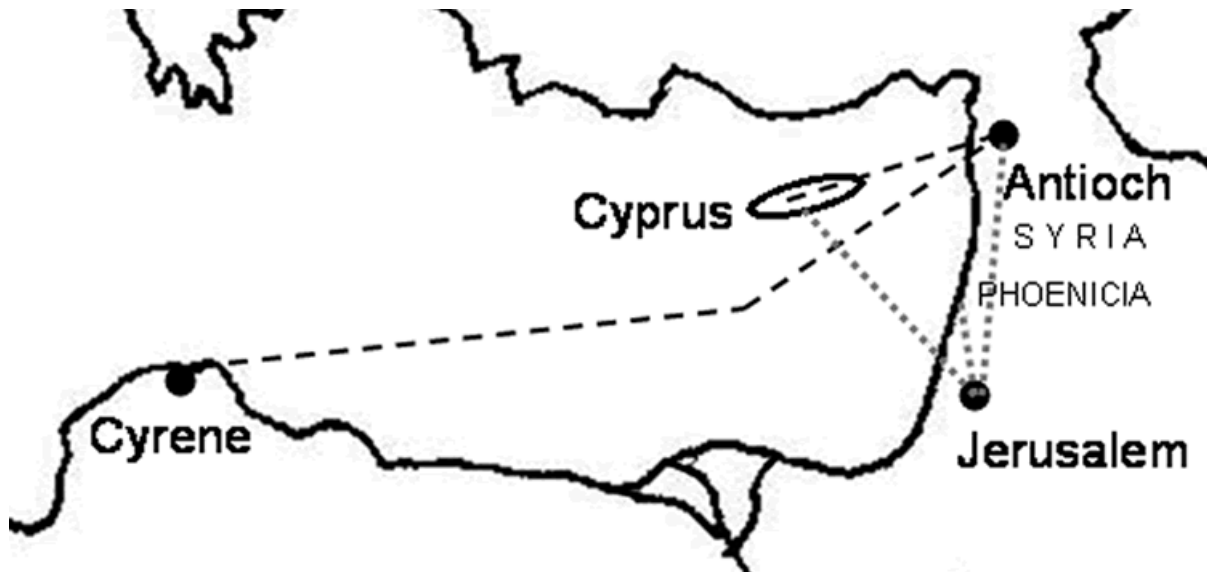
“The Gospel To The Gentiles - Part III”

Summary

- Around 40 A.D.
- A controversy erupts over Gentiles being saved
- The Gospel spreads and the church at Antioch is established

Outline

- I. The Controversy
 - A. It stirred a controversy - vs. 1-3
 - B. Peter tells the story to them - vs. 4-17
 - C. It settles the matter - vs. 18
- II. The spread of the Gospel
 - A. The gospel reaches Phoenicia, Cyprus, Cyrene, and Antioch - vs. 19-21
 - B. Barnabas is sent to check on the church at Antioch - vs. 22-24
 - C. Barnabas brings back Paul - vs. 25-26
 - D. The prophecy of the drought by Agabus - vs. 27-28
 - E. The Antioch church sends relief to the Judean Christians - vs. 29-30



Map source (again) - <http://www.generationword.com/notes/bible-information/acts-maps.html>

Notes

Misc. Notes

- vs. 2-3 - "circumcision" = Jews, "uncircumcised" = Gentiles
- vs. 16 - quotes Acts 1:5

Notes on Places

- Antioch
 - Founded in 232 B.C. by Seleucus I Nicator
 - Third largest city in Roman Empire, population around 200,000 - 500,000
 - Capital of former Seleucid Empire, capital of Roman province of Syria
 - Large Jewish population
- Phenice - Phoenecia
 - Famed traders and sailors of the ancient world
 - Their alphabet is the basis for many modern alphabets, including ours
- Cyprus
 - Mediterranean island
- Cyrene
 - Greek city and surrounding region in north Africa
 - Simon of Cyrene carried the cross - Matthew 27:32

Who are the Greeks in vs. 20???

- Theory 1 - Jews
 - "Greek" can refer to Jews - Acts 6:1
 - vs. 19 refers to preaching to Jews only, so vs. 20 must do so too
 - They were presumably unaware of Cornelius' salvation, so preached only the Jews
- Theory 2 - Gentiles
 - "Greek" can refer to Gentiles in general - Romans 1:16 and 10:12
 - vs. 20 contrasts to vs. 19 in that they were preaching to more than Jews
 - The doors were opened to all Gentiles with Cornelius' salvation
 - Why would Barnabas be sent unless something extraordinary happened? - vs. 22
 - Does the association with Paul, "the Apostle to the Gentiles", mean anything? - vs. 25-26
 - The name "Christian" given in vs. 26 could mean that they could not be classified as just Jews

Agabus' Drought

- Drought took place around 44-45 A.D. but lasted several years
- Jewish historian Josephus, in *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 20, Chapter 2, Paragraph 5:

"Now her [Helena, queen of Adiabene] coming was of very great advantage to the people of Jerusalem; for whereas a famine did oppress them at that time, and many people died for want of what was necessary to procure food withal, queen Helena sent some of her servants to Alexandria with money to buy a great quantity of corn, and others of them to Cypress, to bring a cargo of dried figs; and as soon as they were come back, and brought those provisions, which was done very quickly, she distributed food to those that were in want of it...and when her son Izates was informed of this famine, he sent great sums of money to the principal men in Jerusalem..."