

Recap of 1/2/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 14:8-20

1. Paul and Barnabas leave Iconium, not just to escape persecution, but to continue preaching the gospel in another area.

2. God uses the healing of a man lame from birth to bring the gospel to these people. This healing corresponds exactly to Peter's healing of a man born lame in Acts 3. Luke's intent is to show that Paul's apostleship is equal to Peter's.

- "Miracles by themselves do not produce either conviction or faith. They must be accompanied by the Word." (Wiersbe)

- "Faith based on experience is not faith; faith based on God's revealed truth is the only faith there is." (Chambers)

3. Paul's sermon following the healing is a sample of how Paul approached a people without Old Testament background. He appealed to natural revelation (the revelation of God as creator and sustainer). God's power and nature is seen in the created world and is accessible to all people. Mankind must turn from worthless worship (worshipping the created rather than the creator; worship that is man-centered, works-centered; the worship of gods which are the product of our own hands) to worshipping the God who made all that we see including mankind. (Romans 1:18-20; Psalm 19:1-6)

4. Resources for the rationalistic arguments for the existence of God:

Charles C. Ryrie, **A Survey of Bible Doctrine**

Paul E. Little, **Know Why You Believe**

Henry C. Thiessen, **Lectures in Systematic Theology (Revised)**

Paul Enns, **The Moody Handbook of Theology**