

Chapter 16

Paul hauing for his part vifited the Churches of Syria, Cilicia, and Lycaonia, deliuering vnto them withal to keep the Decrees of the Council; 6. beginneth a new journey, ouer Phrygia, Galatia, Myfia: 8. Yea into Europe alfo he paffeth, admonished by a vifion, and cometh into Macedonia, 12. and there he beginneth the Church of the Philippians, working miracles, and fuffering perfecution.

Iew **A**nd he came to Derbe and Lyftra. And behold, there was a certaine Difciple there named Timothee, the fonne of ‘a widow’ woman that beleued, of a father a Gentile. ² To this man the Brethren that were in Lyftra and Iconium, gaue a good teftimonie. ³ Him Paul would haue to goe forth with him: and taking him he circumcified him becaufe of the Iewes that were in thofe places. For they al knew that his father was a Gentile.

⁴ And when they paffed through the cities, they deliuered vnto them to keepe the ^adecrees that were decreed of the Apoftles and Ancients which were at Hierufalem. ⁵ And the Churches were confirmed in faith, and did abound in number daily.

⁶ And paffing through Phrygia and the countrie of Galatia, they were ^bforbidden by the Holy Ghoft to preach the word in Afia. ⁷ And when they were come into Myfia, they attempted to goe into Bithynia; and the Spirit of IESVS permitted them not.

^a Here again they take order that the decrees and articles of faith agreed vpon in the Council of Hierufalem, fhould be executed & obferued. Whereby we fee both the great authoritie of Councils, & the diligence that al Prelates ought to haue to fee the Decrees & Canons of the Councils put in executiō.

^b This people had not the Ghofpel denied vnto them altogether, but for a time: becaufe (as Venerable Bede thinketh) God forefaw they would not beleue, & fo should haue beē more grieuoufly damned.

⁸ And when they had paffed through Myfia, they went downe to Troas: ⁹ and a vifion by night was fhewed to Paul. There was a certaine man of Macedonia ftanding and befeeching him, and faying: Paffe into Macedonia, and help vs. ¹⁰ And as foone as he had feen the vifion, forthwith we fought to goe into Macedonia, being affured that God had called vs to euangelize to them. ¹¹ And failing from Troas, we came with a ftraight courfe to Samothracia, and the day following to Neapolis: ¹² and from thence to Philippi, which is the firft citie of the part of Macedonia, a ^{a)}*Colonia*. And we were in this citie certaine daies abiding. ¹³ And vpon the day of the Sabbath, we went forth without the gate befide a riuier, where it feemed that there was a praier: & fitting we fpake to the women that were affembled. ¹⁴ And a certaine woman named Lydia, a feller of purple of the citie of the Thyatirians, one that worhipped God, did heare: whofe hart our Lord opened to attend to thofe things which were faid of Paul. ¹⁵ And when fhe was baptized, & her houfe, fhe befought vs, faying: If you haue iudged me to be faithful to our Lord, enter into my houfe & tarie. And fhe conftrained vs. ¹⁶ And it came to paffe as we went to praier, a certaine wench hauing a Pythonical fpirit, met vs, that brought great gaine to her Maifters by diuining. ¹⁷ This fame following Paul & vs, cried faying: ^{b)}Thefe mē are the feruāts of the high God, which preach vnto you the way of faluatiō. ¹⁸ And this fhe did many daies. And Paul being forie, and turning, faid to the fpirit: I command thee in the name of IESVS CHRIST to goe out from her. And he went out the fame houre. ¹⁹ But her Maifters feeing that the hope of their gaine was gone, apprehending Paul and Silas, brought them into the market place to the

^a *Colonia*, is fuch a citie where the moft inhabitants are ftrangers, fent thither from other great cities & States, namely from the Romanes.

^b Either the Diuel was compelled by the vertue of Paul's prefence to fay truth, or els (as fuch doe oftentimes) he fpake truth now, that they might the more truſt him, and he better beguile them at other times.

Princes: ²⁰ and presenting them to the Magistrates, they said: These men trouble our citie, being Iewes: ²¹ and they preach a fasion which it is not lawful for vs to receiue, nor doe, being Romanes. ²² And the people ranne against them: and the Magistrates tearing their coates, commanded them to be beaten with roddes. ²³ And *2. Cor. 11.* when they had laid many ftripes vpon them, they did cast them into prifon, commanding the keeper that he should keep them diligently. ²⁴ Who when he had receiued fuch commandement, cast them into the inner prifon, and made their feet faft in the ftocks. ²⁵ And at mid-night Paul and Silas praying, did praife God. And they that were in prifon, heard them. ²⁶ But fodenly there was made a great earthquake, fo that the foundations of the prifon were fhaken. And forthwith al the doores were opened: and the bands of al were loofed. ²⁷ And the keeper of the prifon waked out of his fleep, and feeing the doores of the prifon opened, drawing out his fword, would haue killed himfelf, fuppofing that the prifoners had been fled. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, faying: Doe thy felf no harme, for we are al here. ²⁹ And calling for light, he went in, and trembling fel downe to Paul and Silas at their feet: ³⁰ and bringing them forth, he said: Maifters, what muft I doe that I may be faued? ³¹ But they said: ^a)Beleeue in our Lord IESVS; and thou fhalt be faued and thy houfe. ³² And they preached the word of our Lord to him with al that were in his houfe. ³³ And he taking them in the fame houre of the night, ^b)wafhed their wounds: and himfelf was baptized and al his houfe incontinent. ³⁴ And when he had brought them into his owne houfe, he laid the table for them, and reioyced with al his houfe, beleeuing God. ³⁵ And when day was come, the Magistrates fent the Sergeants, faying: Let thofe men goe. ³⁶ And the keeper of the prifon told thefe words to Paul, That the

^a It is no other faith that faueth but that which worketh by Charitie. *Aug. Enchirid. c. 67.*

^b Happie Gailers that doe mercie toward their godly prifoners, and receiue againe by them fuch fpiritual benefites.

Magistrates haue fent that you fhould be let goe. Now therefore departing, goe ye in peace. ³⁷ But Paul faid to them: Being whipped openly, vncondemned, men that are Romanes, they haue caft vs into prifon: & now doe they fend vs out fecretly? Not fo, but let them come, & let vs out themfelues. ³⁸ And the Sergeants reported thefe wordes to the Magistrates. And they were afraid hearing that they were Romanes: ³⁹ and comming they befought them, & bringing thẽ forth they defired thẽ to depart out of the citie. ⁴⁰ And going out of the prifon, they entred in vnto Lydia: and hauing feen the Brethren, they comforted them, and departed.