

PHILIPPIANS – ACTS 16

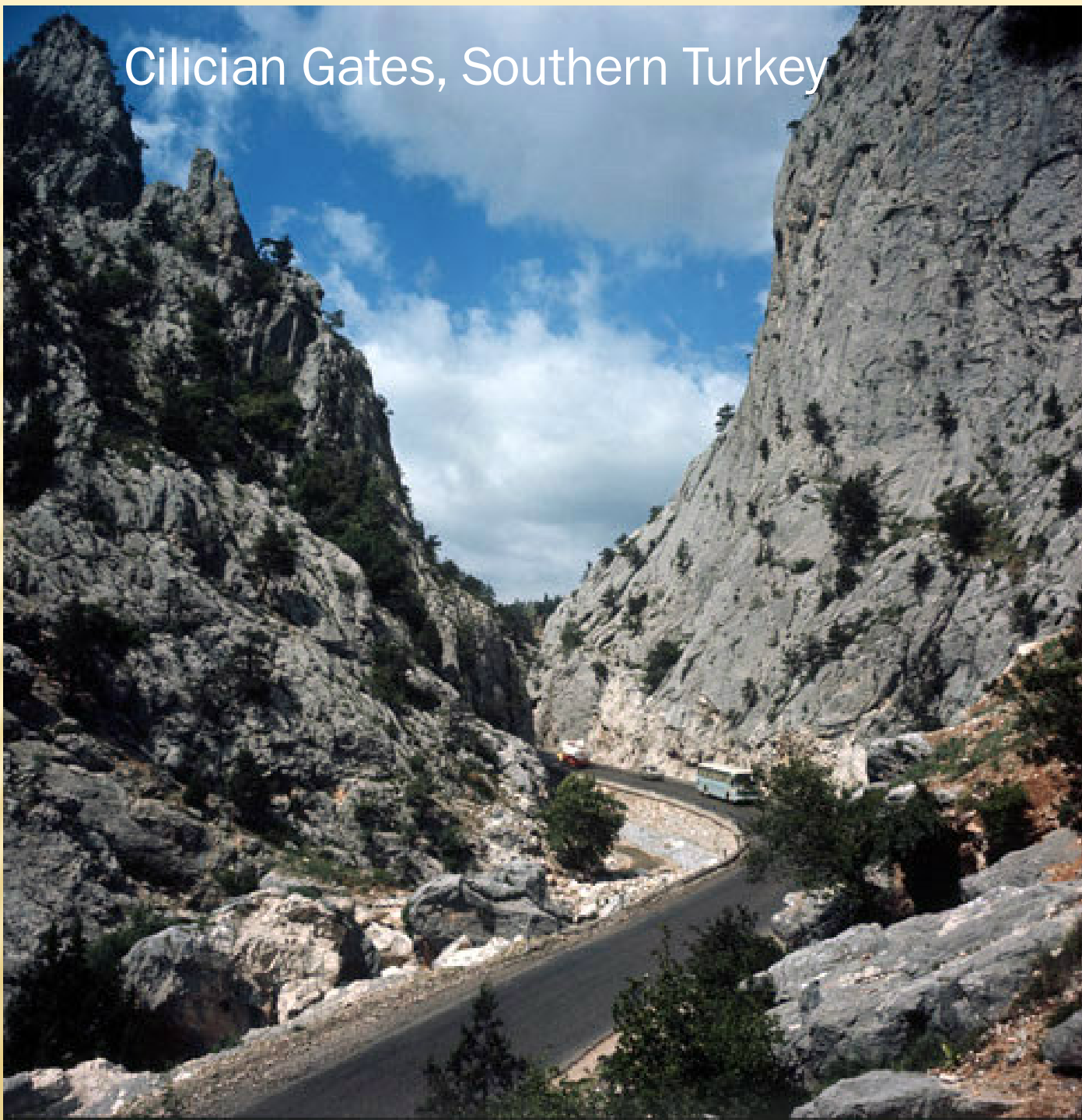
- 1) Timothy joins up in Lystra.
- 2) The Holy Spirit sends Paul to Macedonia.
- 3) Lydia at the river
- 4) The Oracle with the spirit of divination
- 5) The Philippian jailer

By John Williamson

Cilician Gates through the Taurus Mountains near Gülek



Cilician Gates, Southern Turkey



WHO WROTE PHILIPPIANS?

**Paul and Timothy, bond-servants
of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in
Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,
including the overseers and deacons**

~Philippians 1:1

PAULINE AUTHORSHIP CONFIRMED BY:

- 1) Ignatius of Antioch (c. AD 120)
- 2) Clement of Rome (c. AD 99)
- 3) Irenaeus (c. AD 200)
- 4) Clement of Alexandria (c. AD 200)
- 5) Tertullian (c. AD 200)
- 6) Marcion of Sinope (c. AD 150)

