



*The*  
**ACTS**

OF THE APOSTLES



## *Today's Scripture Reading*

*Acts 14:8-18*



<sup>8</sup> Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. <sup>9</sup> He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, <sup>10</sup> said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he sprang up and began walking. <sup>11</sup> And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!” <sup>12</sup> Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.



<sup>13</sup> And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

<sup>14</sup> But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, <sup>15</sup> “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. <sup>16</sup> In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways.



<sup>17</sup> Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.” <sup>18</sup> Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.



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## *The legend of Philemon and Baucis*

Zeus and Hermes came to earth in the neighboring district of Phrygia disguised as human beings. They seek lodging, but no one shows them hospitality and takes them in. Finally, an old peasant couple, Philemon and his wife Baucis, welcome them as house guests, even though it depletes their meager resources. The gods are angry and destroy the whole population for their lack of hospitality, except for the gracious Philemon and Baucis. The couple's humble cottage is transformed into a temple, of which they are given charge until Zeus and Hermes return.



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# Vain Concepts of God



# Dualism

The idea that both God and the material universe have eternally existed side by side as two ultimate forces in the universe. It implies that there is a eternal conflict between God and the evil aspects of the material universe





# Materialism

The view that the material universe is all that exists.



# Deism

The view that God created the universe but is not now directly involved in the creation.



# Pantheism

The idea that the whole universe is God or part of God



<sup>16</sup> In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways.

## *Acts 17:30-31*

<sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”



<sup>17</sup> Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”



<sup>18</sup> Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

# ACTS of the APOSTLES | 14:8-18



A NEGRO CAMP-MEETING IN THE SOUTH.—Drawn by Sam. E. Johnson, Jex.—(See Page 68.)

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