

~DERBE (84)
(Der'be)

- A city of Lycaonia in Asia Minor, personally visited two times, or perhaps three, by the apostle Paul.
- Probably sometime prior to the winter of **47-48 C.E.**, during his first missionary journey, Paul arrived at **Derbe** after a severe stoning at nearby Lystra. At **Derbe**, he and Barnabas declared the Good News and made quite a few disciples, including, possibly, Gaius of **Derbe**, who is later mentioned as a traveling companion of the apostle.
- While secular history indicates that after **41 C.E.** **Derbe** was the easternmost city of the **political** province of Galatia, Luke's description of it in this account as a city of Lycaonia is apparently in a regional or ethnographic sense.
- They, on being informed of it, fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and **Derbe** and the country round about. (**Acts of Apostles 14:6**)
- But Jews arrived from Antioch and Iconium and persuaded the crowds, and they stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, imagining he was dead. (**Acts of Apostles 14:19**)
- However, when the disciples surrounded him, he rose up and entered into the city. And on the next day he left with Barnabas for **Derbe**. (**Acts of Apostles 14:20**)
- And after declaring the Good News to that city and making quite a few disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch. (**Acts of Apostles 14:21**)
- There were accompanying him Sopater the son of Pyrrhus of Beroea, Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of **Derbe**, and Timothy, and from the district of Asia Tychicus and Trophimus. (**Acts of Apostles 20:4**)
- A number of months later, after the Jerusalem council concerning circumcision circa **49 C.E.**, and while on his second tour, Paul returned to **Derbe**.
- Now after some days Paul said to Barnabas; Above all things, let

us return and visit the brothers in every one of the cities in which we published the word of Yehowah to see how they are. (**Acts of Apostles 15:36**)

- So he arrived at **Derbe** and also at Lystra. And, look! A certain disciple was there by the name of Timothy, the son of a believing Jewish woman but of a Greek father. (**Acts of Apostles 16:1**)
- Though not singled out by name, **Derbe** may also have been a stop on Paul's third tour when he strengthened the disciples in the country of Galatia.
- And when he had passed some time there he departed and went from place to place through the country of Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples. (**Acts of Apostles 18:23**)
- There is no record of Paul's meeting physical resistance at **Derbe**, and he makes no mention of the city many years later when recounting his sufferings at other places in its vicinity.
- My persecutions, my sufferings, the sort of things that happened to me in Antioch, in Iconium, in Lystra, the sort of persecutions I have borne, and yet out of them all the Lord delivered me. (**2 Timothy 3:11**)
- **Derbe** is possibly identified with **Kerti Hüyük** 21 kilometers (13 miles) North-northeast of Karaman or ancient Laranda, and about 100 kilometers (62 miles) Southeast of Konya or ancient Iconium. As to whether **Derbe** was included in Paul's letter addressed to the congregations of Galatia,
- And all the brothers with me, to the congregations of Galatia: (**Galatians 1:2**)

See Also GALATIANS, LETTER TO THE