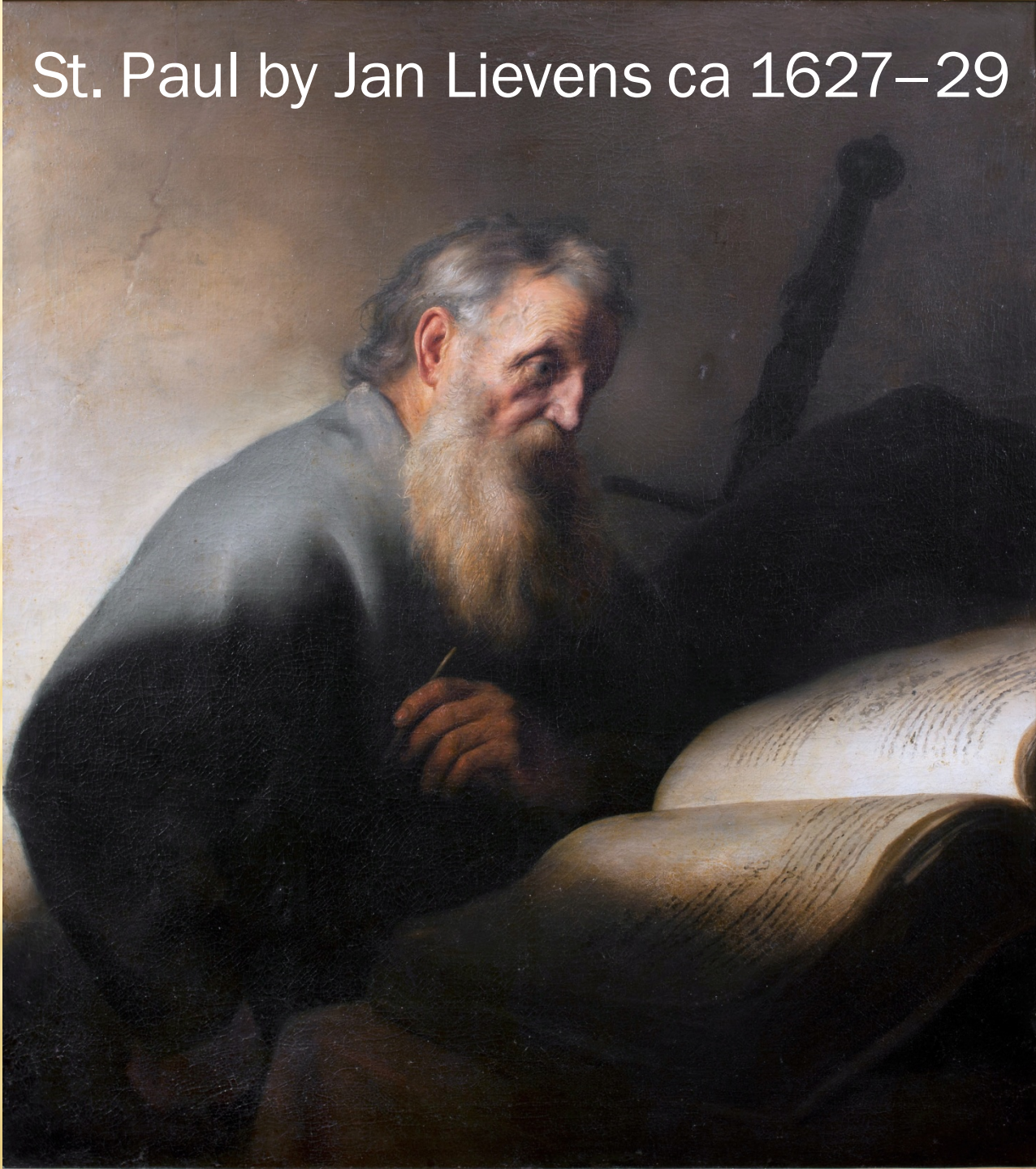
WHEN AND WHERE? – 3 PROPOSALS

- 1) Rome – AD 60–62
- 2) Ephesus – AD 52–55
- 3) Caesarea Maritima – AD 58–60

WHEN AND WHERE – ROME IS THE PLACE

- 1) Rome is the traditional view.
- 2) Phil 1:13 mentions the Praetorian Guard, the personal bodyguard of the Emperor which was stationed in Rome.
- 3) Paul views death as a likely result of his imprisonment. His imprisonment and trial in Rome before Caesar would put his life at stake. This would not have been the case in Caesarea.
- 4) An Ephesian imprisonment is, at best, vaguely implied in scripture.
- 5) Timothy is present with Paul when writing Ephesians, and we know that Timothy was with Paul in Rome.

St. Paul by Jan Lievens ca 1627–29



PAUL – WHAT'S IN A NAME

- Paul
- Language: Latin
- Meaning: Small, humble
- Saul
- Language: Hebrew
- Meaning: Asked for, prayed for
- *Note: The first anointed king of Israel was named Saul and he was from the same tribe as Paul, Benjamin.*

PAUL – WHO IS HE?

- A Roman citizen by birth. Acts 22:28
- Paul was trained as a Pharisee/Rabbi by Gamaliel, one of the leaders of the Sanhedrin and one of the foremost Jewish scholars. Acts 5:34, Acts 22:3
- Paul was zealous in persecuting the church, aiding in the martyrdom of Steven and organizing an expedition to destroy the church in Damascus. Acts 7:58, Acts 9:1–2
- Paul encountered the resurrected Jesus on the road to Damascus and was blinded. Paul regained his sight at the hands of Ananias, was baptized and became a Christian. He then retreated to the desert of Arabia for three years where he was prepared for his ministry. Acts 9
- Paul lead four (one being the journey to trial in Rome) missionary journeys recorded in the book of Acts and one missionary journey to Spain, according to the Apostolic and Church Fathers.

PAUL – HIS SUFFERING 2 COR. 11:24–28

Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine *lashes*. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. *I have been* on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from *my* countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; *I have been* in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. Apart from *such* external things, there is the daily pressure on me *of* concern for all the churches.

PAUL – RESCUED FROM LIONS 2 TIM. 4:17



"and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth."

TIMOTHY – BORN IN LYSTRA



TIMOTHY – WHO IS HE?

- Name: Timotheos, “God honored.”
- Paul mentions him by name, 17× and addresses 2 letters to him.
- Paul led Timothy to salvation during his first missionary journey along with his mother Eunice and grandmother Lois. 2 Tim. 1:5
- Paul affectionately referred to Timothy as his “son.” 1 Tim. 1:18

TIMOTHY – WHO IS HE?

- His father was Greek, mother Jewish. Therefore, he was considered Jewish.
- He was not circumcised, which was a known fact in the Jewish community.
- His mother and grandmother trained him in the Word. 2 Tim. 3:15.
- When Paul returned to Lystra, Timothy had shown remarkable spiritual growth and maturity.
1 Tim. 4:12

TIMOTHY – MARTYRED AD 97



In AD 97, at the age of 80, in Ephesus, Timothy attempted to halt a pagan procession in honor of the goddess Artemis/Diana through proclamation of the Gospel. This so enraged the pagan crowd that, in a scene reminiscent of Acts 19, the worshipers of Artemis dragged Timothy through the streets, beat him with clubs, and then stoned him to death.

Acts 16:1, “Then he came to Derbe and Lystra. And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek.

Acts 16:2, “He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium.”



Lystra

Acts 16:3, “Paul wanted to have him go on with him. And he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in that region, for they all knew that his father was Greek.

Acts 16:4, “And as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem.

Acts 16:5, “So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.”

Acts 16:6, “Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.

Acts 16:7, “After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.”

Acts 16:8, “So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.”



Excavations at Troas

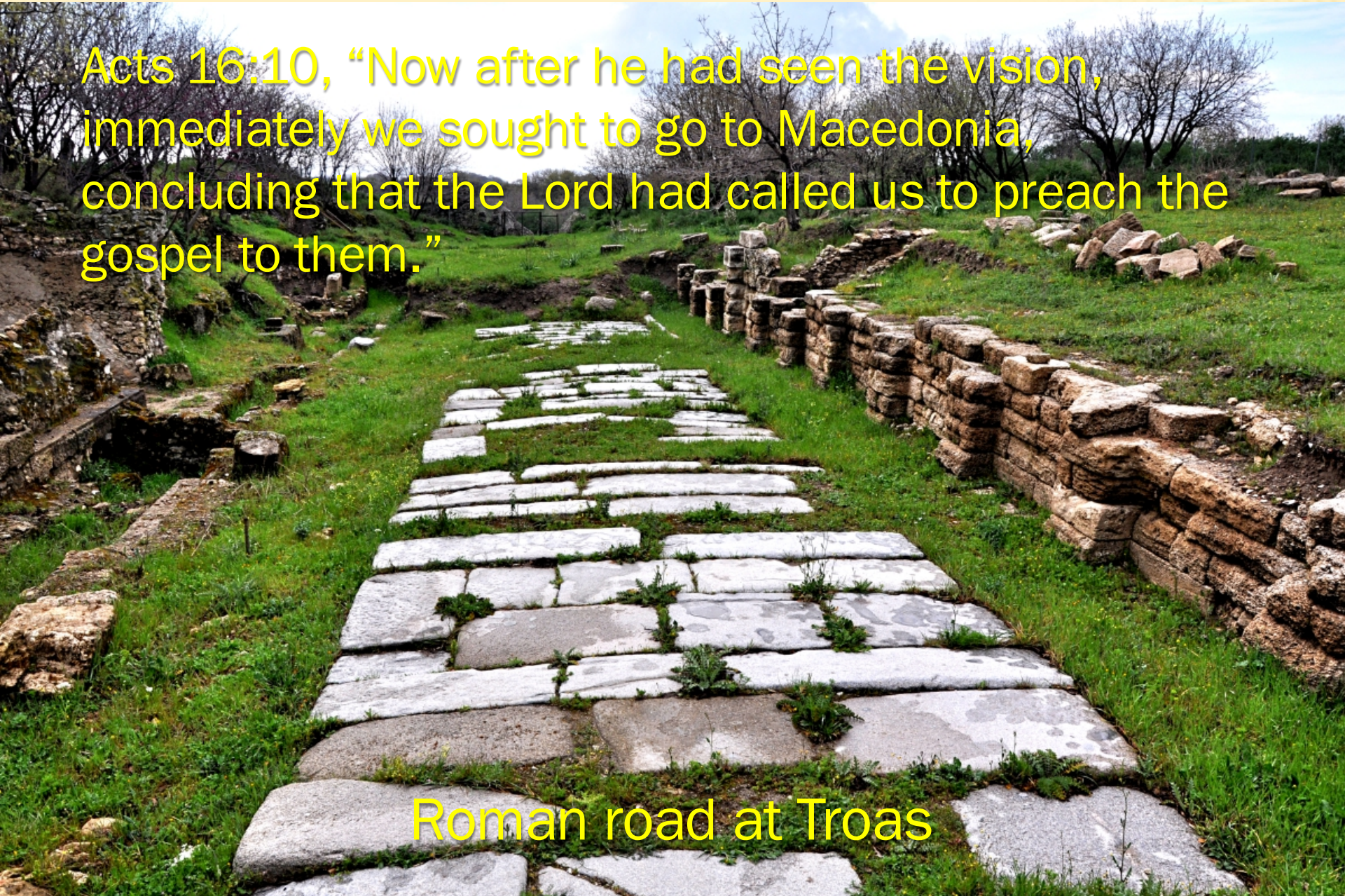
Acts 16:9, “And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ ”



Troas Ruins

Acts 16:10, “Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.”

