

# THE MESSAGE OF HIS GRACE

## ACTS 14:1-7

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: "... the apostles did not go into these cities to do miracles, and then preach. Rather it was the other way around: They went to preach; then sometimes there were healings. The miracles proved that the apostles were God's true messengers." Acts, James Montgomery Boice, p.251.

***SPOKEN EFFECTIVELY PRODUCES RESULTS.*** Nowhere in Scripture does God bless ignorance or laziness. However, time spent before Him and with Him is honored by God. Paul did his preparation and the results were effective. (**Acts 14:1, II Timothy 4:1-5, fn 4:1,2, II Timothy 2:15, fn 2:15, Colossians 4:2-5, fn 4:4, I Peter 4:7-11, fn 4:10, 11, Mark 1:35, fn 1:35**) *Your salvation message is powerful and effective! Why?*

***RELIES UPON THE HOLY SPIRIT.*** For us to speak the message of His grace boldly we must rely upon the Spirit's power. If needed, God uses grace upon grace to verify His work already done in us. (**Acts 14:3, fn 14:3, 4, Acts 4:29-31, fn 4:29-31 Philippians 4:13, fn 4:13, Ephesians 3:16-19, fn 3:19, Ephesians 5:18, fn 5:18, Hebrews 4:16, fn 4:16**) *How could you teach your family to trust God's grace in sharing their faith?*

***DOESN'T STOP WHEN OPPOSITION COMES.*** The Holy Spirit used adversity to relocate Paul and Barnabas so they could continue to preach the good news. The abundant life in us must be revealed to others, and adversity may point the way. (**Acts 14:4-7, II Timothy 3:10-14, fn 3:12, Matthew 5:10-12, fn 5:11, 12, Matthew 10:23, fn 10:23**) *How has opposition been an opportunity for you to share the message of grace?*

***Pray for one another's needs.***

***Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?***