Never Miss An Opportunity - Acts 28B

Acts 16 Summarized Paul & Silas praising the Lord in jail.

Many of Paul's epistles that we rely on were written from in jail.

Acts 28:23-31 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening. 24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not. 25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Isaiah the prophet unto our fathers, 26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: 27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it. 29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves. 30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, 31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Strongs #515 axioo ax-ee-o'-o

AV - count worthy 3, think worthy 2, think good 1, desire 1; 7

1) to think meet, fit, right 2) to judge worthy, deem, deserving

Luke 23:8,9 And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long *season*, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. 9 Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing.

Acts 28:17-21 And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. 18 Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me. 19 But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of. 20 For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.

- 21 And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.
- Acts 17 Referred to Paul's sermon to the Athenians starting with the Unknown God declared Jesus.
- Joshua 2 Summarized of Rahab telling the spies "We heard what your God did in Egypt..."
- Acts 28:22 But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.
- Luke 7:7 Wherefore neither thought I <515> myself worthy <515> to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.
- Acts 15:38 But Paul thought <515> not good <515> to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.
- Acts 28:22,23 But we desire <515> to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against. 23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.
- 2 Thessalonians 1:11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count <515> you worthy <515> of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power:
- 1 Timothy 5:17 Let <515> the elders that rule well be counted worthy <515> of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.
- Hebrews 3:3 For this *man* was counted worthy <515> of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.
- Hebrews 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy <515>, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Strongs #2212 zeteo dzay-teh'-o

- AV seek 100, seek for 5, go about 4, desire 3, misc 7; 119
- 1) to seek in order to find 1a) to seek a thing
 - 1b) to seek in order to find out by thinking, meditating, reasoning, to enquire into 1c) to seek after, seek for, aim at, strive after
- 2) to seek i.e. require, demand 2a) to crave, demand something
- John 15:24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.
- John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no

man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

- Luke 4 Referred to Our Lord using the Scriptures against the devil.
- Acts 28:24,25 And <u>some believed</u> the things which were spoken, and some believed not. 25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaiah the prophet unto our fathers,
- Acts 23:6 But when Paul perceived that the one <u>part</u> were <u>Sadducees</u>, and the other <u>Pharisees</u>, he cried out in the council, Men <u>and</u> brethren, I am a <u>Pharisee</u>, the son of a <u>Pharisee</u>: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question. 7 And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.
- Acts 28:26,27 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: 27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
- Pray for God to remove these blocks that they be converted.
- Acts 28:28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the <u>salvation of God is sent</u> unto the <u>Gentiles</u>, and that they will hear it. 29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.
- Acts 9; 13; & 19 have examples of deliverance after Jesus' assention.

Jesus Christ & Fulfillment of Prophecy - Matthew

- The Gospel of Matthew was written to prove Jesus was the Fulfillment of prophesy.
- Matthew 1:22,23 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the <u>prophet</u>, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.
- lasiah is referred to as the Gospel of Isaiah as it is so full of prophesies of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.
- Matthew 2:5,6 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the <u>prophet</u>, 6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule My people Israel.
- Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is

- to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.
- 1 Kings 13 Summarized of King Josiah prophesied to Jeroboam.
- Matthew 2:15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the <u>prophet</u>, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.
- Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.
- Matthew 2:17,18 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the <u>prophet</u>, saying, 18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.
- Jeremiah 31:15 Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.
- Matthew 2:23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the <u>prophets</u>, He shall be called a Nazarene.
- Isaiah 11:1-4 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: 2 And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; 3 And shall make Him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears: 4 But with righteousness shall He judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips shall he slay the wicked.
- John Gill Commentary that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet. This affair of going into Galilee, and settling at Nazareth, was brought about with this view, to accomplish what had been foretold by the prophets, or prophet, the plural number being used for the singular, as in #John 6:45 Acts 13:40. And indeed it is so rendered here in the Syriac, Persic, and Ethiopic versions; and designs the prophet Isaiah, and respects that prophecy of his in #Isaiah 11:1 "and there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and run, "a branch shall grow out of his roots"; a prophecy owned by the Jews {e} themselves to belong to the Messiah, and which was now fulfilled in Jesus; who as He was descended from Jesse's family, so by dwelling at Nazareth, He would appear to be, and would be "called a Nazarene, or Netzer, the branch"; being an inhabitant of Natzareth, or Netzer, so called from the multitude of plants and trees that grew there.
- Matthew 3:3 For this is He that was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah,

- saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.
- John the Baptist and Jesus both said "Repent, Repent..."
- Isaiah 40:3-5 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: 5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.
- Matthew 4:14-16 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the <u>prophet</u>, saying, 15 The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; 16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.
- Isaiah 9:1,2 Nevertheless the dimness *shall* not *be* such as *was* in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict *her by* the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. 2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.
- Matthew 8:17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the <u>prophet</u>, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.
- Isaiah 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
- Matthew 12:17,18 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the <u>prophet</u>, saying, 18 Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.
- Isaiah 42:1-4 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. 2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. 3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. 4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.
- Matthew 12:39,40 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the <u>prophet</u> Jonah: 40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.
- Jonah 1:17 Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah.

 And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

 Matthew 13:14,15 And in them is fulfilled the <u>prophecy</u> of Isaiah, which

saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Paul referred to this also in Acts 28:26-27.

- Isaiah 6:9,10 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. 10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.
- Matthew 13:35 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the <u>prophet</u>, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.
- Psalms 78:2,3 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- Matthew 15:7,8 *Ye* hypocrites, well did Isaiah <u>prophesy</u> of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.
- Isaiah 29:13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:
- Matthew 16:4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the <u>prophet</u> Jonas. And he left them, and departed.
- Jonah 1:17 Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah.

 And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.
- Matthew 21:4,5 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the <u>prophet</u>, saying, 5 Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.
- Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass. & upon a colt the foal of an ass.
- Matthew 24:15-18 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the <u>prophet</u>, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.
- Daniel 9:27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and

- in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.
- Matthew 26:56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the <u>prophets</u> might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.
- Psalms 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me.
- Lamentations 4:20 The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen.
- Isaiah 53:7,8 He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not his mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for He was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was He stricken.
- Zechariah 13:7 Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.
- Matthew 27:9,10 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the <u>prophet</u>, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value; 10 And gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me.
- Zechariah 11:12,13 And I said unto them, If ye think good, give *me* my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty *pieces* of silver. 13 And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty *pieces* of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.
- John Gill Ver. 9. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, &c. Through the purchasing of the potter's field with the thirty pieces of silver, the price that Christ was valued at, a prophecy in the writings of the Old Testament had its accomplishment: but about this there is some difficulty. The evangelist here says it was spoken by Jeremy the prophet; whereas in his prophecy there is no mention of any such thing. There is indeed an account of his buying his uncle Hanameel's son's field, in #Jer 32:7-12, but not a word of a potter, or a potter's field, or of the price of it, thirty pieces of silver; and that as a price at which he, or any other person was valued; but the passage which is manifestly referred to, stands in #Zec 11:12,13, where are these words, "and I said unto them, if ye think good, give me my price, and if not, forbear; so they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver: and the Lord said unto me, cast it unto the potter, a goodly price that I

was prized at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord": the removing of this difficulty, it might be observed, that the Syriac and Persic versions make no mention of any prophet's name, only read, "which was spoken by the prophet"; and so may as well be ascribed to Zechariah, as to Jeremiah, and better: but it must be owned, that Jeremiah is in all the Greek copies, in the Vulgate Latin, Arabic, and Ethiopic versions, and in Munster's Hebrew Gospel. Various things are said for the reconciling of this matter: some have thought that Zechariah had two names, and that besides Zechariah, he was called Jeremy; but of this there is no proof. Jerom {y} affirms, that in an Hebrew volume, being an apocryphal work of Jeremiah, which was shown him by one of the Nazarene sect, he read these words verbatim: so that though they do not stand in the writings of Jeremiah, which are canonical Scripture, yet in an apocryphal book of his, and which may as well be referred to, as the book of Maccabees, the traditions of the Jews, the prophecies of Enoch, and the writings of the Heathen poets. Moreover, Mr. Mede {z} has laboured, by various arguments, to prove, that the four last chapters of Zechariah were written by Jeremiah, in which this passage stands; and if so, the reason is clear, for the citation in his name. But what seems best to solve this difficulty, is, that the order of the books of the Old Testament is not the same now, as it was formerly: the sacred writings were divided, by the Jews, into three parts: the first was called the law, which contains the five books of Moses; the second, the prophets, which contains the former and the latter prophets; the former prophets began at Joshua, and the latter at Jeremiah; the third was called Cetubim, or the Hagiographa, the holy writings, which began with the book of Psalms: now, as this whole third and last part is called the Psalms, #Lu 24:44, because it began with that book; so all that part which contained the latter prophets, for the same reason, beginning at Jeremiah, might be called by his name; hence a passage, standing in the prophecy of Zechariah, who was one of the latter prophets, might be justly cited, under the name of Jeremiah. That such was the order of the books of the Old Testament, is evident from the following passage {a} "it is a tradition of our Rabbins, that the order of the prophets is, Joshua and Judges, Samuel and the Kings, Jeremiah and Ezekiel, Isaiah, and the twelve." Moreover, it is usual with them to say {b}, that the spirit of Jeremiah was in Zechariah; and it is very plain, that the latter prophets have many things from the former; and so might Zechariah have this originally from Jeremiah, which now stands in his prophecy: all this would be satisfactory to a Jew: and it is to be observed, that the Jew {c}, who objects to everything he could in the evangelist, with any appearance on his side, and even objects to the application of this