Roman road at Troas



PAUL & FRIENDS JOURNEY TO MACEDONIA

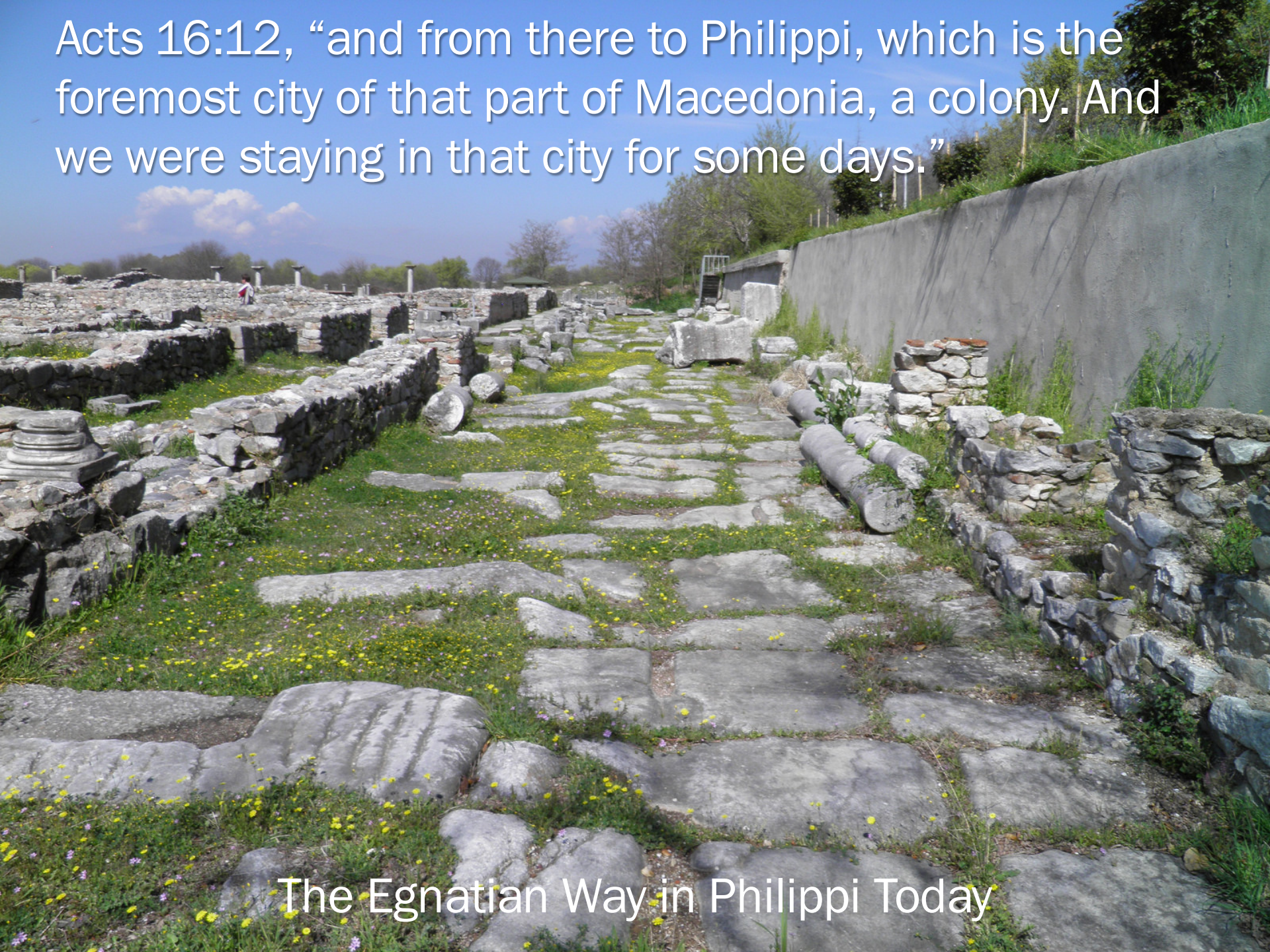


Acts 16:11, “So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis”

Neapolis Bay



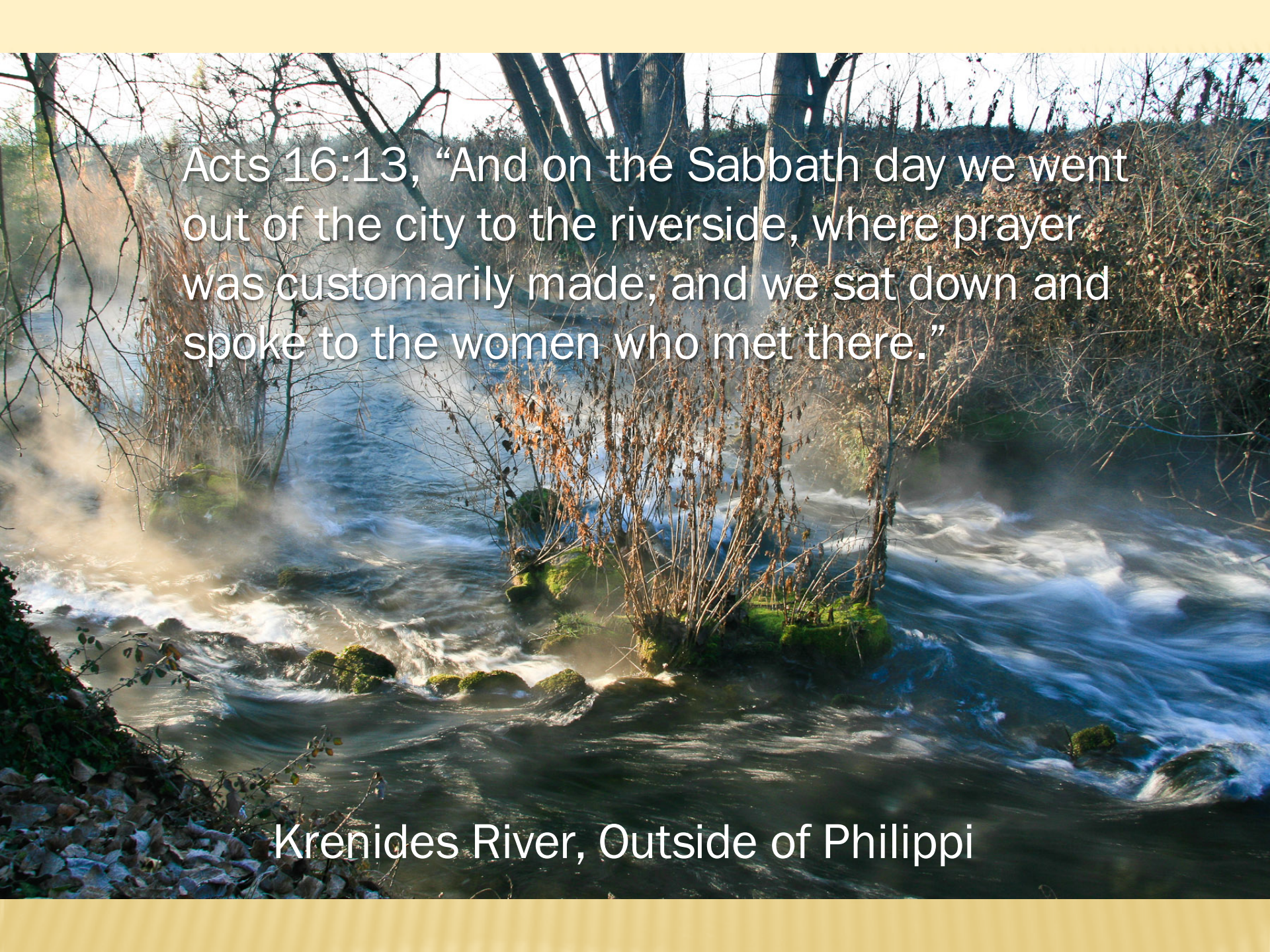
Acts 16:12, “and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days.”



