

## Lesson VII.

PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY  
—ICONIUM AND LYSTRA

May 16, 1909

**BETWEEN THE LESSONS**—There is no break between Lessons VI. and VII.**GOLDEN TEXT**—All the gods of the nations are idols: but the Lord made the heavens.—Psalm 96 : 5.**Memorize vs. 21, 22. THE LESSON PASSAGE**—Acts 14 : 8-22. Study Acts 14 : 1-28.

8 And <sup>1</sup> there sat a certain man at Lys'tra, impotent in his feet, <sup>2</sup> being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked :

9 The same heard Paul <sup>3</sup> speak : who stedfastly beholding him, and <sup>4</sup> perceiving that he had faith to be <sup>5</sup> healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped <sup>6</sup> and walked.

11 And when the <sup>7</sup> people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their <sup>8</sup> voices, saying in the speech of Lyeao'nia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

12 And they called Bar'nabas, Ju'piter : and Paul, <sup>9</sup> Mercur'ius, because he was the chief speaker.

13 <sup>10</sup> Then the priest of Ju'piter, <sup>11</sup> which was before <sup>12</sup> their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the <sup>13</sup> people.

14 <sup>13</sup> Which when the apostles, Bar'nabas and Paul, heard <sup>14</sup> of, they rent their <sup>15</sup> clothes, and <sup>16</sup> ran in among the <sup>17</sup> people, crying out,

15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things ? We also are men of like passions with you, and <sup>18</sup> preach unto you that ye should turn from these <sup>19</sup> vanities

**Revised Version**—<sup>1</sup>at Lystra there sat a certain man ; <sup>2</sup>Omit being ; <sup>3</sup>speaking : who, fastening his eyes upon him ; <sup>4</sup>seeing ; <sup>5</sup>made whole ; <sup>6</sup>up ; <sup>7</sup>multitudes ; <sup>8</sup>voice ; <sup>9</sup>Mercury ; <sup>10</sup>And the ; <sup>11</sup>whose temple was ; <sup>12</sup>the ; <sup>13</sup>But ; <sup>14</sup>of it ; <sup>15</sup>garments ; <sup>16</sup>sprang forth ; <sup>17</sup>multitude ; <sup>18</sup>bring you good tidings ; <sup>19</sup>vain things ; <sup>20</sup>who made the heaven and the earth ; <sup>21</sup>that in them is ; <sup>22</sup>the generations gone by ; <sup>23</sup>And yet he ; <sup>24</sup>You from heaven rains ; <sup>25</sup>your ; <sup>26</sup>multitudes from doing ; <sup>27</sup>But ; <sup>28</sup>Jews thither ; <sup>29</sup>and having persuaded the multitudes, they ; <sup>30</sup>and dragged ; <sup>31</sup>that he was dead ; <sup>32</sup>But as ; <sup>33</sup>entered ; <sup>34</sup>on the morrow he went forth ; <sup>35</sup>made many disciples ; <sup>36</sup>Omit again ; <sup>37</sup>to do ; <sup>38</sup>Omit and ; <sup>39</sup>through many tribulations we must.

**Daily Readings**—(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)—M.—At Iconium and Lystra, Acts 14 : 1-10. T.—At Iconium and Lystra, Acts 14 : 11-28. W.—Persecution endured, 2 Tim. 3 : 10-17. Th.—Hindered by unbelief, Mk. 6 : 1-6. F.—The one God, 1 Cor. 8 : 1-6. S.—Patient endurance, 2 Cor. 6 : 1-10. S.—Eternal glory, 2 Cor. 4 : 5-18.

## THE LESSON EXPLAINED



JUPITER AND MERCURY: From an ancient altar

In Iconium Paul and Barnabas preached in the synagogue with great success, which, however, roused the opposition of the unbelieving Jews. At last a plot was made to stone the missionaries, who, learning of this, fled to the district of Lyeao'nia ("Wolf Land") and came to the towns of

9, 10. Heard Paul speak ; "used to listen to Paul as he spoke". The Greek means that he had heard the apostle several times. Stedfastly beholding him ; attracted by the man's need, and by the eager expectation shining in his face. Perceiving . . . faith to be healed. The man had felt in his soul the divine power in Paul's words, and was led to believe that this power could heal his body. Said with a loud voice ; like that of a commander sure of obedience to his orders. Stand . . . on thy feet. The helpless part is named, to give the man confidence that he is to be made entirely whole. Leaped ; showing his faith by a sudden spring. Walked. The cure was complete and permanent.

**II. REFUSING HOMAGE.**—11-13. People . . . in the speech of Lyeao'nia. Paul had been speaking in Greek, which his hearers, of course, understood—but these, in their excitement, went back to their native tongue. Gods . . . in the likeness of men . . . called Barnabas, Jupiter ; and Paul, Mercurius. The Lyeao'nians were ready to believe that two of the gods worshipped by the Greeks had appeared, because there was a legend amongst them that Jupiter, the chief of these gods (his name was given to Barnabas because of his dignified appearance), and Mercury ("Mercurius"), his attendant, had once come in human form to the home of Baucis and Philemon, natives of that country. The chief speaker, Mercury, the attendant of Jupiter, was the god of

Lystra, eighteen miles south of Iconium, and Derbe, to the east of Lystra. In these towns they preached the gospel, vs. 1-7.

**I. HEALING A LAME MAN.**—8. There sat a certain man at Lystra ; perhaps in the market place or some other public spot, whither he had been carried by his friends to beg (compare ch. 3 : 2). Impotent (helpless) in his feet ; a physician's description, such as Luke often gives. A cripple ; ever since he was born. Never had walked. It was as if he had been fast bound by chains and fetters.