



Dear Precious Friend,

January, 2017

Continuing in the Book of Acts: Part One

Adjusting to life in Athens from Israel is not always easy for me, but after spending two enjoyable and fruitful weeks there recently, I felt that I should consider establishing a living space and headquarters there for the Jewish-Greek Bridge rather than in Thessaloniki. After years of “fighting beasts in Athens” I felt that God had given me the victory and that I could begin to enjoy a season of fruit bearing after years of sowing in tears.

I woke up one morning, however, hearing the Lord urgently telling me, “go north to Thessaloniki NOW.” Now meant today, that morning. There could be no waiting around. So I quickly packed and told my host-friend that I had to go north at once. She said that “by chance” she would be driving to the center of town that morning, something she rarely did, and that she could drop me off at the central train station. Another sure sign that God had spoken and that I was to leave immediately. In spite of the heavy morning traffic, we got to the station right on time and I got a great seat next to a Greek lady and her husband who were so open to the Lord that I shared the Lord for the whole 5 hour trip! Furthermore, a number of people sitting around us also heard, asked questions and one of them received salvation and prayer.

It seemed clear that I was in the center of His will, following His instructions, until I got to the Queen Olga, a quiet and clean seaside hotel that provides me with a special reduced rate whenever I am in town. When I entered my warm, renovated room with bath and view of the promenade and sat down in a chair to rest, I heard the TV from the next room blaring through the wall. I called the front desk and they immediately called the guests to turn down the volume, but there was little relief and I sensed I would not have my normal peace and quiet. By that time, a friend of mine had come to my room for a visit. I left her sitting in my room and went down to the front desk to request a room change. I was shown a room on the 6th floor, but it was very dark. Then they took me to a room on another floor but it faced the street and was terribly noisy. A 3rd room was unrenovated and dingy so I decided to return to my room to see if the TV might be turned off next door. No change.

I decided to knock on the door of my neighbors to kindly ask them their plans. Would they be remaining indoors watching TV for the extent of their stay and for how long? If so, I would change my room. A very gentle and gracious Greek man opened the door. I immediately detected a Cypriot accent. When I told him that my forefathers were from Cyprus and mentioned my relative who is a well-known politician, the man smiled and told me that he knew and greatly admired him. He informed me that he and his wife were in town for a few days because his wife was undergoing lung cancer treatments at a nearby hospital. I immediately perceived why the Lord woke me up and urgently had me travel to Thessaloniki that morning, why the TV was blaring and why I couldn't find another suitable room. I asked the man if I could come in and pray for his wife. I called

my friend into their room to join us. He escorted us inside where his wife was resting in bed after undergoing treatments all day. She too received us warmly. I immediately got on my knees by her bed and began to share the gospel. With true humility, she repented and received the Lord into her heart. I then laid hands on her and prayed for her healing with everyone supporting in faith. Immediately after, her husband received the Lord with similar repentance and humility. After a few hours together, we all hugged and my friend and I left.

I returned the next day with two New Testaments and shared the word the Lord had strongly placed on my heart: "The TV won't help you. The saints won't help you. You are fighting a very strong spirit. You need the God-breathed word of God to strengthen you. You need the Living God who is the Resurrection and the Life." They received the word, grabbed the Bibles, opened them and began reading, declaring that they would read God's word together daily. They also mentioned that at their appointment that day, her doctor told her, "You look very well. It seems you will overcome this." This was the confirmation they needed that God had indeed performed the healing. I never heard the TV again. I have since called them in Cyprus and they shared the doctor's report that the tumor which was growing rapidly had completely stopped growing! The wife said she felt strong and renewed ever since the day we prayed!

Then the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Don't be afraid, but speak, and hold not your peace: For I am with you, and no man will set on you to hurt you: for I have many people in this city." *Acts 18:9-10*

A few days later, I was on a packed train going to visit my pastor friends in Berea for Christmas. I sat next to a group of young people. The Lord had me open the conversation about Yeshua and almost the whole car got involved in some way, some positive and some negative. The young people quickly responded, saying they don't like the religious system at all, but that they are interested in knowing Jesus. This is not the first time I have heard this from young people in Greece. God is calling them out of a religious system that has not saved or satisfied them to bring them into the Kingdom of His Son. I prayed for one of the young ladies and then got off at my stop.

And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends. *Acts 10:24*

In Berea, after dinner with my friends, their doorbell rang and we were escorted to an apartment downstairs to visit their relatives who had come from Thessaloniki. My Pastor friend quickly let me know that they were mostly backslidden and that the grandmother had never given her life to the Lord. The Lord was truly among us, for when we all gathered in the living room, at once the Lord opened the way for me to share my dramatic testimony of Yeshua with lots of details.

While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. *Acts 10:44*

All eyes were pinned and they were hanging on every word I shared about sin and an awakened conscience, about seeing myself go to hell, about the heavenly glory and the salvation of Christ. The sure presence of the Holy Spirit came down. When I suddenly felt the pull to get down on my knees, everyone fell to their knees as well. One backslidden woman began to sob. Her backslidden daughter opened her heart and so did the grandmother and they all prayed a genuine prayer of repentance and faith in Yeshua.

What a Christmas! What an incarnation! What a glorious salvation for a whole family of three generations!

Dear saint, the Book of Acts is still being written, not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God who dwells IN YOU. You are God's ministers of the New Testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter kills, but the spirit gives life. It's time to listen, step out and obey the Living God, for He desires to pen another chapter of the Book of Acts as He leads you in the power of the gospel.

We are in a season of accelerated divine activity and intervention. God is reconciling all things to Himself, whether they be in heaven or on earth. For the sinner, the world is spinning out of control. People are looking for His Kingdom that cannot be shaken.

But now he has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, yet once more, signifies the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire." *Hebrews 12:26-29*

Thank you, dear friend, for your faithful love and friendship. I so much appreciate those of you who pray, send support and write notes of encouragement to me. I know He sees it all!

In His Precious Love,

Greta