

~LYDIA (95)
(Lyd'i-a)

- **This woman and her household were among the first persons in Europe to accept Christianity as a result of the apostle Paul's activity at Philippi in about 50 C.E. Originally she lived at Thyatira, a city in Asia Minor known for its dyeing industry.**
- **Later, at Philippi in Macedonia, Lydia sold purple, either the dye or garments and fabrics colored therewith. It appears that she was the head of her household, this could include slaves and servants, and therefore, she was possibly widowed or single.**
- **And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira and a worshiper of God, was listening, and Yehowah opened her heart wide to pay attention to the things being spoken by Paul. (Acts of Apostles 16:14)**
- **Now when she and her household got baptized, she said with entreaty; If you men have judged me to be faithful to Yehowah, enter into my house and stay. And she just made us come. (Acts of Apostles 16:15)**
- **A worshiper of God, Lydia probably was a Jewish proselyte. It may be that there were few Jews and no synagogue at Philippi so that on the Sabbath day she and other devout women assembled by a river outside the city. When the apostle Paul preached to these women, Lydia listened attentively.**
- **After being baptized along with her household, she entreated Paul and his companions to stay with her, saying;**
- **Therefore we put out to sea from Troas and came with a straight run to Samothrace, but on the following day to Neapolis. (Acts of Apostles 16:11)**
- **And from there to Philippi, a colony, which is the principal city of the district of Macedonia. We continued in this city, spending some days. (Acts of Apostles 16:12)**
- **And on the Sabbath day we went forth outside the gate beside a river, where we were thinking there was a place of prayer, and**

- we sat down and began speaking to the women that had assembled. (**Acts of Apostles 16:13**)
- And a certain woman named **Lydia**, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira and a worshiper of God, was listening, and Yehowah opened her heart wide to pay attention to the things being spoken by Paul. (**Acts of Apostles 16:14**)
 - Now when she and her household got baptized, she said with entreaty; If you men have judged me to be faithful to Yehowah, enter into my house and stay. And she just made us come. (**Acts of Apostles 16:15**)
 - Later, after Paul and Silas were released from prison, they again went to the home of **Lydia**. There they encouraged the brothers and then left Philippi.
 - So the jailer reported their words to Paul; The civil magistrates have dispatched men that you two might be released. Now, therefore, come out and go your way in peace. (**Acts of Apostles 16:36**)
 - But Paul said to them; They flogged us publicly uncondemned, men who are Romans, and threw us into prison, and are they now throwing us out secretly? No, indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out. (**Acts of Apostles 16:37**)
 - So the constables reported these sayings to the civil magistrates. These grew fearful when they heard that the men were Romans. (**Acts of Apostles 16:38**)
 - Consequently they came and entreated them and, after bringing them out, they requested them to depart from the city. (**Acts of Apostles 16:39**)
 - But they came out of the prison and went to the home of **Lydia**, and when they saw the brothers they encouraged them and departed. (**Acts of Apostles 16:40**)
 - Perhaps at least partly because of **Lydia's** hospitality, Paul wrote to the Philippians;
 - I thank my God always upon every remembrance of you (**Philippians 1:3**)

- **In every supplication of mine for all of you, as I offer my supplication with joy. (Philippians 1:4)**
- **Because of the contribution you have made to the Good News from the first day until this moment. (Philippians 1:5)**