

The Life of the Apostle Peter

Study # 36

Ministry in Sharon: Part I

(Acts 9:32-35)

INTRODUCTION (8:3; 9:31):

I. The Expansion of Peter's Ministry (32-33A)

A. The Lesson (learned) (32A)

- Now, with new doors opening which had been closed by PREJUDICE and by PERSECUTION, Peter is busy about the Lord's work!
- What was Paul's Lesson? It was to get busy about God's work! Because of the consequences of disobedience (persecution) Because of the blessings of obedience (joy in Samaria, etc.)

B. The Location (32B)

C. The Looking (33A; Ez. 34:16; Mt. 9:11-12; Lk. 15:4-10; 1 Jn. 4:9-14)

QUOTE: The minister's job is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable!

II. The Endorsement of Peter's Ministry (33-34)

A. A Pitiful Man (33)

1. His Identification (33A)
2. His Infirmary (33B)
 - a) A Persistent Infirmary
 - b) A Paralyzing Infirmary

B. A Powerful Miracle (34)

1. The Credit (34A; 3:6; 4:7-12)
2. The Command (34B)
3. The Cure (34C)

III. The Effect of Peter's Ministry (35)

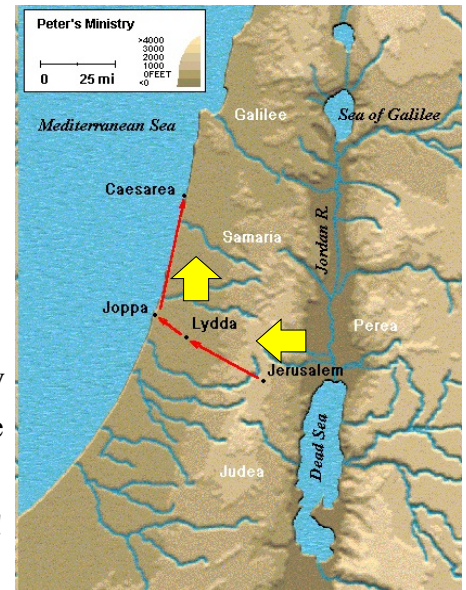
A. A Testimony to the Lord (35A)

B. A Turning to the Lord (35B; Ps. 40:1-3)

CONCLUSION:

- Are you learning your lessons?
- Have you disobeyed so long that God doesn't even talk to you anymore?
- Are you looking for needs to meet or waiting on them to come to you?
- Who is continuing without help while you tarry in obedience?

♫ RESCUE THE PERISHING (Fanny Crosby, 1869)



SHARON This name is attached to the strip of fairly level land which runs between the mountains and the shore of the Mediterranean, stretching from Nahr Ruben [just north of modern Tel Aviv] in the South to Mt. Carmel in the North. There are considerable rolling hills; but, compared with the mountains to the East, it is quite properly described as a plain. The soil is a deep rich loam, which is favorable to the growth of cereals. The orange, the vine and the olive grow to great perfection. When the many-colored flowers are in bloom it is a scene of rare beauty. Water is plentiful, and at almost any point it may be obtained by digging. Deep, finely built wells near some of the villages are among the most precious legacies left by the Crusaders. The breadth of the plain varies from 8 to 12 miles, being broadest in the Sharon. (*ISBE*)

AENEAS In Greek mythology, Aeneas was a Trojan hero, the son of prince Anchises and the goddess Aphrodite (Venus in Roman sources). His father was also the cousin of King Priam of Troy. The journey of Aeneas from Troy, (led by Aphrodite his mother) which led to the founding of the city Rome, is recounted in Virgil's Aeneid. He is considered an important figure in Greek and Roman legend and history. Aeneas is a character in Homer's Iliad and Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aeneas>

ΑΩ

palsy (v. 33) - Gk., *paraluo*, to loosen, relax. I.e., paralyzed.

bed (v. 34) - Gk., *krabbatos*, a mattress.