prophecy; yet finds no fault with him for putting Jeremiah for Zechariah. That the prophecy in Zechariah belongs to the Messiah, and was fulfilled in Jesus, manifestly appears from the context, for as well as the text itself. The person spoken of is in #Zec 11:4, called to "feed the flock of slaughter," which being in a very poor condition, #Zec 11:5,6, the state of the Jews, at the time of Christ's coming, is hereby very aptly represented: he agrees to do it, #Zec 11:7, and accordingly furnishes himself for it; but He is despised, abhorred, and rejected by the shepherds, the principal men in church and state; because He severely inveighed against their doctrines and practices, #Zec 11:8, upon which He rejects them, and dissolves both their civil and church state; which can suit with no other times than the times of Jesus, #Zec 11:9-11,14, and lest it should be thought that he used them with too much severity, He gives one single instance of their ingratitude to Him, which shows how little they esteemed him; and that is, their valuing him at no greater a price than "thirty pieces of silver," #Zec 11:12,13, which were afterwards "cast unto the potter". The Jews {d} themselves own, that this prophecy belongs to the Messiah, though they interpret it of him in another manner.

Luke 4:21 And he (Jesus) began to say unto them, <u>This day is this scripture</u> <u>fulfilled in your ears</u>.

More Service Notes:

John Gill continued: "Says R. Chanun, the Israelites will have no need of the doctrine of the king Messiah in the time to come; as it is said, #Isa 11:10, "to him shall the Gentiles seek," and not the Israelites: if so, for what does the king Messiah come? and what does he come to do? to gather the captives of Israel, and to give them the thirty precepts, as it is said, #Zec 11:12, "and I said unto them, if ye think good," &c. Rab says, these are the thirty mighty men; and Jochanan says, these are the thirty commands."

Should it be objected, that supposing the Messiah is intended, the money is said to be given into his hands, and not into the hands of him that was to betray him; "if ye think good, give me my price," #Zec 11:12: it may be replied, that the words yrkv wbh, should not be rendered, "give me my price," but "give my price"; i.e. give what you think fit to value me at, into the hands of the betrayer; and accordingly they did: "so they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver," #Zec 11:12; which is the very sum the chief priests agreed with Judas for, and which he received; see #Mt 26:15, and if it should be objected to the citation of the evangelist, that it is considerably different from the word of the prophet, it being in the latter, "I took the thirty pieces of silver"; whereas in the former, the words are quoted thus, saying, and they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did

value: it may be observed, that the word which Matthew uses may be rendered, "I took," as it is in the Syriac version; and that the thirty pieces of silver were the goodly price, at which the Messiah was valued by the children of Israel, is manifest enough; and is an instance of egregious ingratitude, that this should be the price of the "innocent one," as the Arabic Version renders the phrase, "of him that was valued"; of the "honoured one," as the Ethiopic; of the "most precious one," as the Syriac; he who in his person, and the perfections of his nature, is equal to his father, and his fellow; who has all the riches of grace and glory in him, as mediator; who is superior to angels, and fairer than the sons of men in human nature: is the chiefest among ten thousands, and more precious than rubies; and all the things that can be desired are not to be compared with him, and yet sold for a sum of money, the price of a slave, #Ex 21:32, and that by the children of Israel, to whom the Messiah was promised; who expected him, and desired his coming; and who sprung from among them, and was sent unto them, and yet they received him not, but undervalued him in this exceeding mean way. Wicked men have no value for Christ; they sell him and themselves for nought; but gracious souls cannot value him enough, nor sufficiently express their esteem of him.

Matthew 27:35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the <u>prophet</u>, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

Psalms 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Isaiah 61:1-3 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

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