

**Year A #194**  
***Aeneas and Lydia***  
**040301-4**

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

We are studying in the **Book of Acts** and it is so exciting. You know, the **Book of Acts** is the book really of the acts of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel has now gone to the Jews, we read in **chapter 2**, as Peter and Paul are Jews. Also, it went as far as Samaria to the Samaritans, we read in **Acts 8**, and they were a racially mongrel group of people, then on to the to Gentiles, as we learned a little bit about Cornelius in **Acts 10**.

With the introduction of Cornelius, the normal order of the age is established, when every believer, upon no other condition than simple faith in the finished redemptive work of Christ, is regenerated and baptized into the Body of Christ; indwelt and perpetually sealed eternally with the added privilege and duty of being filled with the Holy Spirit. In other words, we need many fillings, many fillings, to be filled full of Him that our life should be the vessel for His life. When we get in the way, we sin; we fail. We need to rebound. We need to ask for that fresh infilling. Anything that comes through of me is not nice; there is nothing nice about us but Jesus. So we need the fresh infilling of His Spirit even many times today. This is a continuing process of conditions being filled that it might be Him coming through

us.

Peter was in this wonderful stage of being used of God as the Holy Spirit worked through him. We read in **Acts 9** -

**31 So the church throughout the whole of Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was edified [growing in wisdom, virtue, and piety] and walking in the respect and reverential fear of the Lord and in the consolation and exhortation of the Holy Spirit, continued to increase and was multiplied.**

**32 Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he went down also to the saints who lived at Lydda.**

**33 There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedfast for eight years and was paralyzed.**

**34 And Peter said to him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ (the Messiah) [now] makes you whole. Get up and make your bed! -that was the little pallet he used to lie on - And immediately [Aeneas] stood up.**

This is the great God, who is working from generation to generation, through the power of His Spirit, for those who understand that it is His joy to touch and reach lives. In many nations around the world, the Lord is calling out and adding to the Church at this very hour as I speak. The beautiful thing is as He was doing this work, it went from Jerusalem, and out to Judea and Samaria. And He spoke to Paul, following his conversation, having been a Saul, and coming to know the Lord, that Christianity would go out through him to the very

uttermost parts of the earth.

We read in **Acts chapter 16** and **verse 14** of another person. She is called Lydia, who is the first convert in Europe. She dwelt in Phillipi and traded in selling both the cheap and expensive merchandise of purple dyed garments. This is in the area of Thyatira, where she lived. (In fact, if you know anything about **Revelation chapter 3**, in **verse 18**, you will see it is the same area of Thyatira. (You might want to look that up afterward.) In **Acts 16** —

**14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshiped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.**

**15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. . .** *In other words, she was saying, “I want to care for you.” Immediately, her life is outside of herself and what she can get.* That is a sign of being converted; you are thinking about other people; how you can care for other people. You are not thinking, “How am I going to manage with this little bit of money?” You are thinking, “How can I share the Gospel with those people across there? They need the Lord!” You see outside of yourself. Lydia said ***If ye have judged me to be faithful . . .*** Of course they must have, because we know they went and stayed in her

home. This special lady, who had been used of God, could be one of those we read of **Philippians 4** —

**3 And I entreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow laborers, whose names are in the book of life.**

I want to emphasize, whether you are a Lydia or whoever you are, that you are a lady who stands for the Gospel. Nobody knows all the people who have done something somewhere as this is a natural expression of having Christ within you. But He knows; He watches it. The Gospel cannot go forward with just one person. One person cannot think, “I have this ministry. Watch out, everybody! You notice me!” No, it is together. That is the wonderful part of a body working. We are part of the Body of Jesus Christ. My hand does not do what my foot does; I could not make my foot get food and put it in my mouth, but my hand can do this! Yes, we therefore honor the Body and it is all of Jesus.

*Will you say, Lord, I want to see with those eyes for the glory of Your precious Name. Amen..*