

Sermon Handout

Giving God the Glory

Acts 14:8-18

I. The Miracle vv. 8-10

a. The purpose of the healing

- i. Attestation of the Apostolic message *see* v. 3
- ii. Paul's subsequent words vv. 15-17

b. The man's faith v. 9

i. The sequence

1. He listens to Paul *cf.* Rom 10:8, 14
2. Paul looks at him *cf.* Acts 3:4
3. Paul perceives his condition

- Discernment Acts 13:9-10; Jn 2:24-25; I Cor 2:11*ff*

c. The nexus between physical & spiritual healing

The man was lame from birth *cf.* Acts 3:2

- i. Peter & John in Acts 3:6-9, 12, 13, 16
- ii. Jesus in Mark 2:1-12

II. The Crowd's Reaction and Paul's Reply vv. 11-18

a. The crowd speaks in the local dialect v. 11

- i. Not understood by Paul & Barnabas *cf.* vv. 13-14
- ii. They assume a pagan theophany "the gods have come down"

b. Zeus (Jupiter) and Hermes (Mercury) v. 12

- i. Ovid's *Metamorphoses* – the visit to Phrygia
- ii. Paul = Hermes because he was the "chief speaker"

c. The priest of Zeus prepares to offer a sacrifice v. 13

d. The reaction of Paul & Barnabas

- i. They tear their clothes in grief v. 14a
- ii. Paul speaks out vv. 14b – 17
 1. We are mere men v. 15a
 2. Repent of your vain notions v. 15b
 3. Turn to the Living God vv. 15c - 17
- iii. The folly of the crowd is stopped, but with difficulty v. 18