

Unstoppable – Pt. 22

Discuss –

- 1) How does the gospel shine a light on the idols in our lives? In our society?**
- 2) In what ways can the gospel empower us to turn from those idols?**
- 3) In what ways can the gospel empower us to endure trials and tribulations?**
- 4) How can this passage from Acts 14 help the church be unstoppable today?**

Close in prayer.

Scripture From The Sermon

Acts 14:8-23

At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked. ⁹ This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be ^[f]made well, ¹⁰ said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and *began* to walk. ¹¹ When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us." ¹² And they *began* calling Barnabas, ^[g]Zeus, and Paul, ^[h]Hermes, because he was ^[i]the chief speaker. ¹³ The priest of Zeus, whose *temple* was ^[j]just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. ¹⁴ But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their ^[k]robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out ¹⁵ and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these ^[l]vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶ ^[m]In the generations gone by He permitted all the ^[n]nations to go their own ways; ¹⁷ and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, ^[o]satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." ¹⁸ *Even* saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. ¹⁹ But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. ²⁰ But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. ²¹ After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and *saying*, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." ²³ When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

James 1:2-4

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various ^[c]trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces ^[d]endurance. ⁴ And let ^[e]endurance have *its* perfect ^[f]result, so that you may be ^[g]perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Romans 5:3-5

And not only this, but ^[c]we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Hebrews 13:5

Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,”