The Egnatian Way in Philippi Today

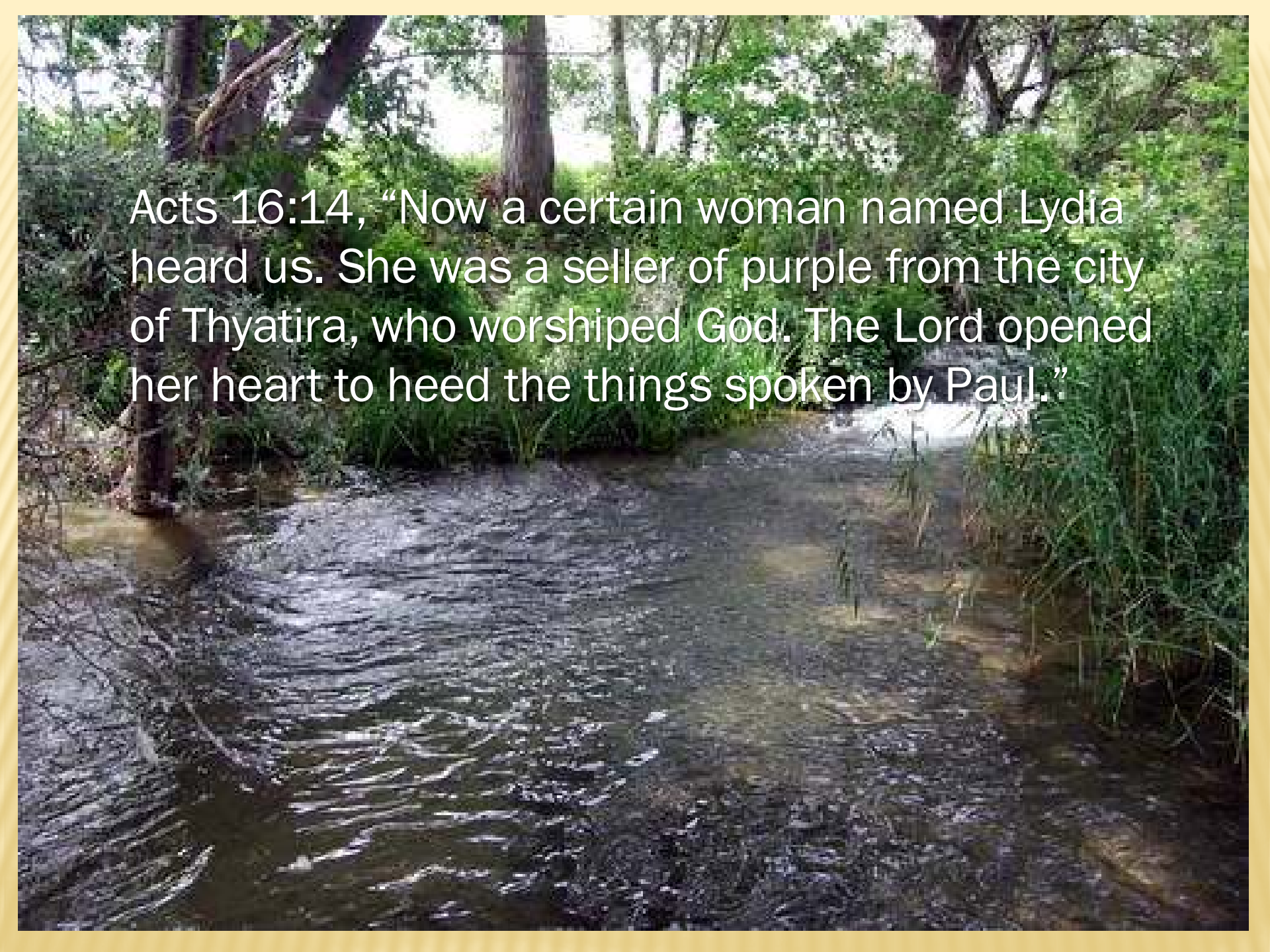
Acts 16:12, “and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days.”





Acts 16:13, “And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there.”

Krenides River, Outside of Philippi



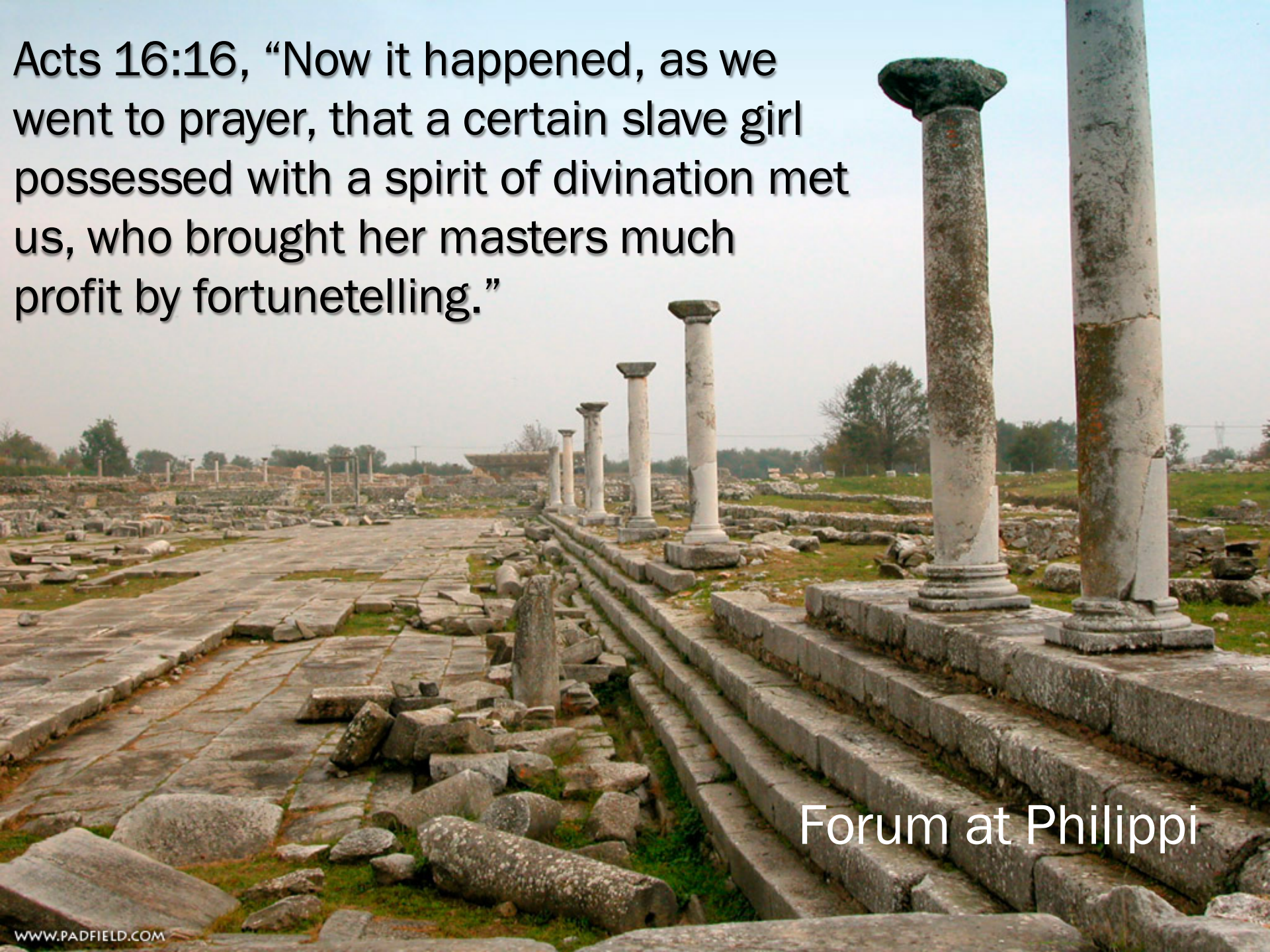
Acts 16:14, “Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.”

