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THE APOSTLE PAUL – LESSON 15

SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY – PART 1

From 48 to 50 A.D. Paul and Barnabas ministered with the church leaders at their home base in Antioch of Syria. The doctrinal dispute of salvation whether by grace or by Jewish law had been settled in the Jerusalem Council who had given Paul letters to distribute verifying grace over law.

It was now time to begin a second missionary journey. Barnabas wanted to take young John Mark with him and Paul, but Paul objected strongly. Mark had started the first trip with them and ministered with them in Cyprus. However, when their ship landed in Asia Minor (Turkey today) at the port of Perga in the Roman province of Pamphylia, young Mark got cold feet and took a ship back home to Antioch, leaving the other two to go on alone.

Paul did not trust Mark because of that abandonment. However, Barnabas believed in the young man and desired to give him a second chance. Paul, being of an exceptionally strong personality and strong will absolutely refused to allow Mark to go with them. The argument was so heated that Paul and Barnabas decided to go their separate ways. Barnabas chose to take Mark on his journey. Paul chose the prophet from Jerusalem, Silas, for his journey.

Barnabas and John Mark took a ship to Cyprus where they had previously ministered. Paul and Silas went by land preaching through Syria and into Paul's home province of Cilicia. They confirmed (taught) the word to the various churches and delivered to them the letters from the Jerusalem Council. He probably visited home at Tarsus and the surrounding area where he had preached during his previous seven-year exile.

This second missionary journey took about four years, 50-53 A.D. The first part was visiting churches previously established, then they went into new territory taking the gospel for the first time into Europe.

Tomorrow we will begin to trace their route.