

A Scar Means You Survived

Acts 14:11-20

Pastor Carl Toti - June 2 - 3, 2018

Acts 14:11-13 (NLT) *When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in their local dialect, "These men are gods in human form!"*

12 *They decided that Barnabas was the Greek god Zeus and that Paul was Hermes, since he was the chief speaker. 13 Now the temple of Zeus was located just outside the town. So the priest of the temple and the crowd brought bulls and wreaths of flowers to the town gates, and they prepared to offer sacrifices to the apostles.*

Acts 14:14 (NLT) *But when Barnabas and Paul heard what was happening, they tore their clothing in dismay and ran out among the people, shouting,*

Acts 14:15 (NLT) *"Friends, why are you doing this? We are merely human beings—just like you! We have come to bring you the Good News that you should turn from these worthless things and turn to the living God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them.*

Acts 14:16 (NLT) *In the past he permitted all the nations to go their own ways,*

Acts 14:17 (NLT) *but he never left them without evidence of himself and his goodness. For instance, he sends you rain and good crops and gives you food and joyful hearts."*

Acts 14:18-19 (NLT) *But even with these words, Paul and Barnabas could scarcely restrain the people from sacrificing to them. 19 Then some Jews arrived from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowds to their side. They stoned Paul and dragged him out of town, thinking he was dead.*

THREE TAKE AWAYS

1. CHOOSE _____.

Luke 12:51 (CEV) *Do you think that I came to bring peace to earth? No indeed! I came to make people choose sides.*

The battle line between good and evil runs through the heart of every man.

— Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago* 1918-1956

2. BE _____.

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NKJV) *Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.*

The scars you acquire by exercising courage will never make you feel inferior.

O. A. Battista

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage.

Anais Nin

Acts 14:20 (NLT) *But as the believers gathered around him, he got up and went back into the town. The next day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.*

3. IF YOU'RE NOT DEAD YOU'RE NOT _____.

Psalms 27:14 (MSG) *Stay with GOD! Take heart. Don't quit. I'll say it again: Stay with GOD.*

Answers: 1. Sides 2. Brave 3. Done