

Faithful to the Lord

by Wayne Goff

One must always be **impressed** with the faithfulness of Lydia, a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, whom Paul met in the city of Philippi and converted, **Acts 16:14-15**.

Lydia and those with her were worshipping at the riverside on a Sabbath. It is fair to conclude that they were Jews, honored God and were godly people. Not only did the Lord **open her heart** to heed the things spoken by Paul (**v. 14**), but she determined to serve the Lord *immediately and without hesitation*. Having been baptized with her household, she begged Paul's company to come stay with her at her house, saying "***If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay!***" She didn't just want to serve the Lord one day per week on the riverside, but every day of the week and in every way possible.

What she requested was quite an imposition. Paul had a number of men with him in his company and they all stayed with her for a period of time. But it also implies that she was wealthy and had the means by which to help and support Paul in his ministry.

Undoubtedly this woman and her household were the first converts of Philippi and made up the church at Philippi. This church supported Paul financially more than once, and in other places than Philippi. They were **converted** and **deeply convicted** in what they were doing!

How about me and you? Are we as **deeply convicted** as Lydia? Do we strive to serve the Lord with *all of our heart and means*? Sadly, too many Christians have the mind set of "how little can I do and still be considered faithful?" Lydia was not a woman of this kind of thinking. You and I can do better and we should!

Lydia could have excused herself as a new convert. She could have warmly encouraged Paul and his company and offered to pray for them. But she went beyond what was expected of her because **she believed so strongly** in what she was doing. And that, my dear friends, is the key.

"Faithful" applies to "persons who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties." Lydia was all of these and more!

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