

~BITHYNIA (30)
(Bi-thyn'i-a)

- A Roman province in the northern part of Asia Minor. It was located in what is now Northwest Turkey, extending eastward from Istanbul along the southern shore of the Black Sea. On Paul's second missionary journey, after he and Silas had been joined by Timothy at Lystra, they endeavored to travel into **Bithynia**, but **the spirit of Jesus did not permit them**.
- Further, when getting down to Mysia they made efforts to go into **Bithynia**, but the **spirit of Jesus did not permit them**. (**Acts of Apostles 16:7**)
- The area is not mentioned as being the scene of apostolic preaching, but there obviously were Christians there when Peter wrote his first canonical letter about **62-64 C.E.**
- Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the temporary residents scattered about in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and **Bithynia**, to the one's chosen (**1 Peter 1:1**)
- Pliny the Younger, writing from **Bithynia** to the Roman emperor Trajan while Pliny was special commissioner, makes mention of numerous Christians in the province, stating that **at the beginning of the Second Century Christianity was not confined to the town's only, but had spread into villages and rural districts too**. [**The Letters of Pliny, X, XCVI, 9**]