

A Prosperous Woman in Need

Acts 16:13-15

Introduction:

- A. Lydia was evidently prosperous — a seller of purple (cf. Lk. 16:19; Rev. 18:12)
- B. Lydia had some basic needs that money could not buy.

Discussion:

I. Lydia Needed to *Worship* in Truth.

- A. She worshiped God (v. 14).
 - 1. Commendable for a woman 300 miles from home on business.
 - 2. But according to the Old Testament (v. 13)
 - a. System no longer valid (Col. 2:14-16; Heb. 8:13).
 - b. System makes Christ of no effect (Gal. 5:4).
- B. One must not just worship God, it must be in truth (John 4:24).
 - 1. Worship to God must come from God (Matt. 15:9).
 - 2. Worship to God must be within the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9-11).

II. Lydia Needed to *Hear* the Truth.

- A. She needed to hear “things which were spoken by Paul” (v. 14).
 - 1. Important enough for God to alter Paul’s travel plans (vv. 6-10).
 - 2. Important to the opening of Lydia’s heart (cf. Acts 26:17, 18; 2:37).
- B. Whole world needs to hear “things which were spoken by Paul.”
 - 1. To produce faith (Rom. 10:8, 17)
 - 2. To be saved (Rom. 1:16, 17; 1 Cor. 1:21; 15:1-4).

III. Lydia Needed to *Obey* the Truth.

- A. She “heard” (v. 14).
- B. She “attended unto the things...” (v. 14) — believed.
- C. She “was baptized” (v. 15).
 - 1. In baptism she was saved (Mark 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).
 - 2. In baptism she was forgiven (Acts 2:38).
 - 3. In baptism she was added to church (Acts 2:41, 47; 1 Cor. 12:13).
 - 4. In baptism she became a child of God (Gal. 3:26, 27).

Conclusion:

- A. Every accountable person needs what Lydia needed.
- B. Every unbaptized person needs to be baptized.
- C. Every baptized person needs to carry the message to others.