

THE BOOK OF ACTS

ACTS 11:19-30 | LESSON SUMMARY

The Church

ACTS 11:3, "Acts 11:20, "But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus." (ESV)

- Phoenicia, Cyprus, & Antioch: only teaching Jews
 - Phoenicia = Mediterranean Coast
 - AKA Canaan
 - Cyprus = Island off Mediterranean, settled by Jews in Maccabean times
 - Geographically where Europe, Asia, and Africa meet
 - Antioch = Southern Turkey, major trade route
 - Third most important city in Roman Empire: Rome being first, Alexandria second
- Cyprus & Cyrene: teaching Greeks also
 - Cyprus = (above)
 - Cyrene = Libya (west of Egypt)
- Barnabas
 - Once again, Barnabas called on
 - "...for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith." (Acts 11:24, ESV)



THE BOOK OF ACTS

ACTS 11:19-30 | LESSON SUMMARY

At Antioch

ACTS 11:25-26, "So Barnabus went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians."

- The church at Antioch will be a significant point of ministry for the early church
- Emperor Claudius (41-54 A.D.)
 - Though not overly harsh in his ruling, but made poor choices in who he appointed to rule Judea
 - Jews forbidden to assemble
 - 50 A.D. expels Jews from Rome: recorded by Suetonius (c. 70-130)

ACTS 11:28, "And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius)." (ESV)

- Prophets visit Antioch
 - Agabus warns of famine (44-48 A.D.)
 - Tacitus writes of this in The Annals 12.43

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: John R.L. Moxon, Peter's Halakhic Nightmare, John B. Miller, Convinced That God Had Called Us, C. Hemer, The Book of Acts in the Setting of Hellenistic History