Acts 16:15, “And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.’ So she persuaded us.”



Greek Orthodox Church honoring the baptism of Lydia

Acts 16:16, “Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortunetelling.”



Forum at Philippi

The Oracle in Delphi



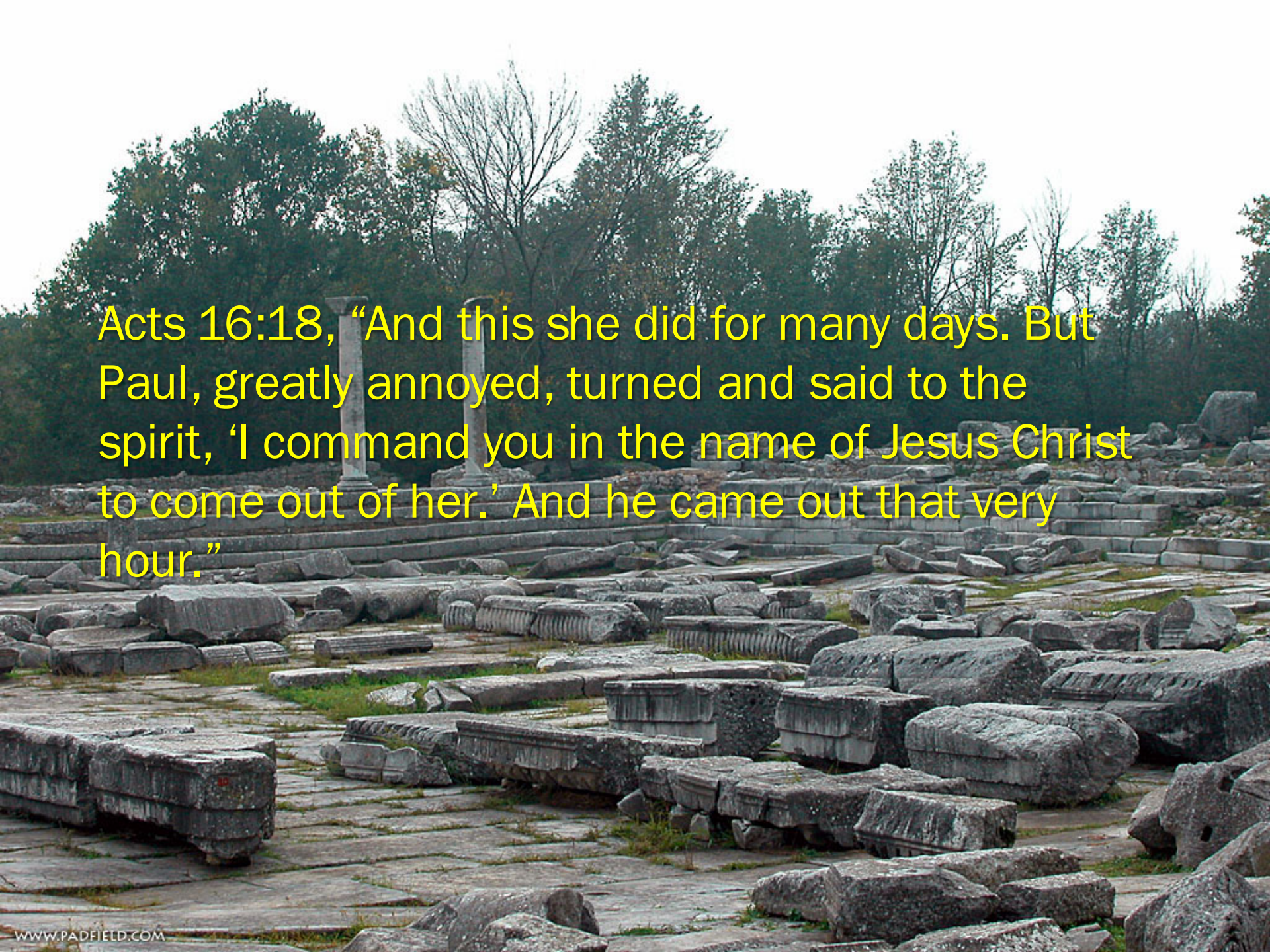
Das Orakel zu Delphi.

Lycurgus Consulting the Pythia (Oracle) by Eugène Delacroix



Acts 16:17, “This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, ‘These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.’”





Acts 16:18, “And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, ‘I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’ And he came out that very hour.”

