

Series: Power From On High.

Title: Never Give Up!

Lesson: 73

Text: Acts 14:1-10 **Date:** May 12, 2024

Acts 14:1–10 In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks. 2 But the Jews who disbelieved stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brethren. 3 Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands. 4 But the people of the city were divided; and some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles.

5 And when an attempt was made by both the Gentiles and the Jews with their rulers, to mistreat and to stone them, 6 they became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region; 7 and there they continued to preach the gospel. 8 At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. 9 This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well, 10 said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk.

Acts 14:1–10 In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks.

"spoke"

2 Corinthians 3:5–6 Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, 6 who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

"our adequacy is from God"

"Spirit"

2 **But** the Jews who disbelieved stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brethren.

"disbelieved"

Hebrews 4:6 Therefore, since it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly had good news preached to them failed to enter because of disobedience.

Hebrews 4:11 Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.

"stirred up"

Acts 13:50 But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and *instigated* a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district.

3 **Therefore** they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands.

"speaking boldly"

"long"

2 Timothy 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

"with reliance upon the Lord"

"testifying" - "signs and wonders"

Why we don't believe signs and wonders are for today.

1.	. Miracles were concentrated in three eras where
	was being introduced.
	Joshua / Moses, Prophets, Jesus / Apostles
2.	. Miracles were signs of the

Donald Grey Barnhouse

"These signs and wonders were specially given to the apostles and early Christian church workers because there was no written New Testament as yet. Not a line of the New Testament had been written at this point, and there was no solid authority to which the apostles could point and say, "See, we're preaching truth. You can check it in the Word of God!" There was no completed Word of God. So God enabled the apostles to perform wonders and signs to authenticate their ministry, but these wonders and signs would fade as God's Word came into being.

4 But the people of the city were divided; and some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles.

Matthew 10:34–35 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 "For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

"apostles"

[apostolos] - compound word from apo (from) stello (send forth)

- [apostolos] in a restricted sense

- [apostolos] in a broad sense

2 Corinthians 8:23 As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brethren, they are **messengers [apostolos]** of the churches, a glory to Christ.

Philippians 2:25 But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your **messenger** [apostolos] and minister to my need;

5 And when an attempt was made by both the Gentiles and the Jews with their rulers, to mistreat and to stone them, 6 they became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region;

"attempt" [horme]

Acts 7:57 But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and **rushed** at him with one impulse.

Luke 8:33 And the demons came out of the man and entered the swine; and the herd <u>rushed</u> down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

2 Timothy 3:10–11 Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, 11 persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at <u>Iconium</u> and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all <u>the Lord rescued me!</u>

7 and there they continued to preach the gospel.

John 15:18 "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.

8 At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked.

9 This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well,

"made well" [sozo]

10 said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk.

Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Implication

- 1. It takes God's supernatural _____ through His word to save.
- 2. Never _____ when opposition comes.
 - 2 Thessalonians 3:13 But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Discussion Guide

- 1. Give an example where you were discouraged when trying to lead someone in the truth. Why were you discouraged?
- 2. What does it mean to rely upon the Lord in ministering to others?
- 3. Since there is a lot of confusion about miracles, discuss why we believe that God does not grant us the ability to perform them today.
- 4. What have we learned about continuing or not continuing to witness when we face opposition?
- 5. How can we better prepare for persecution?

ANSWERS: new revelation, apostles, power, give up