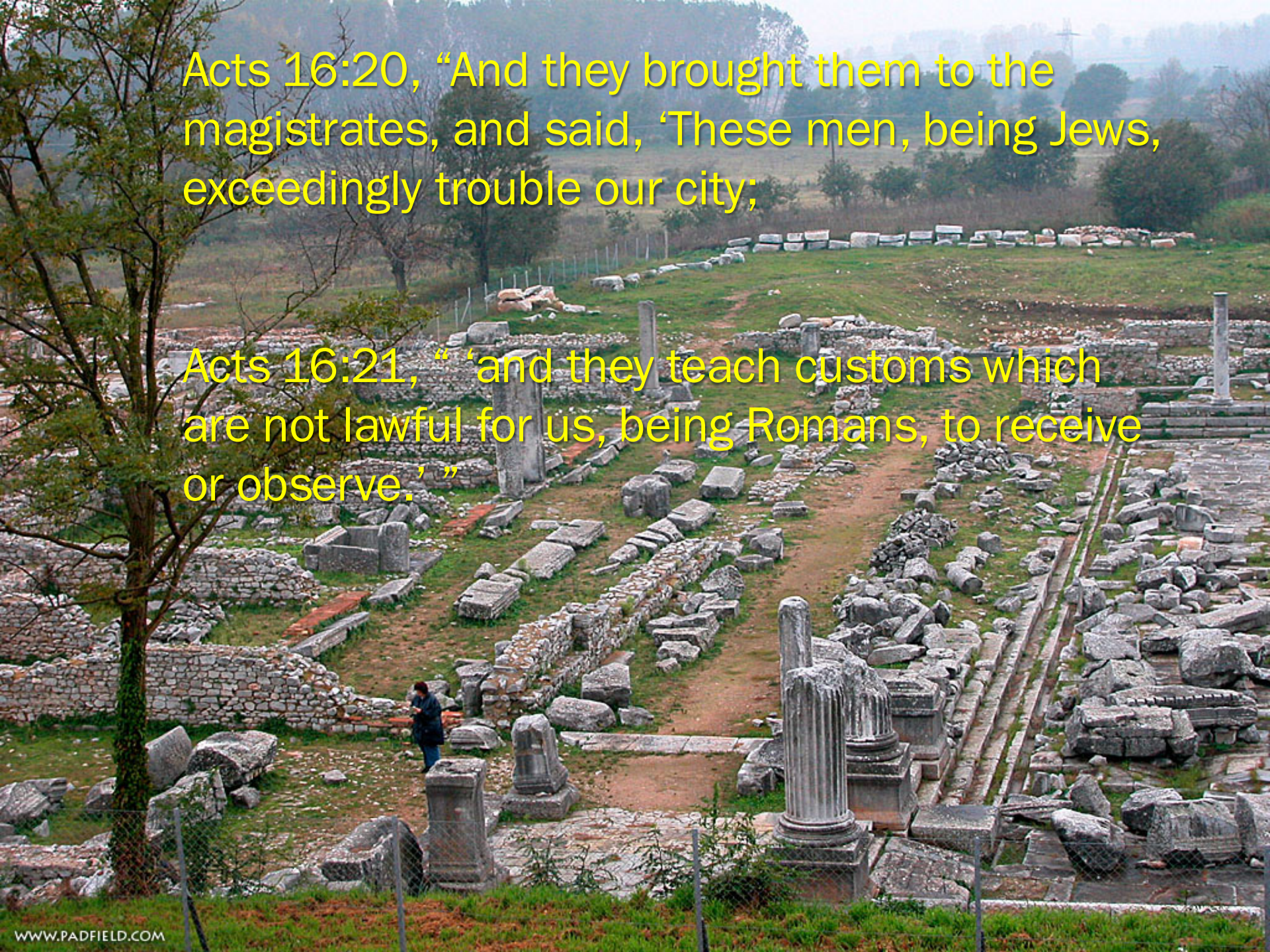
Acts 16:19, “But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities.”



Acropolis at Philippi

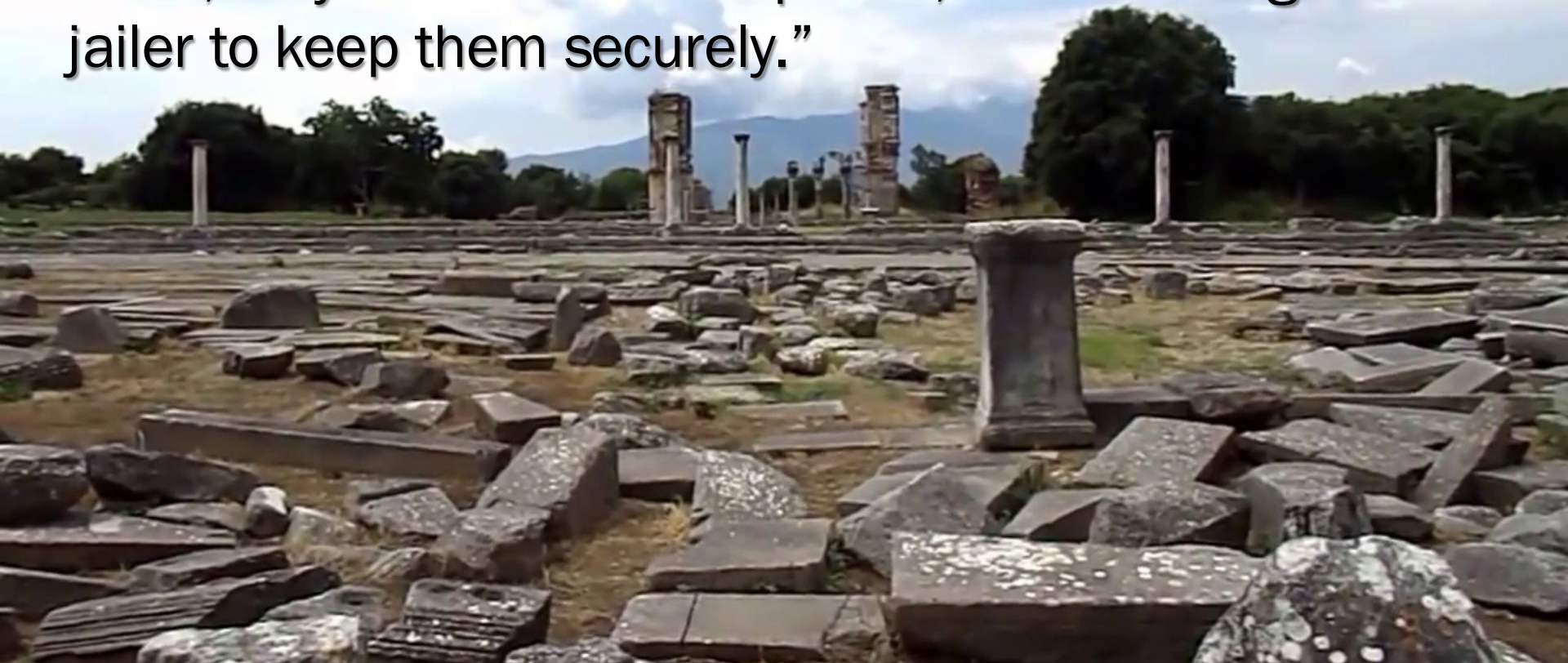
Acts 16:20, “And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, ‘These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city;

Acts 16:21, “ ‘and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe.’ ”



Acts 16:22, “Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods.

Acts 16:23, “And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely.”

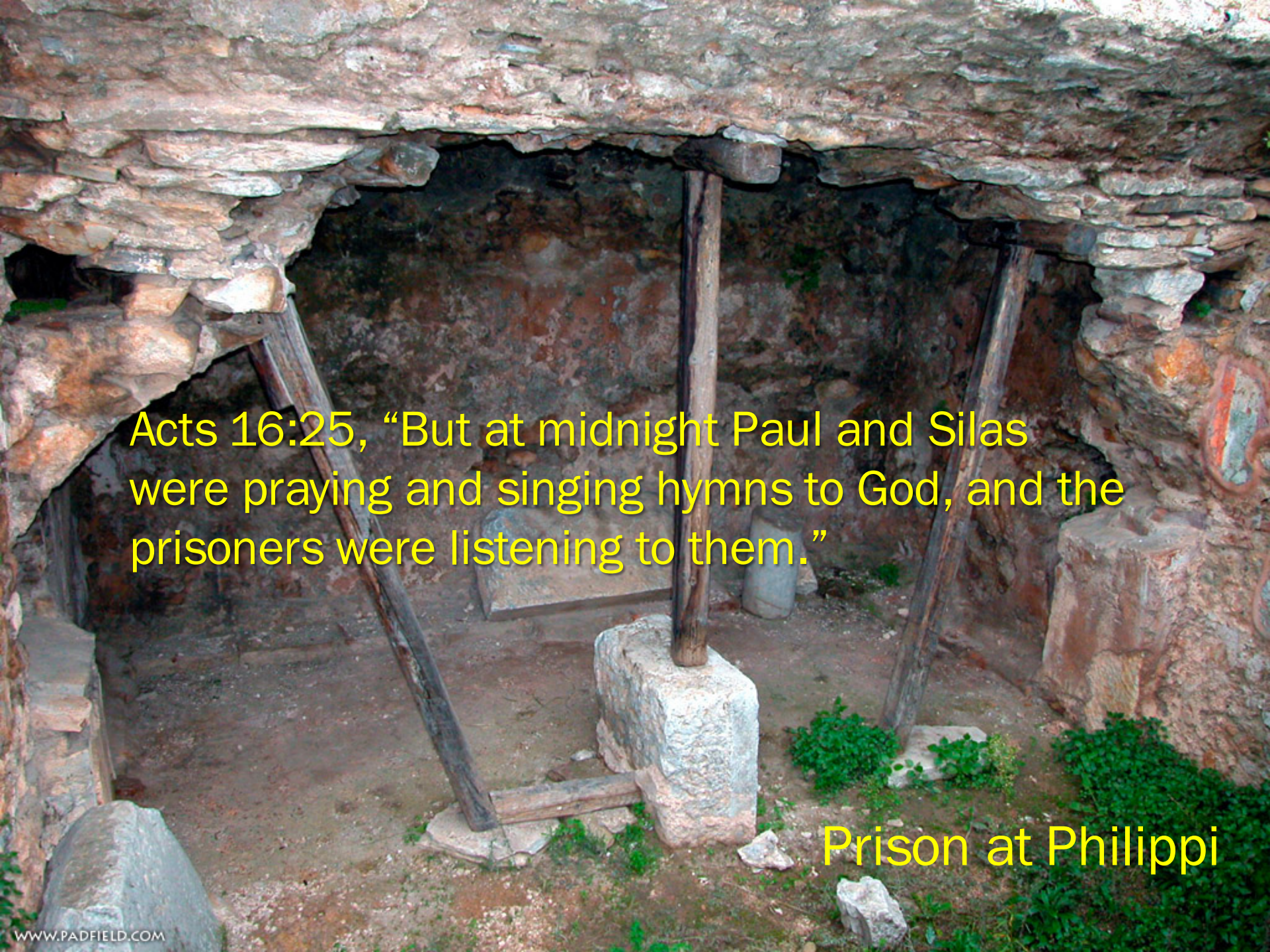


Site of Bema seat in Philippi

Prison at Philippi

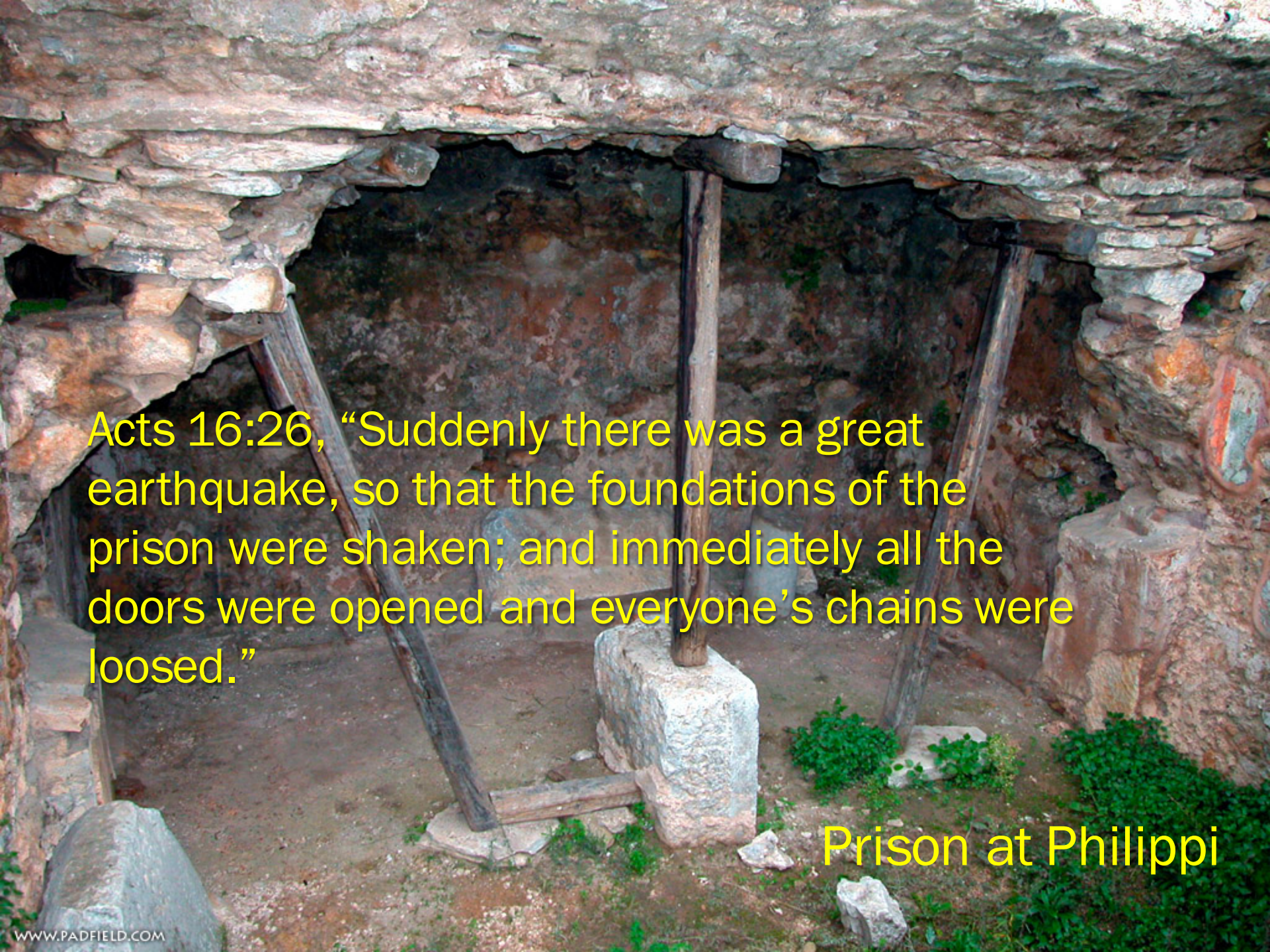
Acts 16:24, “Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.”





Acts 16:25, “But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.”

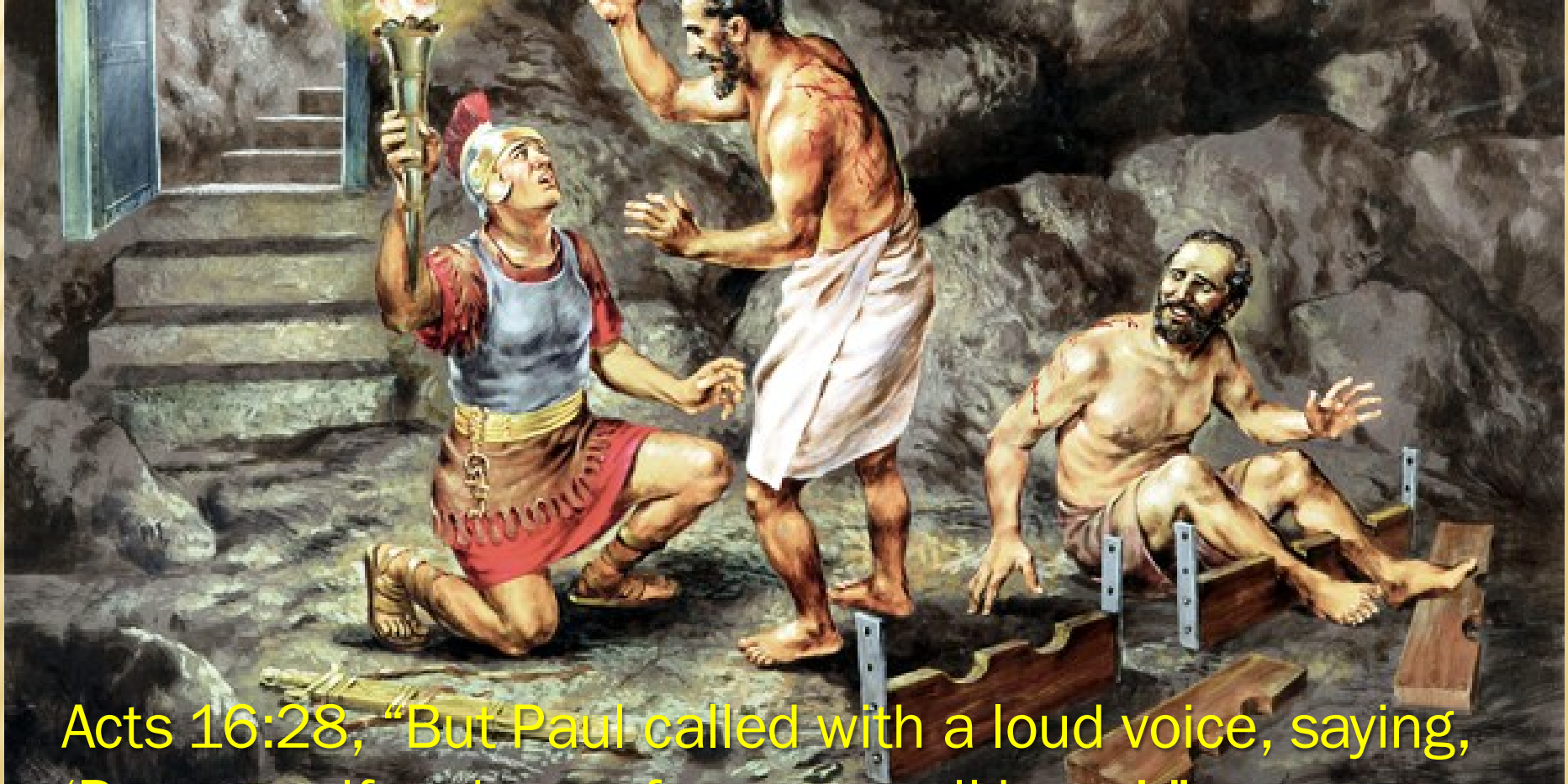
Prison at Philippi

A photograph of an ancient stone prison cell. The cell is built with rough-hewn stone walls and a flat stone ceiling. Several thick wooden beams are used for structural support, with one beam resting on a large, rectangular stone block in the center. The floor is dirt and stone. The lighting is somewhat dim, highlighting the textures of the stone and wood.

Acts 16:26, “Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed.”

Prison at Philippi

Acts 16:27, “And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself.



Acts 16:28, “But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, ‘Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.’”

Acts 16:29, “Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.

Acts 16:30, “And he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’

Acts 16:31, “So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ ”



Acts 16:32, “Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

Acts 16:33, “And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.”

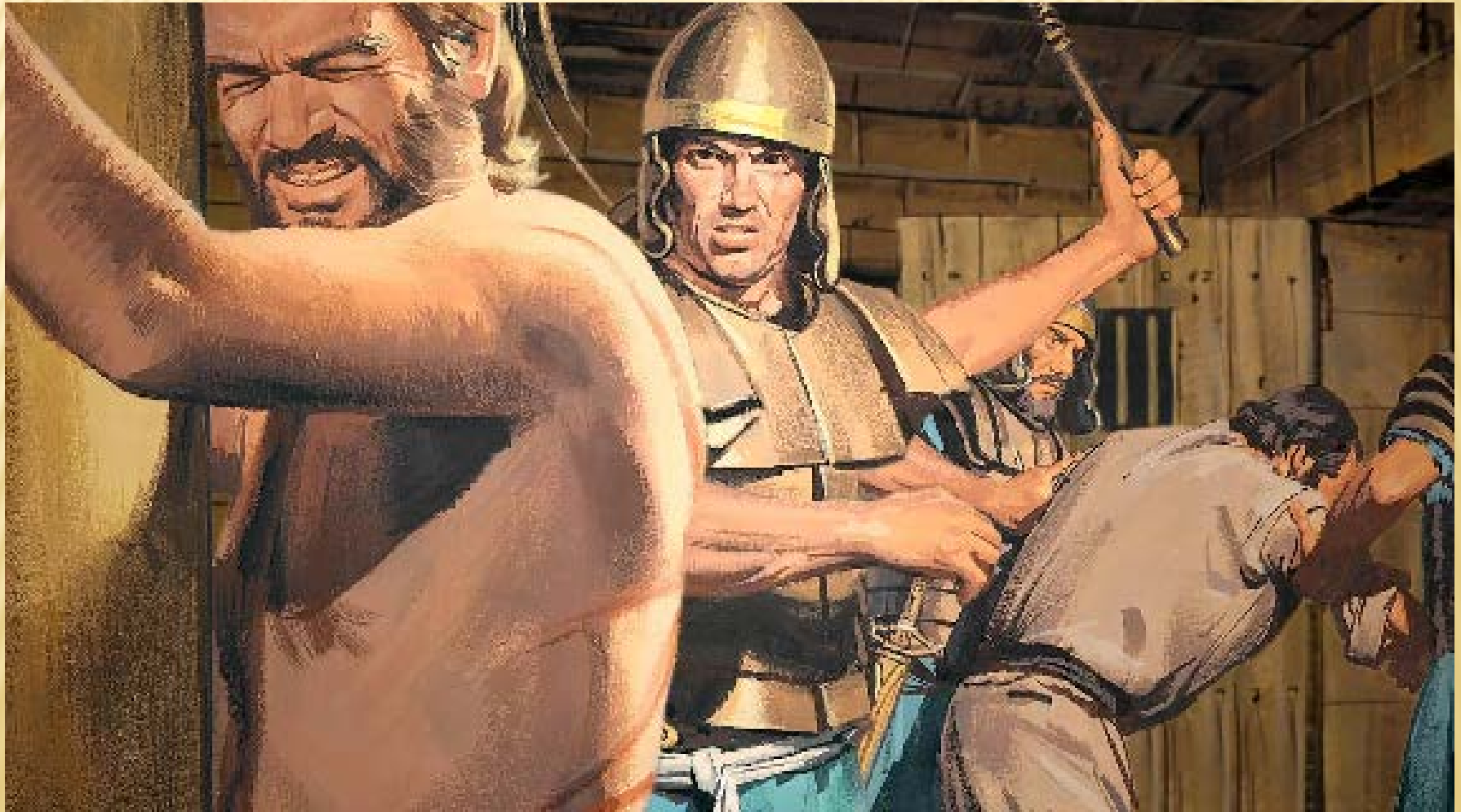
Baptismal Font in Philippi

Acts 16:34, “Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.”

Acts 16:35, “And when it was day, the magistrates sent the officers, saying, ‘Let those men go.’”

Acts 16:36, “So the keeper of the prison reported these words to Paul, saying, ‘The magistrates have sent to let you go. Now therefore depart, and go in peace.’ ”

Acts 16:37, “But Paul said to them, ‘They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, and have thrown us into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out.’ ”



Acts 16:38, “And the officers told these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans.

Acts 16:39, “Then they came and pleaded with them and brought them out, and asked them to depart from the city.

Acts 16:40, “So they went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia; and when they had seen the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.”

PHILIPPI - THE ROMAN COLONY

ANCIENT
PHILIPPI



PHILIPPI - THE EGNATIAN WAY



PHILIPPI – THE EGNATIAN WAY



Ancient sign for the Egnatian Way in Philippi

Modern Sign for the Egnatian Way



PHILIPPI – A GREAT AND WEALTHY CITY

